

SVPL 2023 in Review

Salmo Valley Public Library Annual Report 2023

As we look back and reflect on 2023, we can see our commitment to serving the community and promoting literacy was as strong as ever. Throughout the year, we not only strived to enrich the lives of all in Salmo, Ymir and Area G through various activities, events, and initiatives, but we also worked to enhance and improve the building that houses the library, support our staff and volunteers and, and strengthen the library governance.

We began the year by focusing on family literacy and hosting engaging activities such as the spelling bee, trivia events, Metis Storytime and a drum circle session with COINS. This was complemented by our Monthly Mobile Children's Librarian service to Ymir, which started back up again in partnership with Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy (CBAL) and extends support to family groups within our area.

As the year progressed, we continued to provide opportunities such as author readings, professional development activities, and take-away crafts for patrons, enriching their experiences at the library. Collaborations with the Kootenay Library Foundation (KLF) brought enriching online presentations to our community, while our work with CBAL brought many excellent programs, such as Tech Learning Centre and Mother Goose Storytimes. We have the Books for Babies initiative to extend our early years literacy work further, which supports early literacy efforts. These books, bags and CDs are given to the local health nurse who gets them out to families with newborns in the community.

March Spring Break brought tailored activities for young minds, followed by readings and community-building fundraisers (thanks to our Friends of the Salmo Library). Additionally, we extended tax support to 52 seniors and low-income community members, alleviating financial burdens during a challenging time.

We celebrated literature and history throughout Poetry Month, Live History events, and Reading Garden gatherings, fostering a deeper connection with our cultural heritage. Our Scrabble tournament and local history presentations further engaged our patrons and strengthened community ties.

Empowering workshops on Advanced Care planning and engaging Metis Storytime sessions enriched our programming in June. We thanked our dedicated volunteers at a celebration in the Phyllis Tatum Reading Garden. We also had the timely installation of two heat pumps, which marked a significant step toward ensuring the comfort and well-being of our patrons and

allowing the library to serve as a cooling centre during heat waves. This project was made possible by grant funding from the Province of BC Emergency Planning & Preparedness Grant, supplemented by funds from a Columbia Basin Trust Climate Resiliency grant.

The summer months included literacy promotion activities, including the Summer Reading Club and a Tween Bookclub. We enhanced community convenience by adding CO2 Monitors to our Library of Things collection and upgrading to energy-efficient LED lights, demonstrating our commitment to sustainability.

With the resumption of regular programs such as Lego Club, Storytimes, and Bookclubs in September, we continued to foster a love for learning among our patrons. Collaborations with the local seniors' groups further enriched our offerings, while craft bag takeaways and mobile library visits to the Salmo Estates extended our reach within the community.

October brought celebrations for Library Month, highlighting the importance of libraries in our society. Throughout November, we prioritized community outreach and partnerships, including collaborations with the food bank and early years programming. In December, we collected new book donations for the local food bank's Christmas hampers and spread holiday cheer through family Storytime events, emphasizing the spirit of giving and community connections.

These are just some of the fantastic events, programs, and learning opportunities at SVPL this year, and we didn't even mention the books! One thing is certain: we can see a steady increase in library access. From our door counter, we know from 2022 (14,398) to 2023 (15,297), we welcomed 899 more people through our doors from one year to the next.

Although we have our struggles (funding, underpaid staff, inflation, challenges to intellectual freedoms - to name a few), the prudent utilization of the library funding has enabled us to enhance our services and facilities throughout the year. From upgrades to energy-efficient LED lighting to acquisitions improving accessibility and patron experience, our commitment to serving the community remains unwavering.

Reflecting on 2023's accomplishments, we sincerely thank our patrons, volunteers, donors, and partners for their continued support. Together, we look forward to another year of serving as a place of knowledge, creativity, and community spirit in the Salmo Valley.

