

# DIRECTOR'S

## Q4 Report

October 1 – December 31, 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.



### OVERVIEW

This quarter was chock-full of events, featuring authors **Ivan Coyote**, **Jody Wilson-Raybould**, **Bob McDonald**, **Rod Day**, and **Sareh Farmand**.

On October 4, **Chepximiya Siyam' Chief Janice George** of the Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) honoured our **rooftop community demonstration garden** with a Skwxwú7mesh sníchim name: **Swáywi temíxw**. The place-based word Swáywi refers to the location of the garden and temíxw means land, dirt, or earth.

**Skwetsimeltxw Willard 'Buddy' Joseph** led a traditional naming ceremony in which Chief Janice spoke in front of witnesses, Library staff, students, and community members. **Xwemelch'stn Etsímxwawtxw Capilano Littlest Ones** sang and offered a blessing, followed by a spiritual cleansing of the garden with cedar boughs.

Our community demonstration garden aims to educate the community about the personal and environmental benefits of gardening, growing your own food, native plant gardening, and sustainable living.





## INSPIRING STORIES

We created a resource topic page on our website to help patrons understand the protests in Iran and around the world. The page has more than **200** views.

Community members partnered with us to offer a support group in Farsi to provide emotional support and self-regulation tools to help community members cope. One attendee said:

*"Almost everyone expressed gratitude for the space and the event saying it gave them a sense of community and a chance to get away from the home and work life and come to a space to help uplift them."*

*"I am very grateful to you and the West Vancouver Library for allowing us to use this space, always having it perfectly set up for it, and greeting us with smiles and kind words."*

## STRATEGIC HIGHLIGHTS

### Learning

- After hundreds of sessions, **Instagram Storytime** came to an end. We heard from many patrons about how this was a treasured part of their family's weekly routines:

*"THANK YOU!!!!!! My daughter loved storytime and it really helped us through the start of the pandemic."*

- Our Technology team launched **Connect with Confidence**, a series of small-group social sessions to help develop tech knowledge and skills.
- For our final lecture in the **Big Ideas** series, we hosted the Honourable **Jody Wilson-Raybould** in conversation with award-winning journalist **Angela Sterritt**. More than 200 patrons attended, and one said:

*"Fabulous discussion— brilliant, rational, measured, diplomatic, great humour and nailed the essence of reconciliation. An honour be there."*



Honourable Jody Wilson-Raybould.

### Inclusion

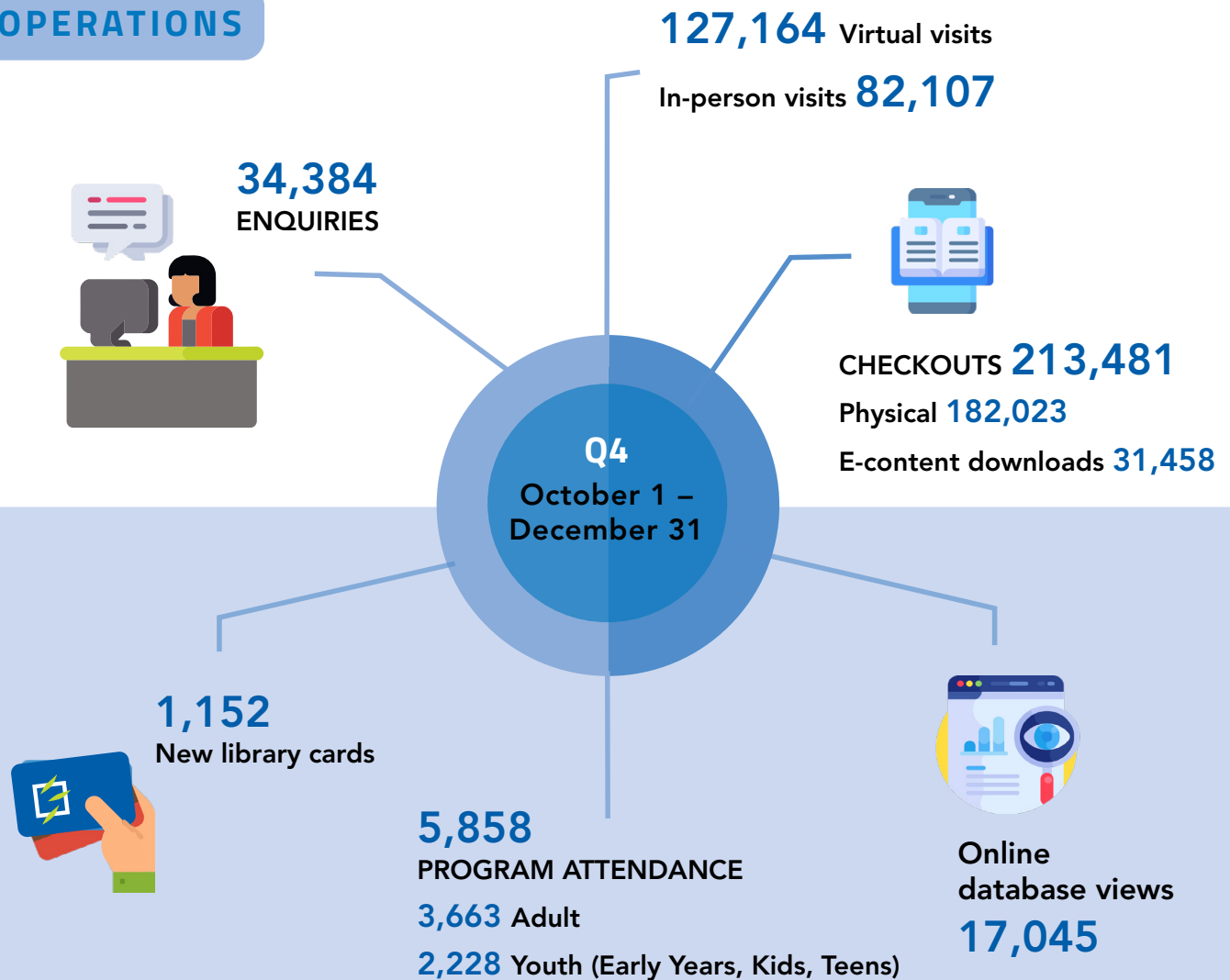
- After completing the Global Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Benchmarks assessment, our **EDI Committee** developed priorities for 2023 and drafted a report for all staff and the Library Board.
- Staff organized transportation to and from the **Squamish Elders Centre** for An Evening with Jody Wilson-Raybould, enabling more than 30 Elders to attend.
- We offered one-on-one assistive technology tutorials in partnership with **CNIB**. Eleven patrons booked a tutorial and learned about the accessibility settings on their device and how to access further training.

