



Kingston Frontenac Public Library 2019 Annual Report

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“Thank you @kfpl for such a rich collection of books that are available to all of us citizens! #books #booklover #ygk #library”

“KFPL (Kingston Frontenac Public Library) is a much-needed resource for so many communities in the Kingston area. I love my library – KFPL Patron”

Spreading the Word

We engaged Brand Clarity, a marketing firm, to connect with staff and community stakeholders to help us develop a marketing plan. The community response was heart-warming. They described the library as a place where they were happy and comfortable and felt connected to their community.

Meet the Makers

We launched a new series of hands-on workshops to explore crafting and the arts. Patrons explored knitting, photography, sewing, fine arts and more through the summer. In the fall we launched our new Art Hive program, blending a variety of arts, crafting and technology as a precursor to the opening of the Friends of the Library Create Space in 2020.

“There’s nothing quite like visiting a public library. A feast for the senses” – KFPL Patron

Community Scarf Knitting Project

Patrons at the Calvin Park, Pittsburgh, Sydenham and Isabel Turner branches and the Artillery Park pop-up library worked together over the winter months to create hand-knit scarves that were donated to the Kingston Street Mission.

Tech Tutors

After consultations with Frontenac Community Futures Development Corporation and Frontenac Economic Development we launched a pilot project to provide Tech Tutors in Sharbot Lake and Sydenham, as well as regular technology-focused workshops in Sydenham. The project was a success and Tech Tutors are continuing to provide technology assistance at the Sydenham Branch. #InFrontenac

Central Branch Grand Re-Opening

We welcomed more than 2,000 patrons at the much-awaited re-opening of our Central Branch on March 23, many of them having taken advantage of free rides on Kingston Transit in support of the occasion. The project was honoured with a George Muirhead Heritage Award by Downtown Kingston! in recognition of our historically sensitive renovation.

“There were lineups around the block, and some of the over 2,000 people returned again on Sunday to keep exploring! Suffice it to say, it seems like #ygc is happy to have the Central Branch of @KFPL back and better than ever!”

Stories in the Garden

We teamed up with the MacLean Trail Community Garden for a new outdoor program. Children and caregivers enjoyed stories and songs, followed by a chat and hands-on gardening with volunteers.

Technology Upgrades

New event management and room booking software was introduced in the spring. The new system is more user-friendly and has a create-your own-brochure option for patrons who want a customized flyer of upcoming events.

Rainbow of Pride

Rainbow Storytime, a Pride-themed Books & Beers gathering, and a Pride Clothing Workshop for teens made for a colourful celebration during Pride Month.

“Yesterday our library celebrated pride month by reading some friendly books and face-painting for the kids. I just wish Kingston was like this while I was growing up in a gay family. Just blessed my children can feel safe here #KingstonOntario #Pride @KingstonPride #LGBT @KFPL

In a typical week at KFPL ...

14,889 people list a branch and borrow 24,474 traditional items plus 4,328 electronic items.

1,033 people attend a program or special event.

Computers

The public access computers are utilized 1,059 times, and the WiFi is accessed 1,745 times.

Staff

Staff are asked 4,595 reference questions, plus 142 reader's advisory questions, and they receive 317 requests for technology assistance.

"#community building at its best! Public #library hosts #intergenerational story time at #seniors residence. Everyone benefits. Stimulation, joy, purpose, connection. Beautiful. WTG @KFPL in #ykg #Kingston #Ontario #healthcare #Ageing"

"A new selection of books from @KFPL and my ENG1P students were engrossed in their reads. The effort to canvass interests, source the books, and provide choice after sharing options via book talks (all very doable and fun!) is so worth it for the resulting engagement. Thx"

What did you do with your free library card in 2019?

Year-end Stats

63,326 of you used your library card and 6,938 are new members.

You visited our website 1,150,484 times.

You checked out 1,260,345 traditional items.

47,013 people attended 1,970 programs.

You connected to our Internet/WiFi 145,897 times.

20,218 courier boxes moved in and out of branches.

You borrowed 221,332 digital items.

Becoming by Michelle Obama was your top e-audiobooks download.

The New Yorker was your top digital magazine.

Past Tense by Lee Child was your top e-book download.

Beautiful Boy was your top movie on Hoopla.

Lover by Taylor Swift was your top album streamed on Hoopla.

