



HUNTSVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT

2024



**MESSAGE FROM
THE BOARD CHAIR**
Ray Love

ACTIVITY REPORT
Annual Milestones

TOP 10 LISTS
Most Popular Items of 2024
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Message From the Board Chair

Ray Love, 2024 Library Board Chair

The work of the Board of Trustees of the Huntsville Public Library over the past year has been focused primarily on initiating changes to the library building. We accessed library reserves and development charge funds, with assistance from the Town, to hire an architectural/engineering/construction firm to develop a master plan. This plan will determine future building priorities, i.e. whether to pursue a major rebuild of the library on the existing site or a new library at a new location. The steps we are taking now will ensure that the decisions made concerning the library's future are made in a timely and cost-effective manner. We anticipate completing a comprehensive report in winter 2026. The Board has also increased its public presence by attending community events such as the Maplefest and the upcoming BIA Summer Market. It is through events like this that we can inform the public about library events and programs and champion the excellent work of our library staff.

Throughout the year, we have also examined existing library policies. These policies guide the actions of the library board and staff and need updating based on changing library practices.

It is our collective pleasure to assist in any way possible with the operation of Huntsville's very fine public library.

Ray Love
Board Chair of Huntsville Public Library



- Mayor Nancy Alcock reading to families at Storytime during Ontario Public Library Week

"Thank you, Amber. I learned so much - we will definitely be using the library a lot... I appreciate that you reached out to us to teach us."

-Email from a teacher at the Montessori School

Activity Report

Annual Milestones



Visitors to the
Library (2024)
87,828

(2023)
85,164



Active Card
Holders in
2023-2024
5,034

(2022-2023)
5,011



New Card
Holders
(2024)
1,416

(2023)
1,476



Questions
Answered By
Staff
(2024)
7,975

(2023)
6,418



WiFi
Connections
(2024)
87,709

(2023)
67,469



- Families enjoying a
StoryWalk during Healthy
Parks, Healthy People Day at
Arrowhead Provincial Park







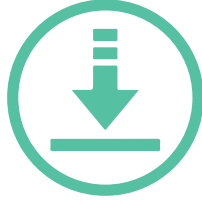

- Even snapping turtles can
enjoy a StoryWalk!

"Henry and I want to say thank you for the Storywalk on the Fairy Vista Trail. We enjoyed running (!) to each new page of Chris Hadfield's book, then doing it backwards."

-Grandparent

Activity Report

Annual Milestones

					
Activities Offered (2024) 583	People Attended Activities (2024) 12,321	Items Checked Out (2024) 118,984	Items Added to Collection (2024) 4,616	Items Borrowed (2024) 53,221	Outreach Visits (2024) 141
(2023) 544	(2023) 9,221	(2023) 120,585	(2023) 4,083	(2023) 48,328	(2023) 135



- Participants at a STEM activity run by Science North in the summertime

"Thank you soooo much for taking the time to visit us today! The kids loved it and we really appreciate that you made time to come see us! If you ever can or want to come back please do :) Bringing in the water/weather themed books were a big hit."

-Email from kindergarten teacher at Huntsville Public School



- Huntsville Theatre Company at the Star Wars Murder Mystery

Top 10 Lists

Most Popular Items of 2024



– Top 10 Adult Fiction of 2024

“Thank you very much again for the presentation that you gave to the students. They found it very useful, and it helped them be a part of the community.”

- YMCA Learning Services ESL Teacher

– Top 10 Adult Non-Fiction of 2024

“How can you beat this? They’ve been reading all afternoon. Just thought I’d share...Thank you Huntsville library for inspiring kids to READ.”

-Parent emailed photos of her kids reading after spending time at library selecting books



– Top 10 Picture Books of 2024

“I really do appreciate all the library does for this community! The classes which you are able to host are informative, engaging, and educational!”

- Patron registering for a beading workshop

Acknowledgements

Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Library continue to provide vital financial support to the Huntsville Public Library. Their contributions have included funding for children's performances during March Break and the summer, purchasing book bags for the TD Summer Reading Club, and supplying materials for Summer Pop-Ups.



In 2024, they generously donated funds to expand the library's Nintendo Switch collection and to establish a collection of PlayStation 5 games.

We are grateful for all their hard work and contributions to the library. The Library Board and Staff would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to the Friends of the Library, as well as to all donors and partners, for their generosity and support. Your contributions help us achieve our goals and meet the needs of our users.



- Participant reading to Wilson, a therapy dog at the Paws to Read program

- Nintendo Switch and PlayStation 5 Collection



VISION

A vital centre to collaborate, connect and explore the world in which we live.

MISSION

To provide accessible services, programs, collections and spaces designed to inspire and enrich the community.

VALUES

Intellectual Freedom
Equitable Access
Sustainability | Respect
Innovation | Accountability
Leadership | Community
Life Long Learning | Creativity