### Community

- Our librarians attended outreach events with **Hollyburn House, North Shore Volunteers for Seniors, North Shore Poverty Reduction Strategy Task Force, Squamish Nation**, and the **West Vancouver Chamber of Commerce**.
- We started a weekly drop-in French conversation event in partnership with the **West Vancouver chapter of Canadian Parents for French**.
- The **2022 North Shore Authors Collection** launched at the three North Shore libraries. One author shared with us:

*"My love of reading and writing began from all the library trips my parents took my brother and me on—this really feels like a full-circle moment. I'm so grateful that my book is more accessible as part of the North Shore Authors Collection"*

## OPERATIONS



## Integrity

- Our **cooling tower/chiller replacement** project was completed and both heat pumps are now operational. This project will result in an annual GHG savings of approximately **29.4 tonnes CO2e**.
- We added **carbon dioxide monitors** and **light therapy lamps** to our collection this fall—timely additions as flu season peaked and the days became shorter. These items have been popular and were all checked out within the first week of launch.



- This year for **Remembrance Day** we assembled a Veteran to Remember display featuring **Squamish Nation veteran James Patrick Nahanee**, who served in WWII.

- In partnership with the **West Vancouver Archives**, we presented **West Vancouver: Our Changing Coastline** in our gallery. The exhibit featured over **20** archival photos dating back to the late 1800s. Ten prints were sold.
- We installed a new **Help Desk**, which provides a more ergonomic and practical setup for our staff to better help our patrons.



## WVML FOUNDATION

On November 3, the Foundation hosted their first major fundraising event in three years with bestselling author and former **Supreme Court Justice Beverley McLachlin**.

It was a wonderful conversation, expertly moderated by **WVML Director Stephanie Hall**, about Beverley's experiences growing up, her time on the Supreme Court of Canada, and her work as an author.

With your support, we raised over **\$47,000**.

Thank you to all who bought tickets and donated, especially our sponsors: **British Pacific Properties, Grosvenor, Lawson Lundell, North Shore News, Roper Greyell, Leith Wheeler Investment Counsel, and Westerleigh PARC.**



*Thanks to a generous donation, a group of UBC law students attended (pictured here with Beverley – center).*



## FRIENDS

The Friends' **Remembrance Day reception** returned in 2022 after a three-year hiatus. More than **400** people gathered in the Library after the ceremony and enjoyed coffee, tea, and cookies,

while the **Lions Gate Brass quintet** performed and made the event even more memorable. We're so happy this important tradition—which began in 1975—has returned.