



Cumberland Public Libraries Annual Report April 2018- March 2019

Cumberland Public Libraries comprises seven libraries, a Borrow by Mail service, and a headquarters office. The seven libraries are located in Advocate Harbour, Amherst, Oxford, Parrsboro, Pugwash, River Hebert, and Springhill.

Cumberland Public Libraries is managed and operated by the Cumberland Regional Library Board, a body corporate pursuant to the Libraries Act of Nova Scotia, and made up of representatives from across Cumberland County and the Province of Nova Scotia.

Letter from the Chair

I'm very excited to continue as the Chair of the Cumberland Regional Library Board. Libraries are an institution that I have always felt an affinity towards, as a place to read, to learn, to meet others, and to find something new.

Nova Scotia's public libraries are in another funding review for which we should know the results by the end of the year. It is my sincere hope that the provincial and municipal governments will come together and fund libraries in a way that will make them sustainable and innovative for years to come.

I would like to thank my fellow board members for their continued passion for and active promotion of the Cumberland Public Libraries. I would like to thank our Chief Librarian, Denise Corey, for being a passionate advocate for libraries and a wonderful person to work with. And on behalf of the entire Cumberland Regional Library Board, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all members of staff for going the extra mile to make a difference in the lives of others.

Finally, we all owe a great deal of thanks to the citizens of Cumberland County. We will continue to work hard for them and for their public library.

**Dale Fawthrop,
Board Chair**

Our Locations

Advocate Library	902-392-2214	93 Mills Road
Four Fathers Library (Amherst)	902-667-2549	21 Acadia Street
Oxford Library	902-447-2440	22 Water Street
Parrsboro Library	902-254-2046	91 Queen Street
Pugwash Library	902-243-3331	10222 Durham Street
River Hebert Library	902-251-2324	2730 Barronsfield Road
Springhill Miners Memorial Library	902-597-2211	85 Main Street

Our Team

Headquarters and Amherst Branch Staff:

Chief Librarian	Denise Corey
Deputy Chief Librarian	Chantelle Taylor
Youth Services Librarian	Fiona Watson
Systems Manager	Steve Weatherbee
Secretary/Bookkeeper	Kristy Brown
Library Assistant	Adam Davies
Library Assistant (contract pos.)	Julie Allison-Savage
Interlibrary Loans Coordinator	Vanessa Sawatzky
Library Clerk	Dianna Lawless
Library Clerk	Lisa Strathearn
Borrow by Mail Clerk	Peggy Sperry
Library Page	Peggy Sperry
Shelver	Dianna Lawless
Branch Delivery Driver	Glen Weatherbee
Casual Substitute	Henri Etta Stevens
Summer Student	Lauren Skabar
Summer Student	Patricia Deane
Summer Student	Emma Brine
Community Technology Intern	Greg Belliveau-Perry

Branch Staff:

Advocate	Terry Gulliver
Oxford	Megan McNutt
	Helen Cole
Parrsboro	Eden Bard
	Amber Allard
	Cindy Walker
Pugwash	Mary Hartling
	Archan Knotz
River Hebert	Rosemary Ulch
Springhill	Cathy Canning
	Allison Watson

Library Board

Mr. Dale Fawthrop, Chair	Province of Nova Scotia
Councillor Marlon Chase, Vice-Chair	Municipality of the County of Cumberland
Councillor Wayne MacKenzie, Treasurer	Town of Amherst
Ms. Joan Beswick	Town of Amherst, citizen representative
Ms. Edwina Buckland	Municipality of the County of Cumberland, citizen rep.
Councillor Brenton Colbourne	Town of Oxford
Mr. Sandy Graham	Municipality of the County of Cumberland, citizen rep.
Councillor Daniel Rector	Municipality of the County of Cumberland
Ms. Jane Wood (until November 2018)	Province of Nova Scotia
Ms. Amanda-Leigh MacLeod (starting February 2019)	Province of Nova Scotia

Our Message

Libraries measure use by how many books are checked out, how many people come through the door, and how many people come to programs, by all these measures the Cumberland Public Libraries are performing well despite the shrinking population in Cumberland County.

A few highlights from the past year include:

April

On April 12th, a public meeting to discuss the future of CPL was held at the Four Fathers Library in Amherst. 37 concerned citizens showed up to give support to the library and express their concerns about library funding in the province.

Thanks to Bill Fairbanks and the Cumberland Barristers' Society, we were once again able to offer a free session on Wills and Estate planning, this time at the Springhill Library.

May

The 2018 Hackmatack Children's Choice Award tour featured Deborah Toogood, author of *Chasing the Phantom Ship*. She visited Amherst, Parrsboro, and Springhill libraries and 232 children in grades 4-6 had the opportunity to hear her talk about her book and answer questions about writing.

