



BRANTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

2023

Annual

REPORT



# LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Brantford Public Library respectfully acknowledges that we are located on the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee, Anishinaabe, and Neutral peoples. In the present day, Brantford is home to many Indigenous residents and near to long-standing communities of Six Nations of the Grand River and Mississaugas of the Credit.

It's important to learn about the history of the land where we work and reside, to understand the current impacts of that history, and to consider our place within that context.

The Library is committed to identifying and implementing actions of reconciliation. As a public library, we must ensure that we provide resources, programs and services that are representative and welcoming of Indigenous individuals and communities.



# Message from the Chair

MARION MCGEEIN

Often, one of the first questions I get from people that find out I'm the Chair of the Library Board is "People still go to the Library?"

Well...yes...thousands go. And thousands more join each year. Through pandemics, economic booms and busts, important historic events, and ordinary days, people go to the Library. They all have their own reasons. Maybe they are a mom looking for a no cost, child-friendly outing. Maybe they are new to the country and heard about our English conversation programs. Maybe they are in a crowded living situation and need a space where they can study. Or, maybe they've read every John Grisham book ever published and are coming to read the next one (good for them)!

The best part is - probably every time someone visits, they discover something new the Library offers. Our community changes - and so does the Library. If you haven't visited the Library recently, stop in and say hello to the friendly staff and ask "What's new?" I think you'll be surprised.



# 2023 Achievements

## **Branches, Facilities and Upgrades**

Planning continued for a new 13,500 square foot Library Branch that will be part of a joint facility with the City of Brantford and Grand Erie District School Board.

A new customer and materials database (known as an integrated library system) was implemented.

A self-serve book kiosk was installed in the lobby of the Wayne Gretzky Sports Centre.

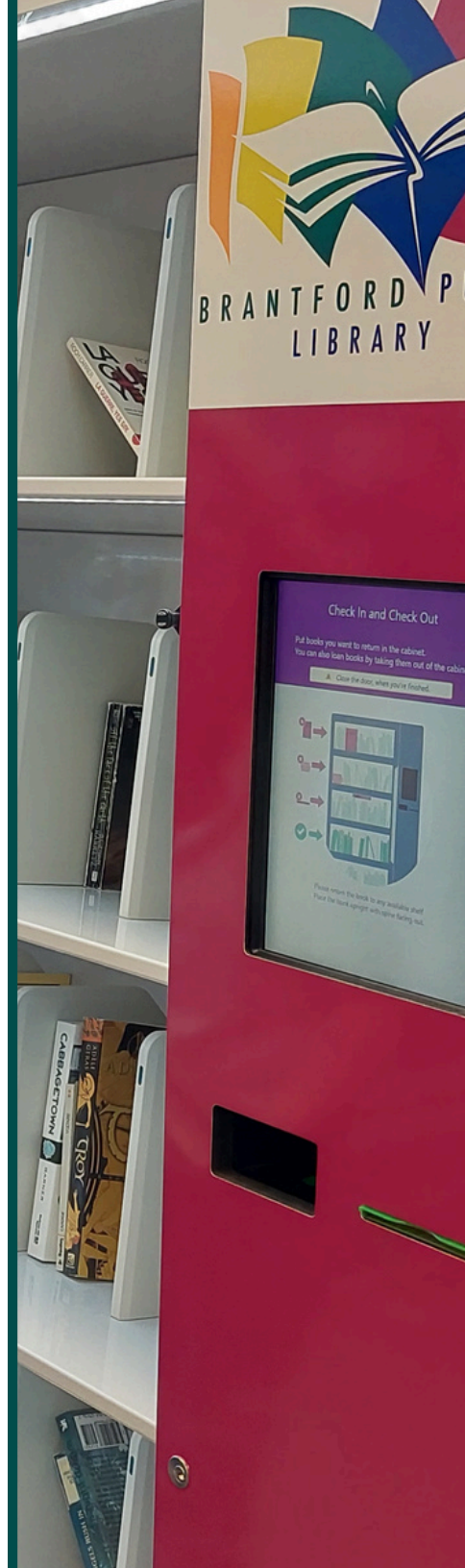
The public elevator at the Main Branch was refurbished and new security cameras were installed at the Main and St. Paul Branches.

## **New Collections and Services**

A new digital archive was launched with an expanded collection of local history images. This is available through the Library's website.

The Library introduced new lendable kits relating to health and wellness, and crafting activities. These items included snowshoes, sports balls, disc golf sets, bird watching kits and more.

A phone charging locker was added to the Main Branch.