Constellations

The successful talk by climate and social justice activist Aric McBay tested the waters for the launch of Constellations, a new series conceived and developed in partnership with our New Adult Advisory Board. Late 2019 talk included Dr. Lee Airton's exploration of gender and a fermentation workshop with Prince Edward County's Pyramid Ferments.

Museum Exhibitions

We partnered with the Museum of Health Care to present Struggle Without Rest, an exhibition commemorating the devastating Spanish Flu epidemic of 1918-19. An ongoing partnership with Kingston Area Museums, Galleries and Historic Sites will see quarterly mini-exhibits in the Central Branch through 2019-2020.

Kick and Push

Kingston's popular fringe theatre festival brought their production of Stupidhead! into our Central Branch in July. Our Gather Space was transformed into a rehearsal space and theatre for a week, drawing new audiences into the building.

Deaf Spirit Theatre

A unique Culture Days partnership brought a theatre troupe founded by members of Kingston's Deaf community into the Central and Isabel Turner branches. The show featured storytelling and skits exploring Deaf culture and was translated for hearing audiences.

"A great trip to the Calvin Park branch of @KFPL this morning. Thanks for helping us learn about the library and answering our questions about how to take books home to read! @LCVI_LDSB #community #readinglife

French Programming

Children's French-language programming expanded in 2019. PA Day and summer programs included singalongs and puppetry workshops. Adult audiences welcomed a series in partnership with ACFOMI. One Ville, Deux Realities explores various cultural themes, featuring a speaker from each of the anglophone and francophone communities.

New Chief Librarian/CEO Appointed

After a nation-wide recruitment process, the Board of the Kingston Frontenac Public Library announced the appointment of Laura Carter to the position of Chief Librarian/Chief Executive Officer, effective December 1. Laura joined KFPL in 2006 as the Training Librarian and most recently held the role of the Director, Branch Experience.

Preserving Our Languages for the Next Seven Generations

Queen's University, the Kingston Indigenous Language Nest, Tsi Tyonheht Onkwawenna Language and Cultural Centre and KFPL co-hosted a two-day celebration of Indigenous language reclamation. Following a Friday keynote talk and traditional meal, participants launched a busy Saturday with a sunrise ceremony that set the tone for discussion panels, talking circles, language workshops and a children's storytime.

Drag Queen Storytime

Local drag queen Rowena Whey joined us for our first-ever Drag Queen Storytime in December. Families enjoyed LGBTQ-focused stories and songs in a safe, welcoming space.

“This was a fantastic experience! My son and I constantly talk about there being so many different kinds of families, but rarely have the opportunity in Kingston to be around non-traditional families. It’s so important for him and other kids to have opportunities like this to celebrate diversity in so many ways!”

Arden Branch Renovations

Our Arden branch was given a facelift, with a fresh coat of paint and new flooring and shelving. The patrons were delighted by the brightened space. New furniture will complete the renovation in early 2020.

Our 2019 Partners

Juvenis Festival, Kin Con, Queen’s University, Kingston Indigenous Language Nest, Tsi Tyonnheht Onkwawenna Language and Cultural Centre, Kick and Push Festival, Kingston Literacy & Skills, KFL&A Public Health, City of Kingston Cultural Services, Kingston Area Museums, Galleries and Historic Sites, Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority, Ontario Parks, National Gallery of Canada, Ingenium, Museum of Nature, Rideau Trail Association, MacLean Trail Community Garden, Youth 2 KFL&A, Ontario Genealogical Society, Kingston Pride and Kingston Pride Youth Council, Compassionate Communities Kingston

Thank you to our donors

Donations enable KFPL to provide services and collections outside the scope of our operating budget. Sixty people and community organizations generously donated \$46,637.30 in 2019 and in doing so have enriched the lives of many in Kingston and Frontenac County.

Major donations received from the Friends of the Library and from Ian and Shirley Sibbald are gratefully acknowledged.

The opening of the Central Branch in 2019 provided another opportunity to celebrate donations received from the Kingston Lions Club and in honour of Michael Dicketts.

“There’s nothing quite like visiting a public library. A feast for the senses.”