Summer students were hired with funding from Student Career Skills Development Program through the Nova Scotia Department of Labour and Advanced Education, Young Canada Works in Heritage Institutions, and @NS.

June

Over the summer, 249 children aged 3-12 signed up for the TD Summer Reading Club. The theme for 2018 was "Feed Your Passions!" Kids read for 1,584 hours. In total, 1,273 children and caregivers attended programs at our 7 branches, which included Unicorns Unite, Spectacular Space, Art Ambush, Really Rad Recycling, and more!

CPL was lucky enough to be selected by 100 Women Who Care Cumberland. This was a wonderful influx of money that went toward purchasing items for our new Families Exploring Literacy program.

July

SuperNOVA, a not-for-profit initiative of Dalhousie University that provides youth in Atlantic Canada with fun, educational, and inspiring experiences in science, engineering, technology and mathematics, visited the Four Fathers Library and the Springhill Library.

We were able to raise \$460.00 on a quilt that June Henwood sewed and donated for us to raffle off.

August

Throughout the summer, the library partnered with Maggie's Place, The Municipality of the County of Cumberland's Recreation Department and local community health boards to take part in "Everything But the Kitchen Sink". This program toured the county and encourage imaginative building play for children of all ages.

September

Due to the changes to the pre-primary program we added Families Exploring Literacy to our programs this year. The goal of the FEL program is to provide pre-literacy skills to children ages 2 to 4 and to give their parents and guardians tools to help them along their path to reading.

October

CPL hosted 4 author readings: Meryl Cook, Lesley Crewe, Kayla Hounsell, and Bruce Graham.

November

Our annual Winter Book Sale raised \$882 for the libraries. It was a lower than usual amount because there was a day long power outage.

December

Our Food for Fines program has been active for over 12 years. While its use has declined over the last several years it still added over 430 food items to food banks around Cumberland County and forgave over \$800 in fines.

January

We welcomed Greg Belliveau-Perry to our team on a grant. Greg toured around the county providing one-on-one technology help.

February

Along with public libraries across the province, CPL celebrated NS Heritage Day honouring Maud Lewis. Holding folk art crafternoons, paint like Maudie evenings, and screenings of the film "Maudie". This was made possible by a grant from the Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage.

March

We had a 23% increase in attendance our March Break programming this year. 412 kids and guardians attended 21 programs across the county, which included Slime Time, Seuss Day, Iron Chef, LEGO, movie screenings, and more!

Our Community

Members**	2017-18	2018-19
Advocate	304	303
Amherst	3,856	3,798
Oxford	455	495
Parrsboro	608	574
Pugwash	834	856
River Hebert	215	208
Springhill	881	858
Borrow By Mail	66	68
Total	7,219	7,160

**Active, registered users (have used their accounts within the last 3 years).

New Members	2017-18	2018-19
Advocate	52	44
Amherst	406	409
Oxford	64	90
Parrsboro	59	62
Pugwash	110	109
River Hebert	18	25
Springhill	100	97
Borrow By Mail	4	1
Total	815	837

Annual Activity

Library Visits+	2017-18	2018-19
Advocate	1,693+	2,388+
Amherst	57,948	59,259
Oxford	5,429+	7,890
Parrsboro	8,208+	7,935+
Pugwash	12,443	12,382
River Hebert	2,822+	5,514
Springhill	11,882	14,043
Total	100,425	109,411

+ library visits at these locations are estimated – others have door counters.

Cumberland Public Libraries
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Items Borrowed	2017-18	2018-19
Advocate	2,441	2,567
Amherst	47,418	43,654
Oxford	6,169	6,039
Parrsboro	6,278	6,755
Pugwash	9,309	8,478
River Hebert	5,276	3,713
Springhill	10,171	8,613
Borrow By Mail	1,787	1,687
Online Renewals & Processing	19,686	18,720
OverDrive (e- & audio books)	10,255	11,156
Total	118,790	111,382

Holds Placed	2017-18	2018-19
Advocate	1,017	1,122
Amherst	12,805	12,744
Oxford	2,444	2,374
Parrsboro	2,091	2,198
Pugwash	2,485	2,056
River Hebert	2,600	1,848
Springhill	4,240	3,380
Borrow By Mail	1,070	1,036
OverDrive (e- & audio books)	2,660	3,306
Total	31,412	30,064

Inter-Library Loans	2017-18	2018-19
<i>Loaned To Other Libraries</i>	3,038	3,916
<i>Borrowed From Other Libraries</i>	3,106	3,299

