



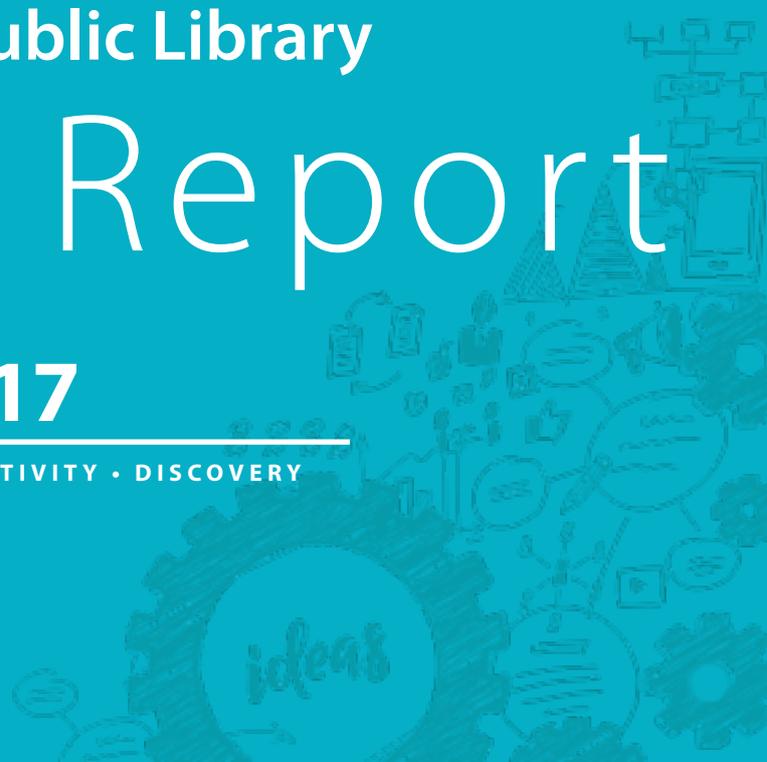
Brantford Public Library

# Annual Report

2017

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INNOVATION • CREATIVITY • DISCOVERY





**Board Chair**  
Marion McGeein

# Moving forward

2017 was a year of planning and transition for the Brantford Public Library.

A large focus for the Board during the year was creating a Strategic Plan that reflected the changing needs of our dynamic community and how its members use the Library - both online and the physical space.

This Strategic Plan was informed by a 2016 Community Needs Assessment, which involved the participation of nearly 1,000 members from the community and several community organizations.

After reviewing the results of this Community Needs Assessment, and holding several focused meetings in the winter of 2016/17, the Library Board unveiled a Strategic Plan that featured four objectives:

1. Engage our community
2. Create a culture of innovation
3. Tell our story
4. Build a foundation for growth

The Strategic Plan also included both a new vision and mission statement.

**Mission:**

Brantford Public Library provides free access to information, ideas and opportunities for discovery, and spaces in which to use and share them. Our expertise and services are accessible and help empower the citizens of Brantford.

**Vision:**

A community connected through innovation, discovery and creativity.

You will notice the use of the word space in the Mission Statement. Another major focus of 2017 was the undertaking of a \$1.4-million construction project that would transform the Main Branch of the Library and tie into a new customer service model that was being implemented across the entire Library system.

Despite having our front entrance closed for several months, our customers still flocked to the Library to satisfy their need to learn and discover and stay connected to the community.

Anyone who has undergone a construction project at their home is familiar with the inconvenience caused by the project. They would also be familiar with the benefits of the project.

2018 promises to be an exciting year for the Brantford Public Library. Our facilities will be refreshed, our staff will be focused and the organization will move forward in a clear direction.



Board Chair Marion McGeein, Councillor and Board Member Larry Kings, Cambridge MP Bryan May, Brant MP Phil McColeman, Library CEO Kathryn Goodhue and Brantford-Brant MPP Dave Levac mark the beginning of the Library facade redesign construction project. This project was funded by the Library Board, the City of Brantford and funds from the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program.