KFPL Board 2019

Trustee Kate Betts-Wilmott appointing body Kingston City Council

Trustee Judith Brown (January to October) appointing body Kingston City Council

Trustee Janie Jang (January to October) appointing body Kingston City Council

Trustee David Kerr appointing body Kingston City Council

Trustee Mark Kerr appointing body Kingston City Council

Trustee Councillor Robert Kiley appointing body Kingston City Council

Trustee Nico Koenig appointing body Kingston City Council

Trustee Kayley Marsh appointing body Kingston City Council

Trustee Louise Moody appointing body Frontenac County Council

Trustee Natalie Nossal (Vice Chair) appointing body Frontenac County Council

Trustee Holly Platz appointing body Kingston City Council

Trustee Councillor Alan Revill appointing body Frontenac County Council

Trustee Monica Stewart (Chair) appointing body Kingston City Council

2019 Branch Specific Statistics

Arden

1,614 patron queries.

6,509 items borrowed.

1,139 internet/wifi use.

4,250 visitors.

Calvin Park

11,397 patron queries.

253,103 items borrowed.

35,132 internet/wifi use.

176,573 visitors.

Central

20,659 patron queries.

150,965 items borrowed.

36,729 internet/wifi use.

135,219 visitors.

Cloyne

1,766 patron queries.

7,661 items borrowed.

2,677 internet/wifi use.

1,450 visitors.

Hartington

2,092 patron queries.

8,266 items borrowed.

564 internet/wifi use.

2,550 visitors.

Howe Island

468 patron queries.

2,712 items borrowed.

217 internet/wifi use.

1,000 visitors.

Isabel Turner

29,982 patron queries.

358,064 items borrowed.

51,531 internet/wifi use.

243,333 visitors.

Mountain Grove

471 patron queries.

2,729 items borrowed.

379 internet/wifi use.

1,000 visitors.

Parham

2,440 patron queries.

3,521 items borrowed.

125 internet/wifi use.

1,720 visitors.

Pittsburgh

5,755 patron queries.

72,970 items borrowed.

2,994 internet/wifi use.

42,699 visitors.

Plevna

1,194 patron queries.

3,870 items borrowed.

1,588 internet/wifi use.

900 visitors.

Rideau Heights

5,642 patron queries.

32,482 items borrowed.

5,378 internet/wifi use.

32,690 visitors.

Sharbot Lake

2,693 patron queries.

12,522 items borrowed.

2,555 internet/wifi use.

4,050 visitors.

Storrington

225 patron queries.

9,078 items borrowed.

397 internet/wifi use.

3,550 visitors.

Sydenham

2,415 patron queries.

40,166 items borrowed.

3,278 internet/wifi use.

24,405 visitors.

Wolfe Island

3,952 patron queries.

8,221 items borrowed.

1,214 internet/wifi use.

2,450 visitors.

Mobile Library

625 items borrowed.

System-Wide

6,747 patron queries.

283,490 items borrowed.

1,260,345 items borrowed.

145,897 internet/wifi use.

677,839 visitors.

“All right, sorry to stereotype, but i’m officially a nerd, getting old, or a combination of both, because my excitement for the day was heading to @KFPL to pick up these amazing reserves! The challenge will now be trying to read all of these in just 3 weeks.”

Our Funders

Library service is funded by the City of Kingston, County of Frontenac and Province of Ontario through your tax dollars. The Kingston Frontenac Public Library appreciates your support as well as that of the Friends of the Library and the many donors who help to fund programs and other initiatives outside the scope of our operating budget.

2019 Operating Budget & Expenditures (unaudited)

Revenue

82% City of Kingston - \$6,509,613

11% County of Frontenac - \$850,282

4% Province of Ontario - \$297,138

2% Room Rental, Fines, Photocopier - \$124,356

1% Grants, Donations and Other - \$164,635

Total Revenue - \$7,946,024

Expenditures

73% Salaries, Wages and Benefits - \$5,702,982

12% Library Collection Materials - \$910,614

9% Program-Related - \$672,077

3% Utilities (including telephone) - \$273,043

3% Facility-Related - \$205,492

1% Computers and Equipment - \$75,347

Total Expenditures - \$7,839,554

Surplus/(Deficit) – \$106,470

“Bringing #seniors and #children together can have a profound impact on both parties, allowing seniors the opportunity to socialize with the youngest generation, and children the opportunity to learn from those who’ve come before them. Thank you @KFPL”