

YOUR PUBLIC LIBRARY

A Community Q&A

May 2026

AGENDA

- NS Public Libraries overview
- By the Numbers: How we did in 2025–2026
- Supporting our Communities: What we did in 2025–2026
- Funding: 2025–2026
- Funding: 2026–2027
- Questions

OUR LIBRARY BOARD

April 2025–March 2026

The Cumberland Regional Library Board is made up of representatives from the Towns of Oxford and Amherst, the Municipality of Cumberland County, provincial appointees, and a community member appointed by the Board.

Board Members

Town of Amherst – Terry McManaman

Municipality of Cumberland – Angel McCormick

Town of Oxford – Carla Black

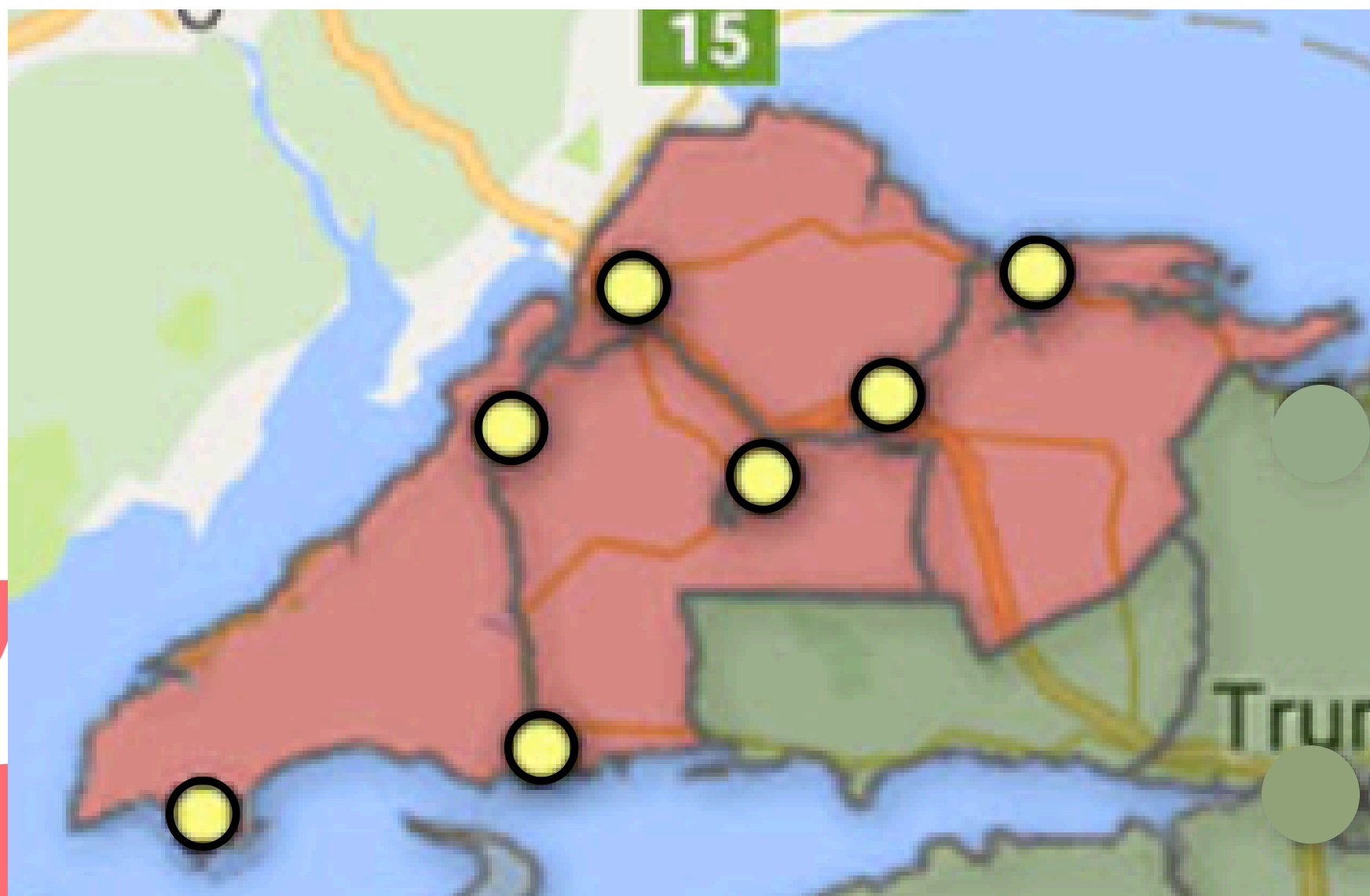
Community Member – Kim Ford

Provincial Appointee – Mark Joseph (appointed March 5th)

