



**Gibson and District  
Public Library**

# **Annual Report 2018**

Gibsons & District Public

**Libr****ary**

*Stories To Tell*



Heather Evans-Cullen  
*Library Director*

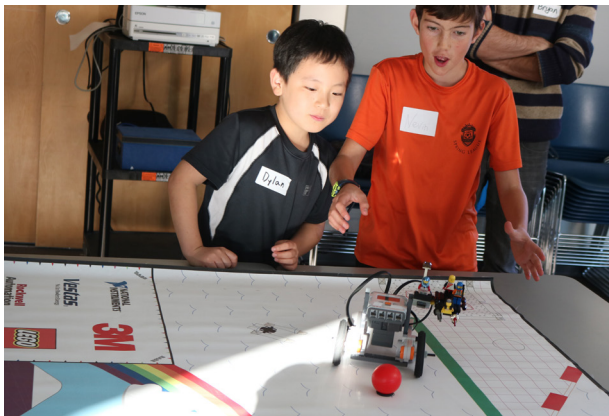


Matt Thomson  
*Board Chair*

## Report from the Library Director and Chair

2018 was an inspiring year full of new initiatives at the library. With our newly configured space, the library is able to comfortably host large community events: we filled the space with a diverse range of events including book launches, environmental forums and a meet the Candidates event during election time. In addition to these large events, the library experienced its most vivacious year of programming yet with offerings for every taste, interest and need.

The combined efforts of our staff team achieved a significant increase in the number of young people participating in library events on a regular basis. We plan to continue these efforts to bring children and young adults the resources and library services they need to excel. 2018 was also a year of many new Digital Literacy initiatives including Coding with Spheros, Lego Robotics and DJ training. With



the support of community grants the Gibsons Library Foundation and devoted volunteers, GDPL is bringing progressive digital literacy education to our patrons.

As much as the library is a gateway to new technology, it also continues to serve as respite from the busy online world. Face to face programs

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such as book clubs, open microphone nights, and game nights including Dungeons and Dragons, and Magic encourage authentic in person connections. Conversational language groups, writers groups, and knitting sessions are other ongoing programs that foster these type of meaningful interactions and learning.

Another key advancement of GDPL in 2018 was its establishment as a key proponent of the sharing economy on the Sunshine Coast. The monthly Repair Café encourages people to bring in their broken small appliances, instruments and household items, and learn how to repair them alongside skilled volunteers. The Sunshine Coast Seed Collective continues to offer its Spring Seed library at GDPL alongside educational workshops on gardening, seed saving and food preservation. 2018 was the first year GDPL also hosted a Dragon's Den style Environmental Forum at which local participants pitched their sustainable living concepts to an audience. These are just some examples of how GDPL educates and supports sustainable living practices.

With a focus on service excellence and staff teamwork, GDPL is poised to provide the very best in library services to our community. 2018 was a year of reflection and research as the library board facilitated a Strategic Planning process resulting in our new 2019 to 2022 Strategic Plan. The meeting



of the strategic objectives within this new plan will advance the library's important role as a place of lifelong learning, community and personal development and educational inspiration. Our selection of online databases and resources gives people endless educational opportunities; and GDPL also supports local students and home learner by offering free exam proctoring services. As one of the last free public spaces in which everyone has equal rights and access regardless of income or background, the library is a flourishing community hub that effectively supports people to improve their quality of life.

**Following a year of change in 2017, 2018 has felt, from a Board perspective, like a year of new beginnings.** As noted above, Heather's energy and enthusiasm have brought a variety of new programs and opportunities for the library,

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and these events have engaged a wider cross-section of our community than ever. Heather's first full year as Library Director has led us through many important milestones, from negotiating a new 4-year collective agreement with staff, to the development of a new Strategic Plan that sets direction for the Library's Board and Staff for the next four years.

Since 2016, our Board has seen significant turn over in the last two years, but this year with the recruitment of four new board members, we are back to a full complement of energized trustees, who are ready to implement the new Strategic Plan. On a personal note, 2018 marks the last full calendar year in which I will be a Gibsons and District Library Board Trustee, having completed nearly eight years on the board, the maximum allowed under our bylaws. It has been a pleasure to



serve as a trustee these last eight years, but I know I leave the Board and Library in excellent hands, with a strong board and a fantastic Library Director.



**The Library is one of the last examples of a true community facility that is accessible, for everyone... it is what we should be fighting to protect in terms of publicly-funded institutions. It expands horizons. It is the only place like that on the Sunshine Coast.**

—Dion Whyte, Community Member

## THE NUMBERS for 2018

Library visits **107,641**  
(up 10% over 2017)



Circulation **163,332**  
(up 10% over 2017)



Program attendees **6,635**  
(up 26% over 2017)

WiFi logins **11,289**  
(up 15% over 2017)



Public computer use **6,975**  
(up 11% over 2017)



Website visits **28,113** (up 11%  
over 2017)



Public events **465**  
(up 15% over 2017)



New library memberships **1,452** (up 12%  
over 2017)

**The Gibsons Library is recognizing the changing role of municipal library. It is a centre of learning, knowledge and community gathering—the ideal of what a library should be, especially for a small town with limited resources.**

—Patrick Bocking, Superintendent School District 46

## *Library Board*

Matt Thomson, Chair  
 Janet Hodgkinson Co-Vice Chair  
 Alison Sawyer, Co-Vice Chair  
 Robert Flux, Trustee  
 Janine Young, Trustee  
 Marah Farmer, Trustee  
 Robert Bennie, Trustee  
 Tim Southam, Trustee  
 Joyce Bradbury, Trustee  
 Donna McMahon, SCRD Liaison  
 Aleria Ladwig, Town of Gibsons Liaison

## *Library Staff*



### **Library Director**

Heather Evans-Cullen

### **Outreach Coordinator**

Andrea Routley

### **Child and Youth Services Coordinator**

Danielle Arsenault

### **Administrative Services Coordinator**

Lynda Carlson

### **Technical and Reference Services Coordinator**

Jocelyn Stewart

### **Technical Assistants**

Keely Park

Amanda Nichol

### **Circulation Services**

#### **Coordinator**

Sue Larose- Cloherty

#### **Circulation Assistants**

Keely Park

Justin French

Andrea Trevett

## *Stories To Tell*

## 2018 Financial Statement

### GDPL REVENUE 2018

Provincial Grants	\$60,060
Sunshine Coast Regional District	\$595,309
Other Grants	\$17,715
Revenue from fines and donations	\$17,896
Other Income	\$5,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$695,980</b>

### GDPL EXPENSES 2018

Wages and Benefits	\$449,604
Collections	\$90,555
Library Management	\$35,654
Building Operations	\$39,469
Programs	\$15,824
Amortization	\$9,541
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$640,647</b>





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# Library

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