

DIRECTOR'S

Q4 Report

October 1 – December 31, 2023



Library Director: STEPHANIE HALL

Library Board: Tracy Wachmann (Chair), Andrew Krawczyk (Vice Chair), Petra Cottier, Dieter Diedericks, Cynthia Garton, Bahar Hafizi, Alastair Nimmons, Sahar Sanajou, Koichi Ronald Shimoda, Sharon Thompson (Council Representative), Lorena Yu.



Board Chair Tracy Wachmann and Councillor Sharon Thompson cut the ribbon in front of the new Help Desk location.

INSPIRING STORIES

Our Help Desk renovation is complete!

This low-budget project will have a big impact on our space, concerts, and public seating, and is a great example of a smart and efficient space planning move that respects and maximizes existing infrastructure.

"I love where the Help Desk has been moved - nice and central and so open!"



OVERVIEW



After eight years of service, Trustee Koichi **Ronald (Ron) Shimoda** has reached the end of his term on the WVML Board. Ron served on the Board's Finance Committee and has also sat on the WVML Foundation Board of Directors as a Trustee Liaison. Trustees Petra Cottier, Dieter Diedericks, and Cynthia Garton are also leaving the Board.

STRATEGIC HIGHLIGHTS

Learning

- The Library offered programs and resources around **Bill C-18, the Online News Act**. Following the Act, platforms Facebook and Google announced that they would no longer show news content to Canadians. Our librarians compiled resources on Canadian News and offered tech classes on the impact of the bill and how to access publications for free with PressReader. More than 280 people accessed these resources.
- **Author Talks** this quarter featured **J.B. MacKinnon, JJ Lee, Joanna Baxter, and Wiley Wei-Chiun Ho**.

- We presented two new music lecture series: **Classic Albums** with **Dr. Mike Daley** and **The History of Christmas Carols** with **Kevin Zakresky**.

"I believe offering this music history program is a great idea and I am very appreciative of the West Vancouver Memorial Library for making it available."



Inclusion

- Our **Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Committee** drafted a WVML Accessibility Plan, in collaboration with the **District of West Vancouver**. This work is required under the Province's **Accessibility Act**.
- Our cataloguing staff implemented vocabulary from **Homosaurus**, an international linked dataset of 2SLGBTQIA+ terms, to support improved access to our **2SLGBTQIA+ collections**.



- We hosted a **Coast Salish Wool Weaving workshop** for kids with **Spelexilh Anjeanette Dawson**.

- Libraries were noted as the service most used by newcomers in a recent survey by **Impact North Shore**.
- This fall, the **Advanced ELL Book Club** read **The Dancehall Years** by **Joan Haggerty**, set on Bowen Island. After the book club meetings were over, the facilitators and some of the participants travelled to Bowen together to look at some of the sites that were mentioned in the book.

Community

- The 2023/2024 **North Shore Authors Collection** launched, with **76** authors in this year's collection.

"I didn't know we had so much talent on the North Shore. Thanks to you and the Library staff for the work you put into organizing it all, and making us all feel so honoured."

- We presented **Boardwalks & Byways** in our Art Gallery, an exhibit showcasing photographs of waterfront landmarks and thoroughfares from 1900 to 1920 that still exist today.
- Our Youth Department launched the **Time to Grow** space planning consultation. We heard from **424** survey respondents, **350+** weekly voting exercise participants, and three focus groups about how changes to our existing space could help them learn better, use the Library more, and discover the world of imagination.



OPERATIONS



44,887
ENQUIRIES

TOTAL VISITS 290,477
Virtual visits **189,752**
In-person visits **100,725**

CHECKOUTS
221,994

Physical **184,311**
E-content downloads **37,683**



Q4
October 1 –
December 31

1,344
New library cards



8,285
PROGRAM ATTENDANCE

4,582 Adult
3,703 Youth (Early Years, Kids, Teens)



23,622
Online
database
views

- In partnership with **Lighthouse Park Preservation Society**, we presented a lecture by **Colin Spratt** about ancient trees, particularly in Stanley Park, Lighthouse Park, and the North Shore. **87** people attended, and one said:

"The best interpretive talk I've ever attended".



Integrity

- WVML participated in **BC Libraries Present**, a new virtual event series that provides access to award-winning authors to library users across the province.

"How extraordinary that technology and the library make it possible for readers here in BC to interact with one of the greatest writers of our time."

- Five **new meeting pods** were installed in the Library: two in the Lower Level, two in the West Wing, and one in the Room 14 teen space. These first-come, first-served spaces can be used for virtual meetings, phone calls, or quiet study. These were funded by the **Province of British Columbia** through the **Ministry of Municipal Affairs**.



- Library use continues to be up year to date across all major indicators, including an overall **10%** increase in circulation (digital and physical), **25%** increase in in-person visits, and a **47%** increase in program attendances.

WVML FOUNDATION

The Foundation would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support of the Library. Your immense generosity has helped us surpass our **Give the Gift of Healthy Aging** fundraising goal of \$30,000, enabling us to continue to provide accessible services and support to local seniors.

Thanks to your generosity, we raised more than **\$45,000!** Donations to the Foundation contribute to initiatives such as the **Large Print** collection, the **digital** collection (including ebooks and downloadable audiobooks), the **Brain Health** collection, **programs and services for seniors**, and so much more. Your gift enables staff to move forward with exciting, innovative, and impactful offerings for our community.

Thank you for supporting the Library and your local community.



FRIENDS

Two beloved Friends' traditions returned this quarter.

To help add a warm welcome to the Library and to brighten the Holiday Season, the Friends once again decorated a live **Christmas Tree** in the Library.

The **Friends' Remembrance Day reception**, a tradition since 1975, hosted hundreds of people this year even more memorable. We're so happy this important tradition—which began in 1975—has returned.