Provincial Appointee – David Beattie (appointed March 5th)



CUMBERLAND PUBLIC LIBRARIES



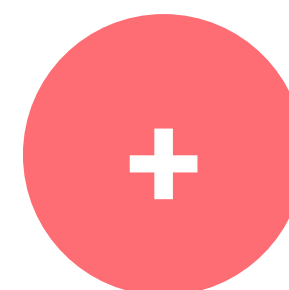
LIBRARY LOCATIONS

Advocate Harbour
Amherst
Oxford
Parrsboro
Pugwash
River Hebert
Springhill



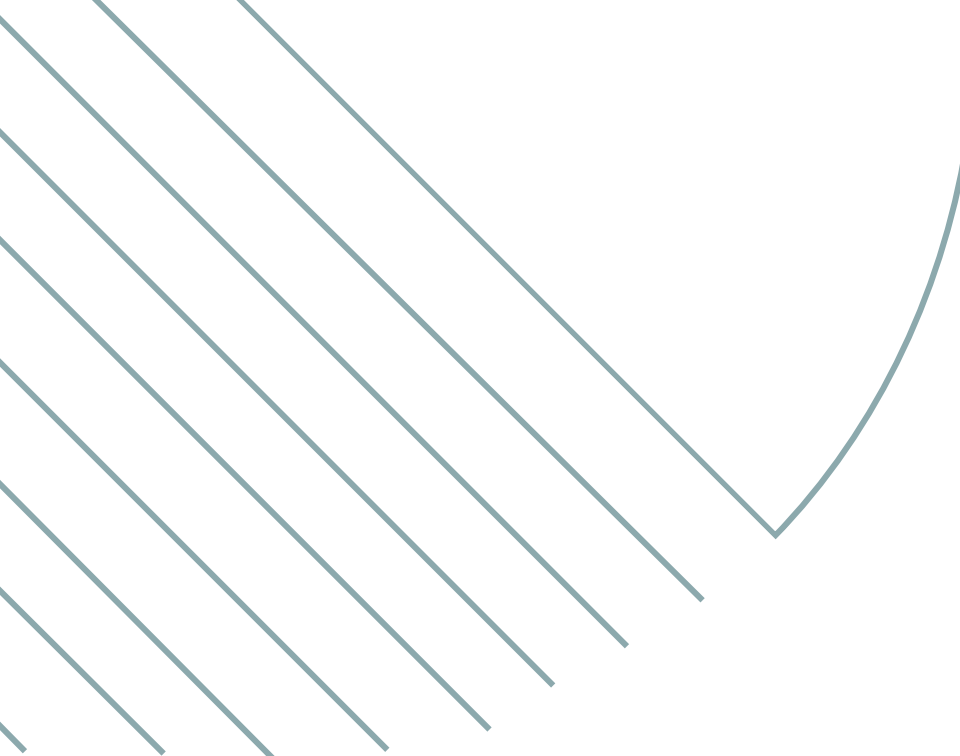
HEADQUARTERS LOCATION

Located in Amherst



OUTREACH SERVICES

Borrow By Mail
Interlibrary Loan
Digital Services