Reference Questions	2017-18	2018-19
Advocate	454	331
Amherst	2,960	3,359
Oxford	1,089	1,065
Parrsboro	944	1,157
Pugwash	2,134	1,862
River Hebert	490	458
Springhill	1,353	1,370
Borrow By Mail	524	532
Remote (e-mail)	50	64
Total	9,998	10,198

Programming	2017-18	2018-19
Number of Programs Offered	621	640
Total Attendance	12,039	10,962

Children's Summer Reading Program	2017-18	2018-19
Participants	273	249
Hours Read	1,704	1,584
Program attendees	1,991	1,273

Teen Summer Reading Program	2017-18	2018-19
Participants	34	39
Hours Read	876	830

Adult Summer Reading Program	2017-18	2018-19
Participants	138	141
Books Read	1,045	1,119

Our Technology

Wireless use hours	2017-18	2018-19*
Advocate	212	2,449
Amherst	16,972	26,846
Oxford	2,547	12,413
Parrsboro	551	8,631
Pugwash	408	5,408
River Hebert	848	4,907
Springhill	741	4,207
Total	22,279	64,861

*Library no longer requires a card to log on to wireless

Public Access Computer use hours	2017-18	2018-19
Advocate	806	1,254
Amherst	10,355	9,224
Oxford	1,367	1,548
Parrsboro	2,867	2,749
Pugwash	335	319
River Hebert	366	5,437
Springhill	4,556	3,840
Total	20,652	24,371

We wish to thank the following businesses, organizations, and individuals who made financial and in-kind contributions to the Library during the past year:

Marian Alexander	Gateway Development Ltd	Janet Pedersen
Amherst Lioness Club	Joanne Gibson	Marianne Price
Amherst Lions Club	Deborah Glenen	Marion Richards
Sally Austin	Gracie Goodwin	Veronica Richards
Ralph Belliveau	Lisa Gottschalk	Eleanor Ripley
Joan Beswick	Sheila Graham	Faye Ripley
Tammy Bickerton	Shelly Hallman	Rotary Club of Amherst
Marguerite Bishop	Katherine Hatheway	Martha Saunders
Cara Brown	Morris Hugg	Shirley Saveur
Ruth Buckinger	June Henwood	Kathryn Schlitt
C. Ernest Harrison & Sons Limited	Nina Hoffman	Delphine Seto & Steve Micklewright
CAN-U	Wendy and Tim Iler	Jean Siddall
Jean Carr	Jorgensen & Bickerton Inc.	Sharon Simon
Kelli Cheverie	Gwen Kerr	Elizabeth Smith
Clare Christie	Robin Latta	Krista Smith
David Christie	Margaret MacDonald	Margaret Smith
Beth Clinton	Ian MacLean	Tanya Sparling
Compass Minerals Canada	Megan MacLean	Louise Stillman
Irene Coombs	Sarah MacMaster	Shirley Symes
Melanie Cove	Hazel Mahaney	Tantramar IODE
Sally Cove	Kelly Martin	Marguerite Taylor
Boyd Crawford	Sandra Mason	Glen Weatherbee
Vicki Daley	Jan Matthews	Kathy Wells
Dale Davis	Sara McCarthy	Beverly White
Deanne Fitzpatrick Studio	Susan McIsaac	Mary Williams
Sherrie Elliott	Minudie Heritage Society	Susanne Williams
Donna Farrell	Elizabeth Morrison	Jane Wood
Dale Fawthrop	Rubin Millard	Tonya Wood
Lacey Fisher	D'Arcy Murray	--
Kim Ford	Oxford Frozen Foods	
	Ron and Carlene Patterson	

We also wish to thank our partners who help us do so much more in the community:

Maggie's Place Family Resource Centre
Cumberland YMCA
Arthritis Society
Alzheimer Society of NS
Open House Career Centre
Coats for Cumberland
Tantramar Seniors College
Cumberland Adult Network for Upgrading
NS Fibre Arts Festival

Financial Statement 2018-2019*

Revenue

Province of Nova Scotia	\$ 550,000
Municipality of Cumberland	139,240
Town of Amherst	61,820
Town of Oxford	7,680
Board Generated Revenue	<u>159,106</u>

Total **\$ 917,846**

Expenditures

Salaries and Benefits	\$ 639,834
Library Materials	90,238
Automation	13,010
Vehicle Operation & Insurance	6,445
Board and Staff Travel and Training	11,042
Office expenses, rent, postage, utilities, etc.	108,984
Professional Fees, Memberships	<u>8,862</u>

Total **\$ 878,415**

*For a complete audited financial statement please contact Cumberland Public Libraries Headquarters.