



Stratford Public Library

October 27, 2015

Governance & Funding

- ▶ Stratford Public Library was created by By-law 664 in 1897 (amended 1985)
- ▶ SPL is a non-profit corporation, regulated by the Public Libraries Act RSO 1990
- ▶ SPL is governed by a Board of 11: 10 citizen representatives, and 1 Council representative (Councillor Ingram). All Board members are appointed by City Council.

- ▶ 84% funded by the City of Stratford
- ▶ 16% funded through other grants, internally-generated revenue, donations

Mission

An equitable, safe and welcoming environment where anyone can explore, learn, create and connect.

Services Offered

- ▶ Physical items:
 - ▶ Books, audiobooks, magazines, DVDs, CDs, newspapers
 - ▶ Inter-library Loan service
 - ▶ Canadian National Institute for the Blind materials
- ▶ Digital resources:
 - ▶ Research databases
 - ▶ Ebooks
- ▶ Information help
 - ▶ In-person & online
- ▶ Technological instruction
- ▶ Home Delivery Service to nursing homes and individual residences
- ▶ Pre/Early Literacy Education
- ▶ Literacy classes and clubs for children
- ▶ Computer and Wi-Fi access
- ▶ Computer training classes
- ▶ Research instruction to students
- ▶ Interest programs for adults such as book clubs and lectures
- ▶ Study and reading space
- ▶ Meeting space
- ▶ Participation in community events
- ▶ Volunteer opportunities
- ▶ And more...

Libraries in Evolution

- ▶ Changes in social patterns
- ▶ Finding new ways of connecting people with resources they need
- ▶ Balancing the physical and digital
- ▶ Communicating with citizens
- ▶ Recognition of financial pressures on municipalities

Impact of Library Services

- ▶ Community connection
- ▶ Lifelong learning
- ▶ Economic well-being
- ▶ Cultural hubs



Summer 2015, intergenerational storytime held at Chartwell Anne Hathaway Retirement Residence

2014 By the Numbers



In 2014, the Library was used over
1,000,000 times

Including:

314,328 items checked out
275,000 research database queries
228,356 website visits
143,579 in-person visits
28,665 Wi-Fi/computer uses
13,964 program attendees

Highlights of 2015

- ▶ Calculation of the Library's Economic Impact in the City of Stratford. For every \$1 spent, the City of receives \$7.48 in benefits.
- ▶ Modification to the format and curriculum of the Early Literacy Storytimes and Summer Reading Program.
- ▶ Reconfigured Children's Floor.
- ▶ Replacement of the 11-year old Public Library On Wheels van through fundraising.
- ▶ Partnership with the Avon Maitland District School Board to provide all students with a card and orientation to Library resources.



TD Canada Trust Summer Reading Club
2015 at the Stratford Municipal Airport

Plans for 2016

- ▶ Creation of quiet study room; refurbishment of children's programming room
- ▶ Redesigned programs for adults
- ▶ Continuation of projects with AMDSB and University of Waterloo
- ▶ Collection and evaluation of data related to program success
- ▶ Expansion of services for youth ages 12+



Participants in the 2015 Code-A-Character program, presented in partnership with the University of Waterloo Stratford Campus. This program is currently shortlisted for the Minister's Award for Innovation (Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport).

2016 Draft Budget

- ▶ 2.49% increase = \$51,093
- ▶ Budget Increases:
 - ▶ COLA for staff, step increases for newer hires
 - ▶ Increases for basic operational expenditures: hydro, internet, telephone
- ▶ Revenue Reductions:
 - ▶ Declining fine revenue: \$13,000 less in 2015 than 2013
 - ▶ Reduction of Provincial support: core research databases de-funded
 - ▶ Replacement cost \$15,000

2016 Draft Budget

- ▶ Budget Reductions:
 - ▶ Reduction of 0.2FTE
 - ▶ All discretionary budget lines held, including lending materials, which are projected to have 3-7% cost increase in 2016
- ▶ Service Reductions:
 - ▶ Research databases reduced by 30%
 - ▶ Support staff capacity further reduced; library users may encounter longer wait times for materials



Stratford

PUBLIC LIBRARY