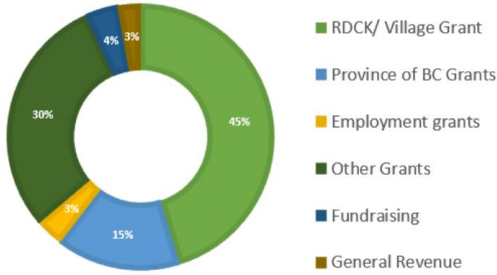
Respectfully,

Taylor Caron – SVPL Library Director



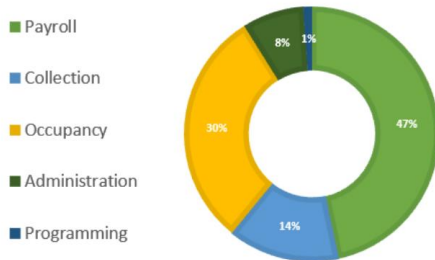
Salmo Valley Public Library 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

2023 REVENUE



2023 Total Revenue \$214,218

2023 EXPENSES



2023 Total Expenses \$208,143

2023 Quick-Look by the Numbers

New materials
 ↑ **2023 - 1,278**
 2022 - 1,133

New materials donated
 ↑ **2023 - 125 (\$3,750 total in-kind)**
 2022 - 89 (\$2,670 total in-kind)

Total Collection
 ↓ **2023 - 18,115 items**
 2022 - 18,450 items


New Patrons
 ↓ **2023 - 132**
 2022 - 137

Total programs
 ↑ **2023 - 281 (2,075 attendees)**
 2022 - 165 (1,525 attendees)

Computer Usage
 ↑ **2023 - 1,336 sessions & 653 hours**
 2022 - 1,262 sessions & 525 hours

Wireless usage
 ↑ **2023 - 5,087**
 2022 - 3,870

Database usage
 ↑ **2023 - 168**
 2022 - 117



Checkouts
2023
26,200 total
20,085 print
6,115 digital ↑

2022
25,530 total
20,234 print
5,296 digital

Volunteer hours
2023
1,246 desk hours
470 friends hours ↑
\$28,743 in-kind hours

2022
692 desk hours
525 friends hours
\$19,046 in-kinds hours

For further SVPL 2023 Annual Report details, please visit us at salmo.bc.libraries.coop or find us on Facebook
 Salmo Valley Public Library, 104 4th St
 250.357.2312

the staff

Library Director, Taylor Caron
Children's Librarian, Marianne Hansen
Library Clerk, Gayle Jarek
Student, Owen Thornton & Jesse van Wijk
SRC Coordinator, Bridget Hanson
Bookkeeper, Rebecca Richards
Custodian, Irene Sikora

board of trustees

Board Chair, Janet Pierce
Vice Chair, Teresa Kjelson
Treasurer, Pat Goulden
Trustee, Judi Cozzetto
Trustee, Tom Nixon
Trustee, Jennifer Gawne
Trustee, Melanie Briscoe
Trustee, Sylvia Korens
Village Rep, Kenzie Neil
RDCK Rep, Hans Cunningham

the volunteers

Jan Anderson, Mary Blue, Judi Cozzetto,
 Cecilia Granbois, Sharry Heighton, Kim Hammond,
 Gayle Jarek, Keith Kemp, Tanja Korinth,
 Teresa Olleck, Julie Vishloff, Carol Vonk,
 Sally Whitman, and all our Junior volunteers!

Donors

Alice & Gerald Nellestijn
 Andrew Raney
 Brian & Sharon Henderson
 Cathy Nyeméck
 Dawn & Craig Tomlin
 Friends of The Salmo Library
 Gloria Currie
 Glover Contracting
 Hans Cunningham
 Joan Field
 Judi & Terry Cozzetto
 June Stockdale
 Keith & Carol Vonk
 Kim Hammond
 Lorraine & Roy Kreuzer
 Marianne & Reg Hansen
 Margaret Hannah
 Pat Goulden
 Paul Van Wijk & Kay Hohn
 Robert Melnick
 Salmo Drugs Ltd
 Salmo Village Grocery on Main
 Salmo Streamkeepers Society
 Salmo Wellness Clinic
 Sally Whitman
 Skyway Hardware
 Susan & Robert Nathane
 Sutco Contracting
 Sydney Traer
 Taylor Caron
 Tim & Sally Albert
 Valene Foster
 Western Financial Group
 Wildhorse Forestry
 Zale & Gayle Jarek

THE PEOPLE

Grants & Funders

Canadian Council of Archives
 Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy
 Columbia Basin Trust
 College of the Rockies
 BC Courthouse Library Society
 BC Libraries Branch
 Government of Canada
 Kootenay Library Federation
 Province of British Columbia
 Regional District of Central Kootenay
 Salmo Resource Society
 Salmo Valley Fund
 Village of Salmo

