

South Shore Regional Library

Annual Report to the Community

April 1, 2007 – March 31, 2008



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Report from the
Board Chair

2007/08 was a year of change at South Shore Regional Library. Chief Librarian H.M. Janet Clark retired in July after twenty-three years on the job.

Tributes to Janet included presentations from the Library Board, Staff Association, the Town of Lunenburg and MLA Michael Baker. Janet is the ideal librarian: professional, wise and dedicated. Staff and Board will miss her presence, her good humour and her sense of fairness. Since she became Chief Librarian in 1984, Janet has been a tireless advocate for public library service and has helped Library staff provide excellent library service to residents of South Shore Communities.

Staff and Board welcomed Cheryl Stenström's return to South Shore Regional Library as Chief Librarian in October, 2007. Since receiving her Master of Library and Information Studies from the University of British Columbia in 1997, her experiences include reference librarian in a large urban library, talking book producer, and library consultant. She's delivered classes to and advised library staff and boards on such diverse topics as public library management, legal information searching, services for persons with print disabilities and web development. She's also been a consultant to the Riverside International School Library in Zug, Switzerland and the Atlantic Centre at Saint Mary's University in Halifax. She is currently a member of the Canadian Library Association's Executive Council. She was the Branch/Extension/Systems Librarian at the South Shore Regional Library from 2002 - 04.

The Library Board was pleased with a decision by the Town of Bridgewater and the Municipality of Lunenburg to fund one-third of the proposed Lunenburg County Lifestyles Centre. The centre will include two ice surfaces, a pool and a library and is slated for completion in 2011.

The Department of Education recently worked with Nova Scotia's library boards, municipal leaders and other funding partners to gain a better understanding of the challenges faced by public libraries. A task force has examined the funding structure for Nova Scotia's public library system will make recommendations of a long-term, sustainable funding strategy to the minister of education in the summer

- Marie Hogan Loker



Report from the
Chief Librarian

The Library continued to offer a wide range of quality programming in 2007-08.

The Seniors' Library Café will be featured in the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) 2008 conference publication as a model of innovative library service in Canada.

Small Communities - Big Ideas is a new programming initiative launched in February 2008. A public discussion series was planned for February to May to offer participants an opportunity to discuss the small community relevance of some big ideas, with each discussion focusing on a small aspect of a larger issue, including democracy, ecology, philosophy, and technology.

Tale Spinners, the Library's early literacy program for young children and their parent or caregiver, concluded successfully in March. Over 200 families benefited from the free, three-session program that included fingerplays, stories, rhymes and songs to help introduce babies to the world of reading. The heart of the program is the information parents and caregivers receive on how to use library resources for parenting and other topics, how to promote literacy, and how to share books, rhymes and other activities with their babies. Tale Spinners was sponsored in part by the Family Literacy Initiative Endowment Fund and the United Way of Lunenburg County.

Staffing changes included the retirements of long-serving Chief Librarian, Janet Clark, and Library Assistant Anne Everts. In May the Library welcomed Nilanjana Das to the staff as Library Assistant in charge of Mobile Library #1.

Finally, staff and board members completed the development of a strategic action plan intended to guide principal Library operations: the purchasing and processing of books and other materials; providing access to these collections; and programming in support of literacy. With background work complete, the plan will serve as a framework for how the Library conducts business in the near future, and ensure the continuation of strong and equitable public library services in Lunenburg and Queens Counties.

- Cheryl Stenström

STATISTICS

CIRCULATION	2006-07	2007-08
Bridgewater	77,429	74,363
Hebbville*	6,319	11,764
Lunenburg	41,997	41,997
Mobile	56,500	54,023
T.H. Raddall (Liverpool)	37,026	36,359
Total	219,271	218,506

*includes interlibrary loans, Outreach Services and online renewals

INTERLIBRARY LOANS	2006-07	2007-08
Borrowed from other libraries	3,077	3,519
Lent to other libraries	4,740	N/A

INFORMATION REQUESTS	2006-07	2007-08
Bridgewater	7,038	5,990
Lunenburg	3,444	4,184
Mobile	5,740	4,677
T.H. Raddall (Liverpool)	1,821	1,252
Total	18,145	16,103

SPECIFIC TITLE REQUESTS	2006-07	2007-08
Bridgewater	12,049	12,771
Hebbville*	3,689	3,584
Lunenburg	3,551	4,155
Mobile	8,070	7,321
T.H. Raddall (Liverpool)	4,705	5,038
Total	32,064	32,869

*includes Outreach Services

STATISTICS, continued

VISITS TO LIBRARIES	2006-07	2007-08
Bridgewater	34,157	10,098
Lunenburg	28,353	27,183
Mobile	24,436	22,368
T.H. Raddall (Liverpool)	23,032	20,400
Total	109,978	80,049

OPEN HOURS	2006-07	2007-08
Bridgewater	2652	2,652
Hebbsville	2040	1,976
Lunenburg	2091	2,295
Mobile	1446	1,392
T.H. Raddall (Liverpool)	1989	1,989
Total	10,154	10,304

PROGRAMS	2006-07	2007-08
Bridgewater	93	95
Lunenburg	138	168
T.H. Raddall (Liverpool)	69	107
Other*	31	40
Total	331	410

*includes partnership locations and presentations

Programs include storytime, drawing programs, March Break events, author readings, Library café, Passion series, Small Communities Big Ideas, Tale Spinners early literacy training, computer skills training for seniors, summer reading program, etc.