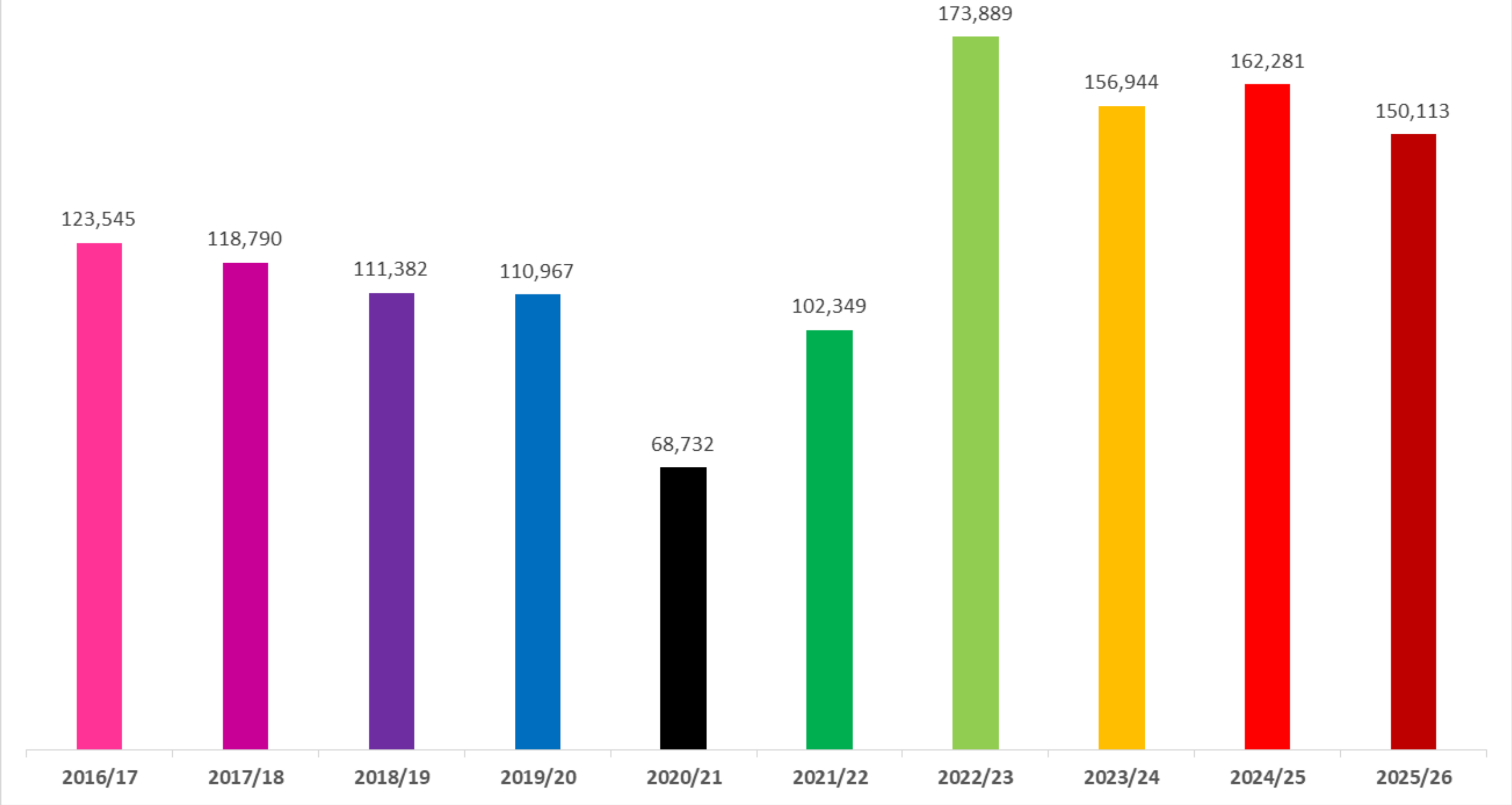


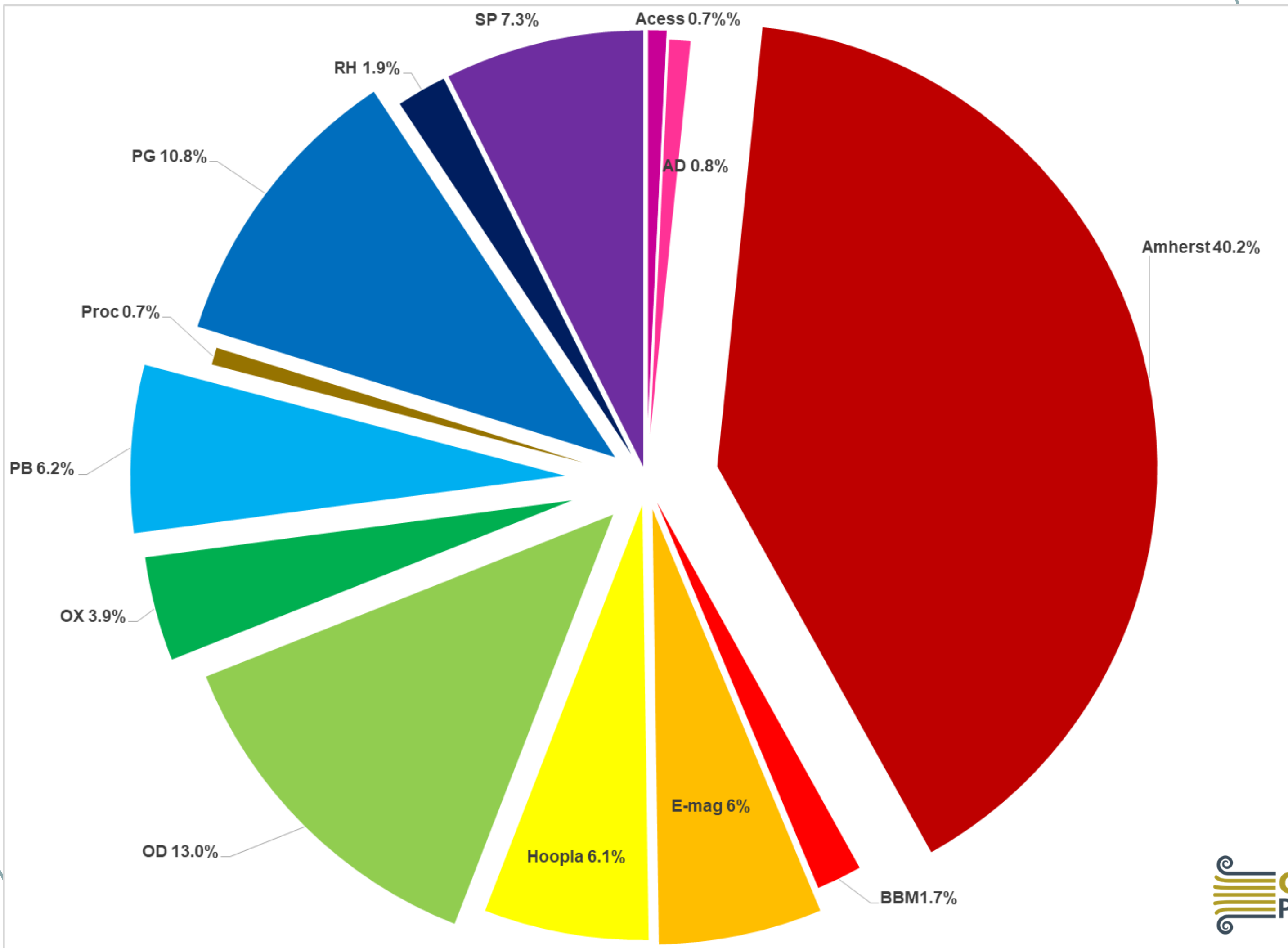
BY THE NUMBERS:

HOW WE DID IN 2025-2026



10 YEAR CIRCULATION





PROGRAMS

249 adult programs with 1,292 people in attendance.

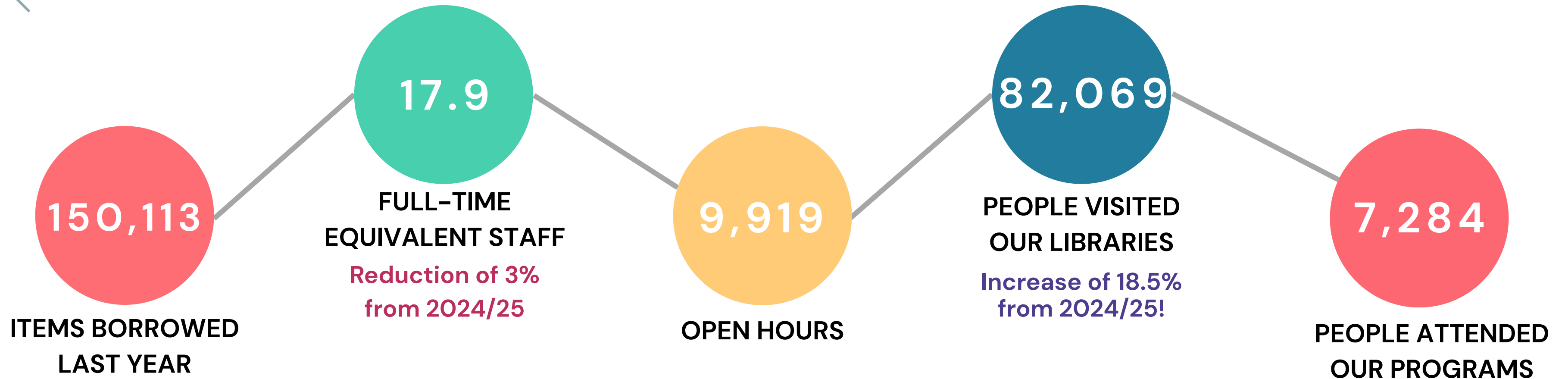
Author visits
Twisted Stitchers
Book clubs
Adult craft night

209 children's programs with 4,047 people in attendance

Once Upon A Time
Craft programs
Summer Reading Club
March Break



2025-2026 NUMBERS



SUPPORT *FROM OUR* COMMUNITY



26.5K

COMMUNITY DONATIONS

We have received donations from amazing community members. Their contributions enrich the public library system in Cumberland County by helping us provide new books and programs for our thousands of library visitors each year.

