

DIRECTOR'S

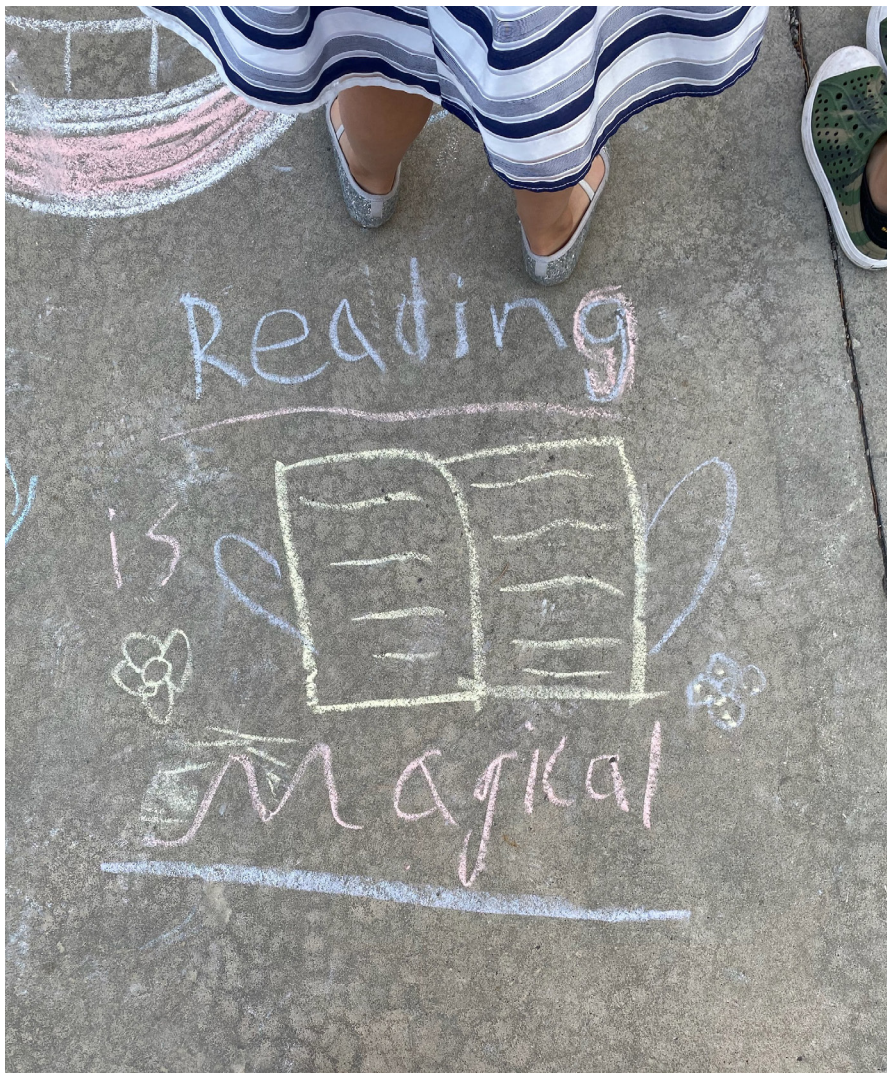
Q3 Report

July 1 – September 30, 2022



Library Director: STEPHANIE HALL

Library Board: Alastair Nimmons (Chair), Cynthia Garton (Vice-Chair), Petra Cottier, Dieter Diedericks, Richard Fisher, Nora Gambioli (Council Representative), Andrew Krawczyk, Sahar Sanajou, Koichi Ronald Shimoda, Jatinder Sidhu, Tracy Wachmann, Lorena Yu, Felicia Zhu.



INSPIRING STORIES

For the first time since 2019, we hosted our **Summer Reading Club medal ceremony** in person! Over **300** young readers attended to receive their medals. West Vancouver firefighters and Library dignitaries were also in attendance. Designed to help stop summer learning loss, Summer Reading Club encourages kids to read at least 15 minutes a day. More than **1,700** kids participated this summer.

"Just this morning I heard from a parent about how much they and their kids valued the summer reading club and enjoyed the medal ceremony."

Thank you to the **Friends of the Library** for supporting this important program.

OVERVIEW

This summer, we saw the benefit of last year's decision to open **seven days a week year-round**. This enabled the Library to quickly serve as a cooling centre during more extreme heat events in July and August. One patron told us:

"Love love love the year-round Sunday opening! Thank you!"

