

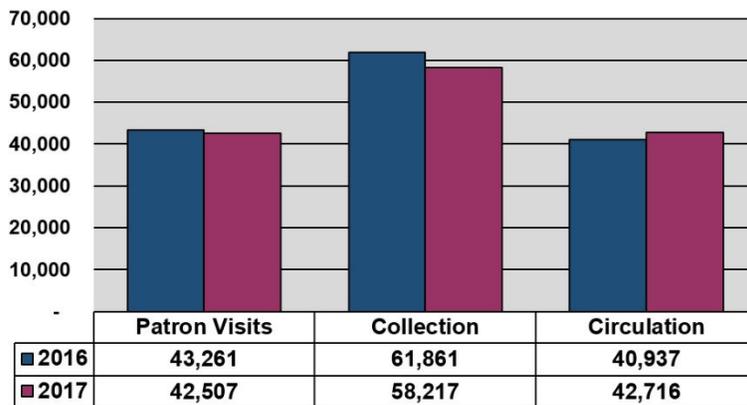
KITIMAT PUBLIC LIBRARY

Director's Year End Report

2017

The Library welcomed 42,507 visitors during the year and membership stood at 3,403 representing 40% of our population. This percentage is slightly over the provincial average of 38%. While attendance rates have decreased over the past year by 1.7%, digital access from outside the library was 7,229, an increase of 4.3%. Highlighted below are additional statistics for the year:

Activities at a Glance



Days/Hours Open 301 / 2,610
 Registered Internet Bookings 6,199
 Program Attendance 3,061
 Program Sessions/Events 196

Items Added 2,782
 Items Deleted 2,703
 Current Memberships 3,403
 Interlibrary Borrowing 1,124
 Interlibrary Lending 2,240

A wide range of interesting and creative programs draw many into the state of the art facility.

MotherGoose Storytime attendance averages fifteen children and a dozen adults for a total Monday morning attendance rate at thirty per session.



The Library partnered with the Kitimat Museum & Archives and brought a cultural flair to the community's Canada's 150 birthday celebrations. Activities included a call for submissions for local art and writing talent along theme lines 'What it Means to Be Canadian'. A total of eighty drawings, paintings, brochures, essays, poems and stories were received and made up an impressive display from June through August at the Museum. A gala was held on June 16 and attended by more than 70. Canadian tapas, door prizes, an author reading and presentations rounded out the evening.

The top three winners of the writing contest were library patrons:

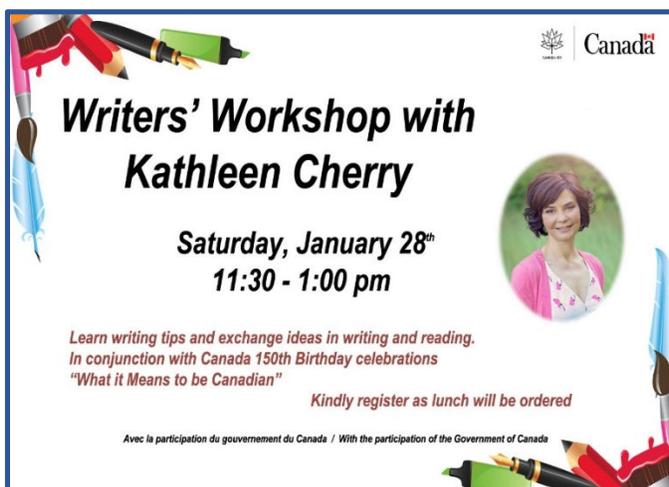
3rd place: Kim Arkesteyn-Vogler for her essay submissions in both English and French.

2nd place: Joshua Wieler for poetry

1st place: Jake & Louie Quinn: for comic fun

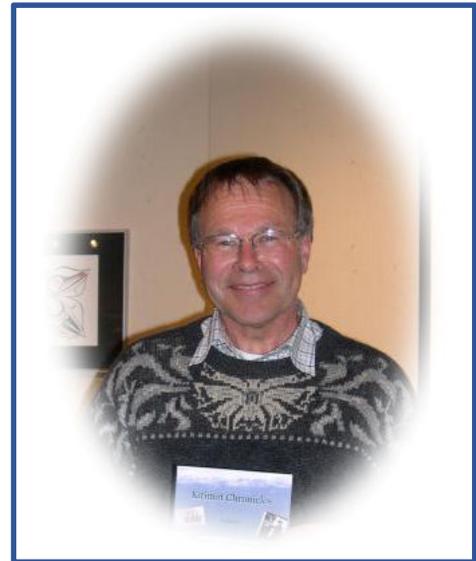


To help writers hone their craft, local author Kathleen Cherry led a writers' class and shared tips and techniques.