6.2K

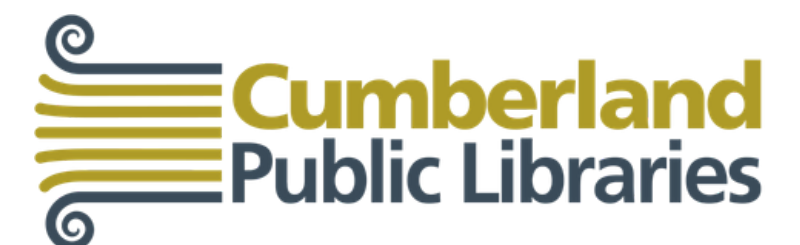
LIBRARY FUNDRAISING

Our community continues to support us by engaging with our fundraising initiatives. This year, we hosted knit-a-thons at three of our branches, book sales, and more!

2.6K

FYIDOCTORS SPECIAL FUNDRAISING EFFORTS

This year, FYidoctors Amherst fundraised for us throughout the year. They did so by having book sales, basket draws, colouring contests, and more. Thank you for this amazing support FYi!





SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITIES

WHAT WE DID IN 2025-2026

- Hired 3 students for summer jobs, with the help of Provincial and Federal grants,
- Formed a Cumberland County specific Library Accessibility Committee,
- Released our new strategic plan,
- Welcomed numerous organizations through our doors to provide community support, such as:
 - Public Health, Sexual Health Centre for Cumberland County, Maggie's Place, Ecology Action Centre, and more.
- With the help of the amazing Advocate Harbour community, we reopened our Advocate location 8 months after its unexpected closure.



PROGRAMS

- Author readings:
 - Richard Dittami, Christopher Murphy, Lesley Crewe, and Jill MacLean.
- Summer Reading Club,
- Staff lead fundraiser to raise money for Parrsboro Adult Craft Nights.
- Continued Pugwash Artist Collective partnership,
- Movie days at The Amherst Theatre,
- And much more!



WHAT DOES THE LIBRARY MEAN TO YOU?

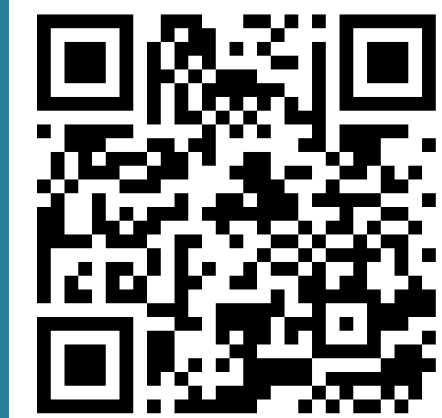
"I've been going to the library since childhood, as I lived right across the street from it. I love looking at all the different books, a peaceful feeling comes over me when I walk in."

"Some of my earliest memories are of going to the library with my mother. Then it was going by myself (at a very young age) to pick up her books and my own. When I didn't have the money to buy books; the library always allowed me to read for free. It's been my access to education and pleasure. I would be lost without it."

"...I love bookstores, but they're often too expensive. It's such a blessing to know that I can order it from the library's province-wide service and enjoy it at no cost. Thank you CPL staff!"

"Watching my dad bring home books week after week, studying and learning into his 80s makes me so happy and proud. Dad's excellent wellbeing can be attributed to his strength and character but your library is an integral part of the work he does..."

"I <3 the Library! Best Place for Gathering!"