PROGRAM ATTENDANCE	2006-07	2007-08
Bridgewater	1,776	1,712
Lunenburg	1,839	2,312
T.H. Raddall (Liverpool)	1,192	1,366
Other	1,657	2,087
Total	6,464	7,477

STATISTICS, continued

INCOME	2006-07	2007-08
Province of Nova Scotia	\$854,501	\$854,501
Municipality of the District of Chester	\$55,571	\$55,571
Municipality of the District of Lunenburg	\$138,583	\$138,583
Town of Bridgewater*	\$39,363	\$39,363
Town of Lunenburg*	\$12,704	\$12,704
Town of Mahone Bay	\$4,850	\$4,850
Region of Queens*	\$61,829	\$61,829
South Shore Regional Library Board (grants and other income)	\$101,765	\$123,663
South Shore Regional Library Board (donations**)	\$53,041	\$46,244
Total	\$1,322,207	\$1,337,308

*These municipal units also provide and maintain library buildings in their jurisdictions, including capital expenditures, operating expenses and repairs/renovations.

**Including booksale and Adopt-a-Book

EXPENDITURES	2006-07	2007-08
Administration office	\$70,567	\$75,672
Books and other library materials	\$81,464	\$68,058
Mobile Library operations, maintenance & insurance	\$52,602	\$49,365
Professional services**	\$22,679	\$24,635
Other	\$2,311	\$1,397
Specialized software, Automation	\$42,405	\$106,524
Staff	\$917,088	\$917,575
Supplies***	\$44,126	\$66,809
Travel & Training (staff and board)	\$17,473	\$14,488
Total	\$1,250,715	\$1,324,523

**Audit, legal expenses, consulting fees, etc.

***Book processing, office, shipping, programs, etc.

STAFFING	2006-07	2007-08
Professional Librarians (FTE)*	3	3
Non-professional staff (FTE)	20.5	21.17
Total (FTE - Full-time equivalents)	23.5	24.17

STATISTICS, continued

COLLECTION EXPENDITURES (adult and children)	2006-07	2007-08
Audiovisual materials	N/A	\$972
Books (fiction and non-fiction)	N/A	\$54,630
Magazines and serials	N/A	\$12,098
Other	N/A	\$359
Total	\$81,464	\$68,059

COLLECTIONS	2006-07	2007-08	Total as of April 2008
Audiovisual materials	unknown	0	4,177
Books (fiction and non-fiction)	94,866	7,538	103,986
Magazines and serials*	152	152	152
Online subscriptions*	5,152	5,152	5,152
Total**	100,170	7,538	113,467

*Annual subscriptions, not individual items

**Non-serial items only

LIBRARY DONORS

Adopt-A-Book

CKBW
Lighthouse Media Group
Sincere thanks to over two hundred Adopt-A-Book Donors, many of whom wish to remain anonymous.

General Donors

Adams, Noona
Alexander, James A.
Bartlett, Jeanette
Burget, Rica
Butler Branch #44 (Royal Canadian Legion FE)
Cochrane, Ann
Colman, Patricia
Costello, Raymond
Des Rosiers, Marie
Drake, Peter
Durnavich, Theresa
Eluik, Leslie
Gaetz, Madelene
Garden Lots Cemetery Association
Gaunt, Leslie
Gonzalez, Ann
Hardy, Erving
Hindley, Marjorie
Johnson, Brenda
Jost, Katherine
Kean, Lynnette

Kinette Club of Liverpool
Kings Orange Rangers
Kiwanis Club of Bluenose Golden K
Knoll, Ruth
Lamson, Cynthia
Lighthouse Rug Hookers
NS Rug Hooker's Guild
MacMillan, Susan
Maxwell, Bernadette
Millard, Margaret
Mills, Nancy
Port Medway Parents & Tots
Rhodenizer, Jill
Roblee, Elta
Romkey, Lorraine
Ross, Douglas
Sumners, Ruth
To honour Brenda Johnson
To honour Helen Maclean
In honour of Charmaine Romkey from Canada Post
Town of Lunenburg
Uhlman, Virginia
Walters, Sam
Watson, E. Jennifer
Zwicker, Donald

Donations were received in memory of:
Phyllis LeGrow

Kenneth Doyle
Greta Woodworth
Joel Rhyno
Phyllis LeGrow
Sarah Pelley
Midred Evelyn Madden
Cy Fear
Digby the dog
Elizabeth Alpine
Mrs. Amero, Sr.
Margaret Creaser
Gordon Romkey, III
Gordon Romkey, Jr.
Doyle Rhodenizer
John Atkinson
Lillian Munroe
Chester Munro
Charles Acton-Bond
Oliver Francis
Jack Estey
Dan Irwin

Program Donations

Canada Council for the Arts
C@P
FLIEF (Family Literacy Initiative Endowment Fund)
Friends of the South Shore Regional Library
United Way of Lunenburg County

