

2019
ANNUAL REPORT
TO THE COMMUNITY



Your Door to Discovery...



A Message from the Acting Chair of the RPL Board

2019 was once again an eventful year at the Renfrew Public Library. The Board said farewell to outgoing Board trustee Bill Mooney and Council representative Kate Windle. We welcomed new members Christin Miller and Heather Dale. They joined Lynda Janney, Donna Clark, Jane Donnelly, Council representative Andrew Evans, CEO Kelly Thompson and myself.

The 2019-2024 Strategic Plan was created around the three core strategies of comprehensive communication, continuous improvement and community based services and partnerships. The Board met ten times in 2019 and was pleased to support our library staff working collaboratively with our CEO Kelly Thompson to provide services and facilitate events for our town's residents. There is always something new and exciting at the Library!

2019 was a challenging year for the RPL Board of Trustees as we were saddened when our longtime Chair Lynda Janney became seriously ill and passed away in July. Lynda's vision, leadership and passion for our library will continue to be missed. Provincial cuts led to the courier service which delivered interlibrary loan titles between libraries in Ontario being cut. This caused the library to reduce and then reinstate interlibrary loans for a trial six month period.

On a happier note, a grant was procured and plans completed to renovate and create a new accessible washroom for our patrons. Wi-Fi hotspots and Chromebooks were purchased thanks to a grant from the Canadian Internet Registry Authority (CIRA) and are circulating to local families.

The Board looks forward to our work in 2020.

Margaret Maloney, Acting Chair

Meet the 2020 Renfrew Public Library Board of Trustees



COUNCILLOR ANDREW EVANS continues to be a productive board member since re-joining the board in 2014. His background and professional knowledge in the financial industry both compliments and serves the board well.

Andrew is an active board member who regularly participates in discussions with fellow board members who all share the same vision of a brighter future for our ever evolving Town library.



COUNCILLOR TOM SIDNEY has worked in mental/emotional wellness for 25 yrs. He is a suicide prevention specialist, a certified life coach practitioner, a professional motivational speaker and owner of Crossroads Empowerment Services.

"I requested to join the Library Board as I believe the services the Renfrew Library offers the residents of Renfrew and surrounding townships are pivotal in providing knowledge, personal and professional resources for individual wellbeing. I am excited for the future as we look to enhance the outstanding services at the Renfrew Library".



DONNA CLARK retired to Renfrew 16 years ago and joined the Board in 2006. She has watched the library progress and evolve to what is offered to patrons today. Donna sings in a choir, sews, gardens and loves to travel.

"Volunteering is a big part of my life. I am a member of the Hospital Auxiliary and volunteer with the Adopt a Grandparent program at Renfrew Victoria Hospital. I am also the coordinator of the Meals on Wheels for the Auxiliary."



JANE DONNELLY is a retired accountant, a lifelong library patron, and an avid reader. She is also an active volunteer with several community organizations, a member of two book clubs, and enjoys travel, tennis, golf, and biking.

"I joined the Board in March 2017. Having lived in Renfrew for much of my life, and raised three children here, I understand how important a well-functioning library is to the well-being of our community, and am committed to maintaining and expanding its excellent services."



HEATHER DALE moved to Renfrew ten years ago to start her teaching career. After a tour of the valley schools for five years, she has finally settled into her home school of Central Public School.

"I joined the board because I think volunteering is very important and I wanted to start volunteering outside of the school community and in the town as well."



CHRISTIN MILLER has an education in arts and crafts with a focus on goldsmithing. She worked in the jewellery industry for many years in the Toronto area before returning to Renfrew 10 years ago to be closer family.

"My family have been avid users of the Renfrew Public Library and when my youngest child was starting school there was an opening for board members. I felt that the time was right to begin giving back."

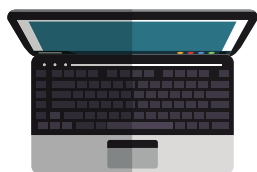
4,482 people attended **548** programs



63,908

items checked out

14,519



uses of the public computers

47,478

people visited the library

62,011



items formed the collections



3,796 active card holders

465 new members joined in 2019

2019 FINANCIALS

REVENUES

Town of Renfrew	\$453,252.00
Province of Ontario	\$16,720.00
Federal Grants	\$22,235.00
Donations and Fundraising	\$2,483.00
Fees, fines and other cost recoveries	\$16,791.00
Other	\$1,483.00
TOTAL	\$512,994.00

EXPENDITURES

Library Collections and Programs	\$43,138.00
Staff and Benefits	\$422,449.00
Building Costs	\$26,255.00
Technology (computers, internet, licenses, etc.)	\$3,770.00
Supplies	\$7,346.00
Equipment	\$3,232.00
Training and Education (incl. travel)	\$5,205.00
Other	\$1,599.00
TOTAL	\$512,994.00

ADDITIONS TO SERVICES IN 2019



STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH KITS

These kits are just a small way to help local students combat some of their day-to-day stress. Kits include journals, books, fidget toys, and a pass for a FREE yoga class.

SEED LIBRARY CONTINUES TO GROW

Anyone can take the seeds. The gardener is then asked to save some of the seeds to "return" to the seed library.



REFUELING STATIONS

Thanks to a partnership with the Renfrew and Area Food Bank, there are now food and drink stations for teens and children at RPL. Just another way to help combat food insecurity in our community.

WI-FI HOTSPOTS & CHROMEBOOKS

Thanks to a grant from the Canadian Internet Registry Authority (CIRA), card holders can now take the Internet home and Chromebooks as well!



OUTREACH 2019



STORYTIME WITH SUE

Library volunteer Sue Newberry reads books aloud for seniors at the Bonnechere Manor.

Wednesdays at 3:15 pm

HOME DELIVERY

If you are unable to leave your home due to an illness or medical condition (short term or long term) and reside within the Town of Renfrew, we can deliver books (including large print), audio books and/or movies to you.



SENIORS' RESIDENCES AND LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY

Twice monthly materials are delivered to residents living at the Bonnechere Manor and Quail Creek.

41 Senior Storytimes were held in 2019 with an **average of 19 seniors** attending each session



14 visits were made to local homes to deliver materials

24 visits were made to **Quail Creek** and **24** to the **Bonnechere Manor** to deliver materials.



Each visit met the needs of approximately **12 Manor residents and 14 Quail Creek** residents.

OTHER 2019 HIGHLIGHTS



Escape Rooms were a blast!



The Harry Potter Trivia Night in Apr. was a huge success!



We received a generous donation from the local CFUW



RCI students helped make our Christmas evening a success!

SHOWCASED LOCAL ART

Below are photos from some of the artwork that graced the walls of RPL in 2019