The Library closed for **National Day of Mourning** on September 19, marking the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II after over 70 years as monarch.

The Library remained open on September 30 and offered events, resources, and educational opportunities to support community members in observing **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation**. Our resource topic page had over **100** views. **38** people attended a virtual program on cedar harvesting and **40** joined a family storytime with Lisa Lewis. More than **950** people visited the Library on this day.



STRATEGIC HIGHLIGHTS

Learning

- We hosted an event for newcomers and first-time voters on September 26 with former West Vancouver mayor **Pamela Goldsmith-Jones**. Our recommended resource page on the municipal election was accessed over **500** times in the lead up to voting day.
- Components of our **new recording studio** arrived, and construction began. The studio is scheduled to open in early **2023**.
- Community-engaged environmental artist **Juliana Bedoya** presented a workshop called **"Harvesting Colour from the Garden"**, teaching participants how to extract colours from home-grown flowers, food scraps, and other plant materials like roots and barks. The workshop corresponded with a show in our **Art Gallery**, called **Pigments: Grown and Ground**.

"This library does the most amazing programs! Such remarkable community engagement."

- We welcomed a group of **School District 45 international students** for a visit. One teacher said:

"Thanks again for supporting SD45's international programming. You once again provided an amazing experience for our students. I look forward to continuing our partnership in the future."



Inclusion

- We joined in on **Welcoming Week**, a Citizenship and Immigration Canada initiative to help everyone feel welcome and that they belong in their local community, with a book display. One patron commented:

"You (the staff) are already doing everything to make us welcome. This is the MOST welcoming place in the Lower Mainland. Truly!"

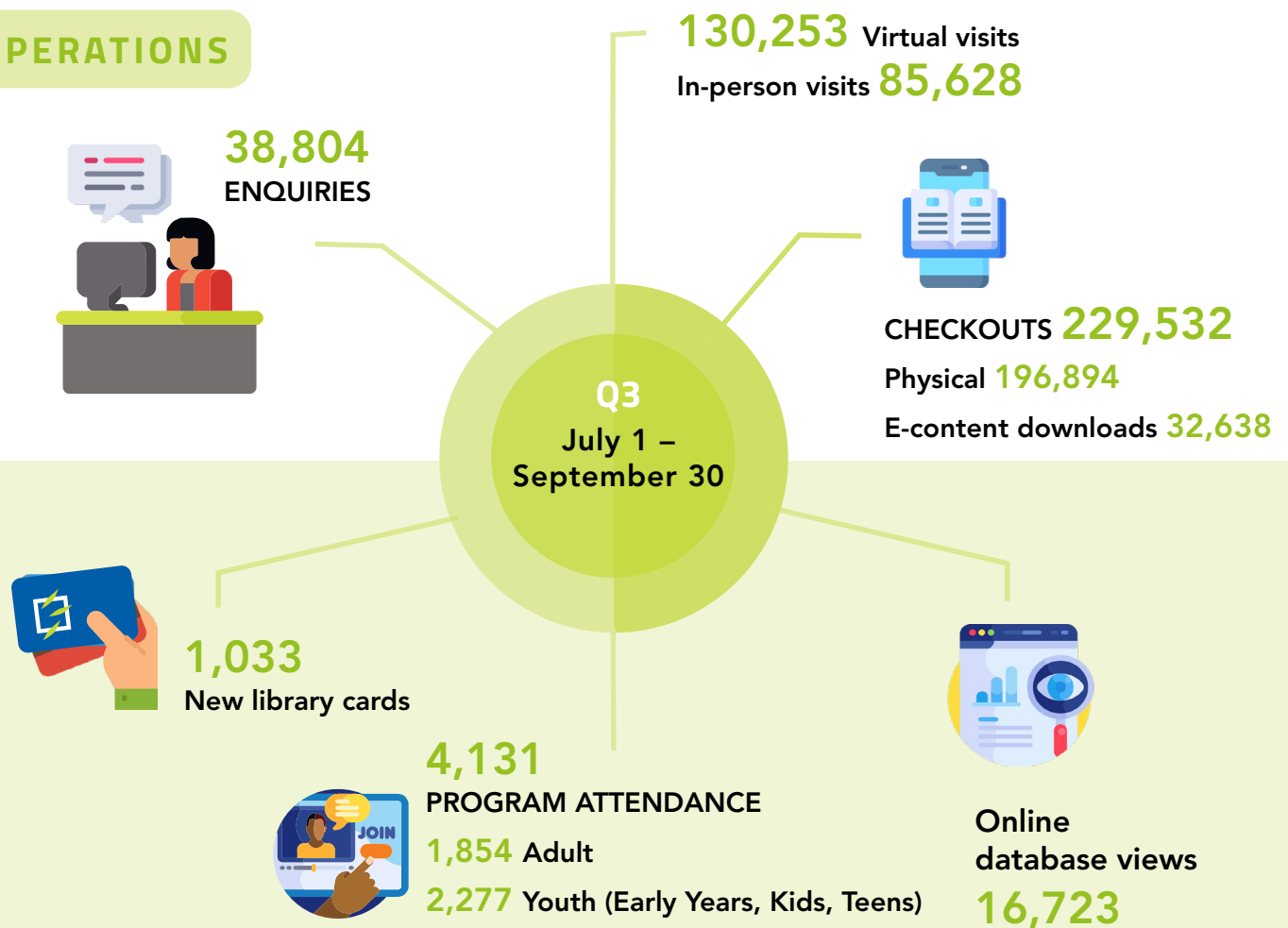
- Our **Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion staff committee** organized an all-staff training session entitled **Leading from the Intersections: Identity, Privilege, and Power**.
- Our full suite of English language learning programs returned: **Let's Talk, English Corner**, and **ELL Book Club**. We're still offering **English Conversation Online** as a virtual option.