# Highlights

## CONSTRUCTION BEGINS!

In June, the Library held a ground breaking ceremony to kick off a major reconstruction project at the Main Branch. The project would include a new fully-automatic front entrance, improvements to the HVAC system, new self-checkouts, new customer service desks and a new MakerSpace area on the main-floor.

## EBOOK AND AUDIOBOOK GROWTH

Nearly 84,000 eBooks and Audiobooks were downloaded through the OverDrive service and it's associated Libby App, which is available for Android and Apple devices. This marked a nearly 20 percent increase in use compared to 2016.

## LYNDA.COM OFFERED

In February, the Brantford Public Library began offering cardholders free access to the Lynda.com online tutorial service. Over the year, Library cardholders completed nearly 1,000 hours of online training through the service, which has thousands of on-demand video tutorials on dozens of topics.

## THE PLACE TO LEARN AND INNOVATE

Library staff answered 59,135 reference questions over the course of the year. These questions ranged from finding items in the community and the Library and using the Library's tech items, such as the 3D printer, which was used more than 2,600 times in 2017.



## 2017 DONOR LISTING

Donor Name	Collection/In Memory Of	Amount
SC Johnson and Son LTD	Summer Reading Club	\$3,000
Margaret Fanjoy	Large Print Books	\$1,000
United Way - Toronto and York Region		\$500
Shirley Allan	In Memory of Linda Eley	\$100
Mr. & Mrs. Brzozowski	In Memory: Carmela Henry	\$100
D. Malcolm or L. Rogers	In Memory: Carmela Henry	\$100
Mary Jo McLaren	In Memory: Carmela Henry	\$65
June Nicholson	Home Delivery	\$60
Shirley Allan	In Memory: Paul Ameu	\$50
Carolyn Croke	In Memory: Carmela Henry	\$50
Mary DiGenova	In Memory: Carmela Henry	\$50
Caroline Freibauer	In Memory: Carmela Henry	\$25
Brantford Public Library Board	In Memory: Carmela Henry	\$25
Patricia O'Brien	In Memory: Carmela Henry	\$20

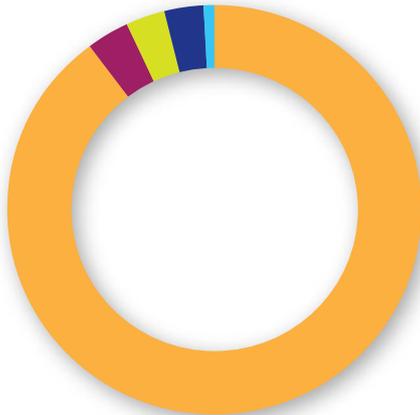


Top: Two boys try to solve an Escape Room puzzle.

Bottom left: A young fan is speechless as Elsa says hello.

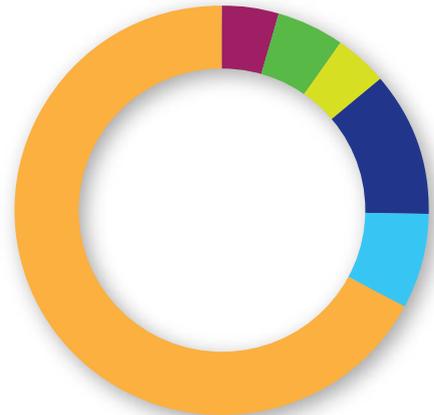
Bottom right, a grandmother reads to her granddaughters and our Seniors @ BPL committee take a break from planning their great programs.

