Brantford Public Library Annual Report

2024

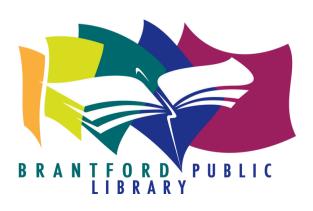












MISSION

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.

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.



A Message from our Board Chair

MARION MCGEEIN

As Chair of the Brantford Public Library Board, I am pleased to share a few reflections on the Library's accomplishments in 2024. This year has been marked by innovation, resilience, and a continued commitment to serving our community.

From breaking ground on the new 13,500 sq. ft. southwest branch to launching a vibrant youth space at the Main Branch, expanding access through a second self-serve Library Kiosk, and honouring the legacies of Geoffrey Moyer and Caroline Freibauer, the Library has continued to grow and adapt in meaningful ways. These milestones reflect the hard work and dedication of Library staff and leadership, and from our community.

In addition to developing our spaces, the Library also continued to add to our wide range of collections, with practical items that community members might not otherwise be able to access, such as digitization tools.

On behalf of the Library Board, I extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to this year's success. We are proud to support an organization that plays such a vital role in enriching lives and strengthening our city. We look forward to continuing this important work together in the year ahead.

Sincerely,

Marion McGeein Chair, Brantford Public Library Board

2024 Highlights

Groundbreaking for Southwest Library Branch

A new 13,500 sq. ft. Library Branch is planned as part of a joint build with an elementary school, daycare, and city-run recreation centre in southwest Brantford, off Shellard Lane. Scheduled to open in 2026, the branch will feature public parking, collections for all ages, study spaces, and an outdoor reading area.

New Youth Space at Main Branch

A new youth space was created on the main floor, shaped by input from local teens and featuring flexible furniture, curated book displays, and activities. A commemorative mural honours Caroline Freibauer, a longtime Library Board member and youth advocate. Funded entirely by community donations—many in her memory—the space is a lasting tribute to her legacy.

Self-serve Kiosk Opens in West Brant

As part of its commitment to expanding access, the Library opened a new self-serve kiosk at Sobeys on Shellard Lane—its second in the city and one of only three in North American grocery stores. The kiosk holds up to 150 books and is available to anyone with a Brantford Public Library card, helping reach underserved areas through convenient, community-based service.

A Lasting Tribute: The Geoffrey Moyer Local History Room

The Local History Room at the Main Branch was named in honour of Geoffrey Moyer, a dedicated Library Technician (2000–2024) who championed the preservation of community stories. His work in digitizing archives and supporting public access leaves a lasting legacy in the newly named Geoffrey Moyer Local History Room.

Expanded Library Resources

New additions included fishing kits, a DVD player, and expanded digitization tools—VHS, cassette, and 8 mm film converters are now available. The Library also partnered with local organizations, the Chamber of Commerce and Military History Museum, to digitize and preserve local information.

Solar Eclipse Glasses

Ahead of the April 8 total eclipse, the Library gave away over 9,000 pairs of solar eclipse glasses to the community for free.

At a Glance: 2024 By the Numbers

747,809

Circulations

5,517

New members

466,197

In person visits

73,882

Computer/WIFi Uses

26,341

Program Attendees

10,950

Reference Questions

8,471

Items delivered to residents unable to visit the library

167,698

Website and Catalogue Visits

247,239

Pages printed/ copied



2024 Financial Statement

Extracted in a condensed format from the audited fianancial statements Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus:

	Budget 2024	Actual 2024	Actual 2023
Revenues			
Government transfers	5,593,400	7,559,993	5,824,955
Other revenue	270,200	280,700	316,017
	5,863,600	7,840,693	6,140,972
Expenses			
Salaries and benefits	4,374,300	4,344,680	4,194,585
Building	305,300	326,603	337,712
Other operating expenses	564,300	557,392	559,986
Administrative expenses	193,600	168,857	198,655
	5,437,500	5,397,532	5,290,938
Excess of Revenues over Expenses Before Under-noted Items	426,100	2,443,161	850,034
Other Income/(Expense)	,	, -, -	,
Gain/(Loss) on write-down/disposal of assets		-	(12,549)
Asset retirement obligation accretion expense Amortization of tangible capital assets		(813,579)	(63,691) (844,326)
Annual Surplus/(Deficit) from Operations		1,629,582	(70,532)
Accumulated Surplus - Beginning of Year		5,168,145	5,238,677
Accumulated Surplus - End of Year		6,797,727	5,168,145
Other Financial Information			
Capital Asset Additions - Library Resources		439,056	386,585
Capital Asset Additions Other		2,104,906	551,666
Transfers to Reserve Funds		160,479	298,958
Transfers from Reserve Fund		255,001	388,066
Asset Retirement Obligation		1,420,610	1,544,866
Post Employment/Retirement Benefits Liability		280,400	259,700

2024 LIBRARY BOARD



Marion McGeein Board Chair



Matt Reniers Vice-Chair



Councillor Gino Caputo



Alec Fiszauf



Josie Heath



Diego Aguilar



Councillor Mandy Samwell



Rebecca Breen



Lindsay Morris