"The classes helped newcomers like me to be more familiar with Canadian culture and more confident to communicate with others! I wouldn't have enough courage to apply for jobs without the practice and knowledge I got in the class."

Community

- We partnered with the **West Vancouver Art Museum** on **West Coast Modern Week**. Together, we presented **John Fulker: North Shore Modern** in our Art Gallery, showcasing the architectural photography of John Fulker, as well as a

OPERATIONS



West Coast Jazz concert with the **Cory Weeds Sextet** for an audience of **160**.

"Great community engagement being done by the West Vancouver Memorial Library in recognizing BC's architectural heritage and in evolving the role of libraries in the community."

- September and the return to school meant the launch of the **School Library Card** project in partnership with **West Vancouver Schools**. Students are encouraged to fill out an online form to sign up for a WVML card and ensure they have access to all our online

resources. Nearly **700** students will receive their WVML card this fall.

- The **Accessible Services** team organized a tour of the Library for **Hollyburn residents**, highlighting programs, services, and the diverse collections we have (including our lendable technology).
- Our staff ran many outreach activities, including a pop-up library at the **Squamish Nation Elders Centre**, a table at **Coho Festival** after a two-year hiatus, and a series of programs on advanced care planning at the **Seniors' Activity Centre**.
- We contributed to the first **Poverty Reduction Strategy for the North Shore** with the **North Shore Poverty**

Reduction Task Force, along with representatives of the District of West Vancouver, the City of North Vancouver, the District of North Vancouver, Squamish Nation, and Tsleil-Waututh Nation.



Integrity

- For the first time, we presented a series of hybrid music lectures. **Neil Ritchie** delighted an audience of over **50**—part in the Welsh Hall, and part at home on Zoom.

"Thanks so much to you for putting on these sessions and for somehow managing the technical side of hybrid classes. We feel very lucky indeed!"

- Our **Readers' Rooftop** reopened for another summer and hosted several events, including **Memory Cafes** for people experiencing dementia, family storytimes, concerts, and author talks.
- The **British Columbia Library Association's Climate Action Interest Group** highlighted our



Library's Climate Future programming (including our **Writer in Residence program**), displays, resource lists, and booklists as part of their inaugural **Climate Action Week**, September 23 – 29.

WVML FOUNDATION

This summer, three young library lovers raised over **\$300** for the Library with their lemonade stand, which was then matched by an anonymous donor! Please join us in thanking **Mallika, Arsha, and Liana** for their generous community service and contribution.

Donations to the West Vancouver Memorial Library Foundation support projects like **The Lab, Booktopia: A Literary Arts Festival for Young People**, our **Friday Night Concert** series, and more.

Learn more about the WVML Foundation at wvml.ca/foundation.



FRIENDS

The Friends have been back doing what they do best: contributing to our Library's hospitality. You may have seen them at the **Summer Reading Club** medal ceremony or a **Friday Night Concert**. You'll also see them for their Remembrance Day reception on November 11.

Additionally, the Friends keep the floral arrangements around the Library fresh, with florals courtesy of Loblaws City Market.