### REVENUES



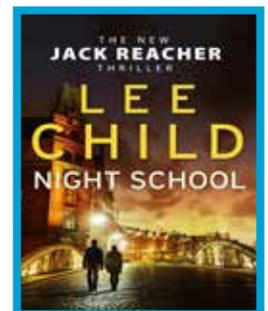
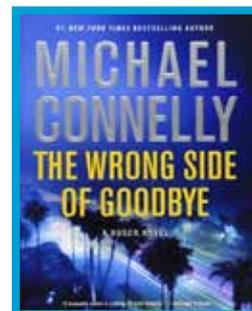
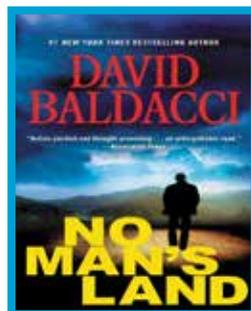
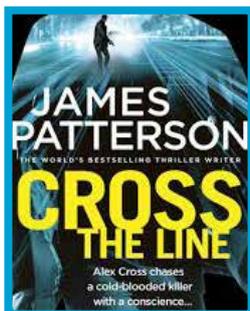
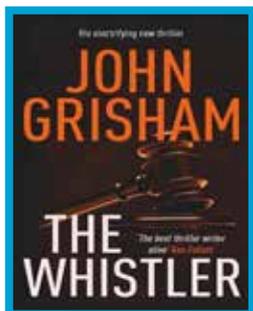
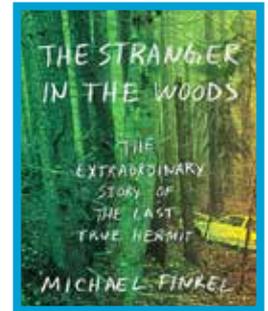
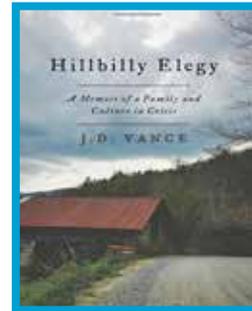
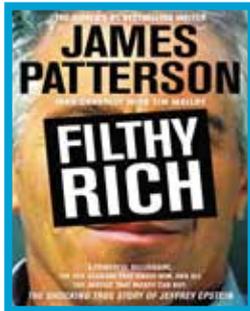
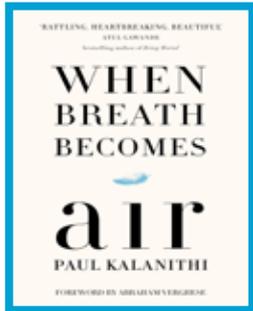
- City of Brantford - \$4,378,660
- Province of Ontario - \$164,379
- Contracted Library Services - \$139,018
- General Revenue - \$130,962
- Government of Canada - \$22,649

### EXPENSES



- Salaries and Benefits - \$3,403,206
- Library Materials - 529,928
- Other Operating Expenses - \$344,474
- Capital and Transfers - \$97,313
- Building - \$222,783
- General Expenses - \$163,324

# Top Books of 2017



2017 was another great year for reading and Library customers enjoyed both physical and digital books. Here is a list of the most popular books from 2017.

## TOP NON-FICTION

1. When Breath Becomes Air - Paul Kalanithi
2. Filthy Rich - James Patterson
3. The Girl with the Lower Back Tattoo - Amy Schumer
4. Hillbilly Elegy - J.D. Vance
5. The Stranger in the Woods - Michael Finkel

## TOP FICTION

1. The Whistler - John Grisham
2. Cross the Line - James Patterson
3. No Man's Land - David Baldacci
4. The Wrong Side of Goodbye - Michael Connelly
5. Night School - Lee Child

# Programming Highlights



The Library participated in several community events throughout the year, including the Glenhyrst Gallery Family Arts Day.

## SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

Programming continued to attract people of all ages to the Brantford Public Library.

The most popular children's programming continued to be the TD Summer Reading Club, which had more than 1,200 participants through the summer, and March Break activities.

The summer Read On Tutoring program also filled up with 200 kids participating in two-week tutoring sessions through the summer.

Thousands of adults also attended adult-specific programs in 2017. Some highlights for adult programs included an author visit from Murdoch Mysteries creator Maureen Jennings. Crafting and seniors programs, including those planned by the Seniors @ BPL committee, were also popular throughout the year.

In total, 27,961 children, teens and adults participated in Library programs in 2017.

# MISSION

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Brantford Public Library provides free access to information, ideas and opportunities for discovery, and spaces in which to use and share them. Our expertise and services are accessible and help empower the citizens of Brantford.

# VISION

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A community connected through innovation, discovery and creativity.