Kathleen Cherry was nominated for the Sheila A. Egoff Children's Literature Prize for "Everyday Hero". She toured the province with another BC Book Prize nominee, Adele Barclay, who subsequently won the Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize.

Award winning author, Eden Robinson, launched her latest novel, the first in the trilogy “Son of a Trickster” to the delight of an audience of 70 (see below with Howard Smith, another First Nations writer). Walter Thorne introduced his third volume of “Kitimat Chronicles”, to standing room only guests and neighbours.



The Book Club regularly drew book lovers to the library. Numbers averaged seven and attendees enjoy a lively night out for inspiring chat and light refreshments.

In May, family magic man Leif David performed tricks and comedy to a group of 75 and emphasized the importance of reading.



Book sales were a lot of fun and drew book lovers to the library for great used material. The spring booksale generated \$355, the fall \$322 and donations in-house throughout the year an additional \$633. Proceeds covered the cost of purchasing Ozobots, mini robots that follow color coded tracks to the delight of children of all ages.



Eric the Juggler from CirqueWorks

82 attended circus fun on August 15 where Eric entertained those of all ages with juggling, plate spinning, animal balloons and laughter.

We thank the NWLF for providing the funding to sponsor Eric's visit to our Library. Our thanks, once again, to Lauren Wolf, NWLF Director for organizing this wonderful tour.

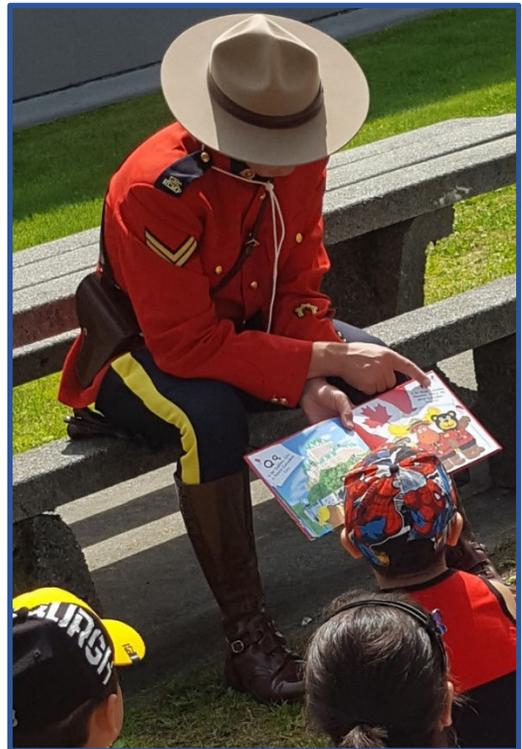
Summer Reading Club - Walk on the Wild Side

Our popular annual Summer Reading Club kicked off with the July 1st parade where summer student leaders, dressed up as pirates and doled out chocolate doubloons and comic books from their hand crafted pirate ship. Afterwards it was tattooing and face-painting fun in the park for more community fun.

This year 53 children registered for the 8-week program, held Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 1 – 3 pm. Activities included reading fun, crafts and outdoor games. The final party was held on August 24 where 31 certificates and 24 medals for reading log completion were distributed.

A Reading Buddy program also made up part of the summer reading club. Tutors were on hand for reading help for all ages four days a week.

The Club aided children in connecting with others during the summer break. It enabled them to maintain and build on reading skills honed throughout the school year.



The Kitimat Public Library Puppeteers have been going strong since 1978 and presented its newest collaboration, Jumanji, in December. Feedback was very positive (as usual)!



The District’s Annual Appreciation Dinner for community volunteers is always appreciated by our Trustees. This past July, Mayor Germuth made a special presentation to three devoted Library Trustees, Linda Campbell and Donna McMenamon who retired from the Board December 31, 2016, and Marianne Sweet who moved away mid-July of 2017 after serving multiple terms on the Board totalling 19 years! I will miss her.

The Library introduced free yoga to the community which was well received. We shall continue to offer this program in the New Year.

Kitimat Public Library
offers
Y O G A
Basic vinyasa flow with the emphasis on proper stance
Membership card required to register. Cards are free for residents and for all BC One Card membership holders.

We thank the District of Kitimat and the Ministry of Education for their ongoing support. I would also like to thank the commitment shown by the library staff and Board. Lastly to the Friends of the Library whose dedication has been appreciated over at least the past 17 years that I have worked at the Library and who, in 2017, retired.

We look forward to serving the public in 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Charron, Library Director

January 9, 2018