# 2023 Highlights

**709,056**

**CIRCULATIONS**

**6,831**

**NEW MEMBERS**

**15,645**

**PROGRAM ATTENDEES**

**7,943**

**ITEMS DELIVERED TO HOME-  
BOUND RESIDENTS**

**558,129**

**WEBSITE AND  
CATALOGUE VISITS**

**233,126**

**PAGES PRINTED/COPIED**

**48,340**

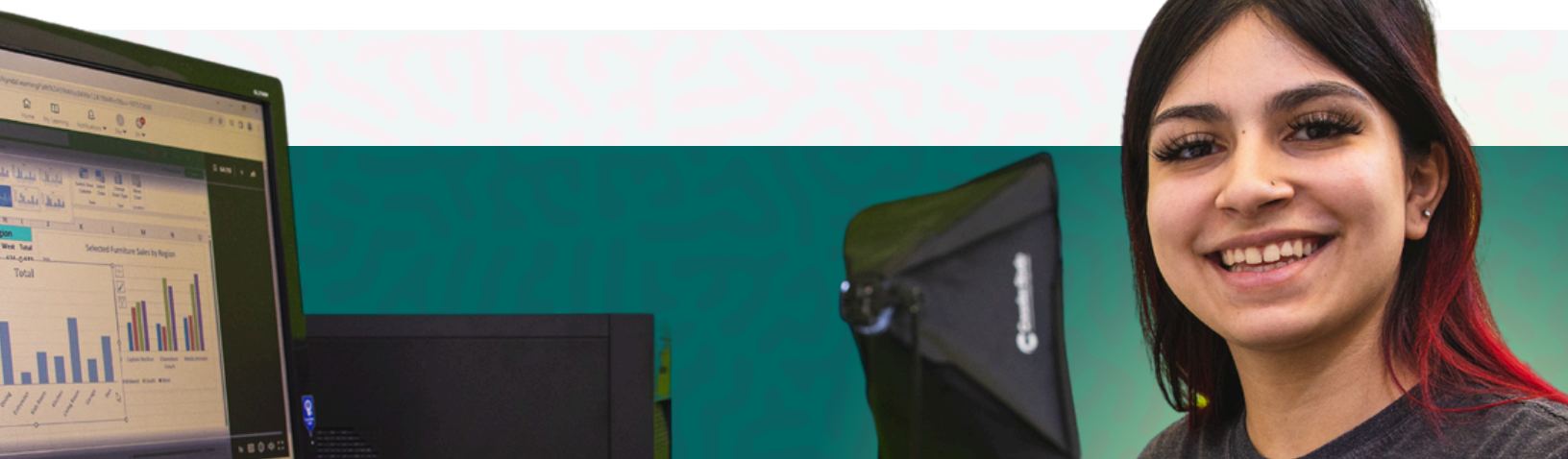
**REFERENCE QUESTIONS**

**404,568**

**IN PERSON VISITS**

**58,971**

**COMPUTER/WIFI USES**



# 2023 Financials

Extracted in a condensed format from the audited financial statement  
Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus:

|  | Budget<br>2023 | Actual<br>2023 | Actual<br>2022 |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Revenues</b>  |                |                |                |
| Government transfers   | 5,355,550      | 5,824,955      | 5,164,942      |
| Other revenue  | 217,300        | 316,017        | 293,750        |
|  | 5,572,850      | 6,140,972      | 5,458,692      |
| <b>Expenses</b>  |                |                |                |
| Salaries and benefits  | 4,190,300      | 4,194,585      | 3,893,007      |
| Building   | 291,250        | 337,712        | 272,811        |
| Other operating expenses   | 525,500        | 559,986        | 539,434        |
| Administrative expenses  | 191,650        | 198,655        | 206,574        |
|  | 5,198,700      | 5,290,938      | 4,911,826      |
| <b>Excess of Revenues over Expenses Before<br/>Under-noted Items</b> | 374,150        | 850,034        | 546,866        |
| <b>Other Income/(Expense)</b>  |                |                |                |
| Gain/(Loss) on write-down/disposal of assets                         |                | (12,549)       | -              |
| Asset retirement obligation accretion expense                        |                | (63,691)       | (61,065)       |
| Amortization of tangible capital assets                              |                | (844,326)      | (891,846)      |
| <b>Annual Surplus/(Deficit) from Operations</b>                      |                | (70,532)       | (406,045)      |
| <b>Accumulated Surplus - Beginning of Year</b>                       |                | 5,238,678      | 5,644,723      |
| <b>Accumulated Surplus - End of Year</b>                             |                | 5,168,146      | 5,238,678      |
| <b>Other Financial Information</b>                                   |                |                |                |
| Capital Asset Additions - Library Resources                          |                | 386,585        | 322,555        |
| Capital Asset Additions Other  |                | 551,666        | 265,950        |
| Transfers to Reserve Funds   |                | 298,958        | 263,364        |
| Transfers from Reserve Fund  |                | 388,066        | 361,128        |

## Donations

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Library in 2023.

In total, \$34,852 was donated throughout the year. The Library's 2023 summer reading program was supported by a \$5,000 grant from SC Johnson.

# MISSION

The Brantford Public Library enhances the quality of life in our diverse community. We invest in valuable experiences, resources, and services, in a welcoming and equitable environment for all.

# VISION

The Brantford Public Library listens and adapts to offer engaging services that foster development for our whole community.

# VALUES

We serve our customers with professionalism, respect and knowledge.

We welcome everyone and strive to reduce barriers to access.

We encourage curiosity and creativity.

We work in partnership.

We support lifelong learning and literacy



# 2023 LIBRARY BOARD



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