**SCAN THIS QR CODE TO
TELL US WHAT THE
LIBRARY MEANS TO YOU!**



FUNDING: 2025-2026

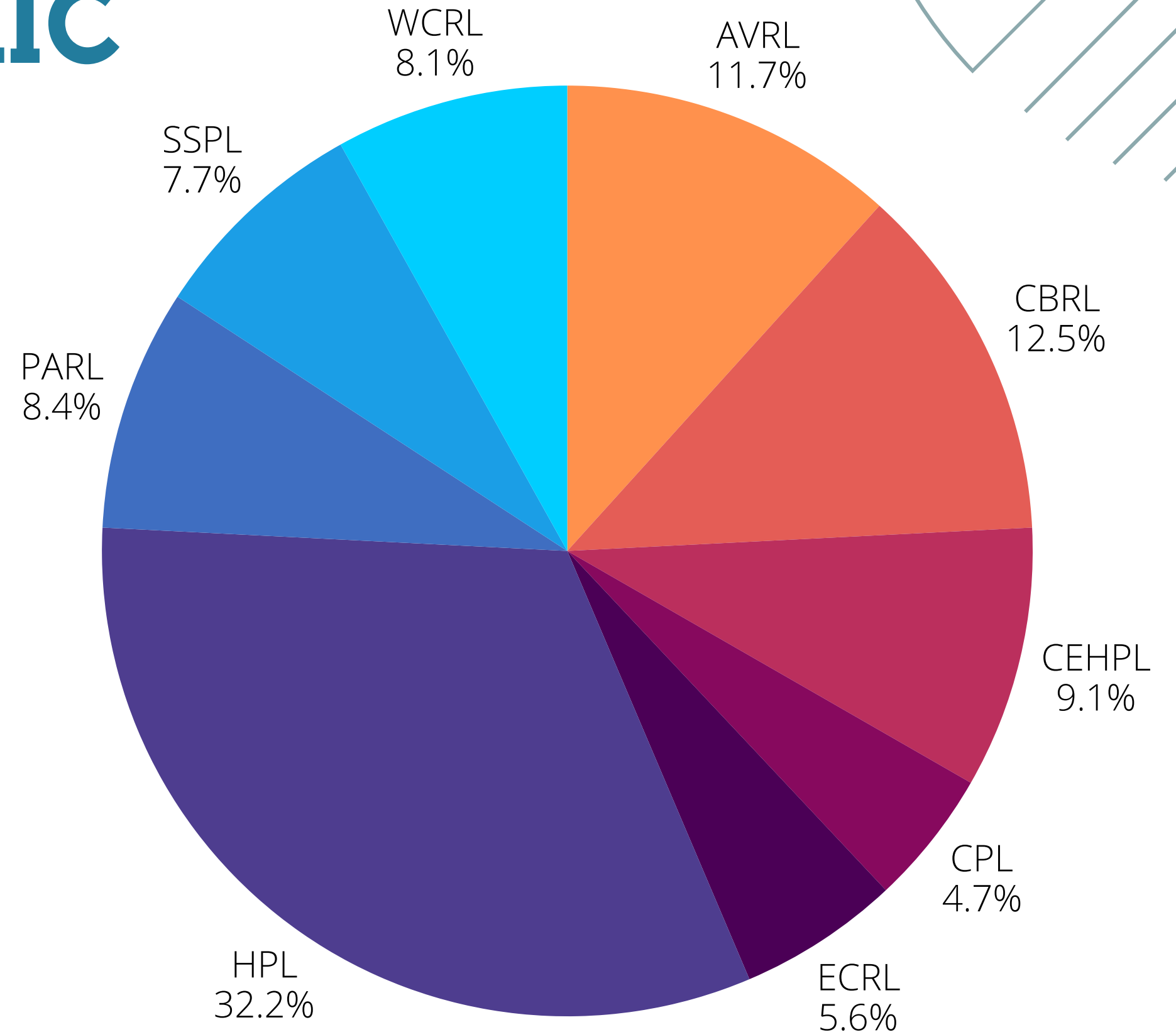
FUNDING FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN NS

\$16.9 million from the Province to support 79 public libraries and outreach services.

Based on population with base amounts for operating and collections.

Less than \$16/person in NS per year.

The same since 2020.



BRIDGE FUNDING FROM THE PROVINCE

\$800,000

Bridge funding from the Province of NS to support provincial public libraries.

translated to

\$37,700

extra for Cumberland.

FUNDING FOR CUMBERLAND PUBLIC LIBRARIES 2025/26

Province of Nova Scotia	\$813,100
Cumberland County	\$186,267
Amherst	\$87,299
Oxford	\$10,335
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Subtotal	\$1,097,001

FUNDING FOR CUMBERLAND PUBLIC LIBRARIES 2025/26

The rest of CPL's money is from:

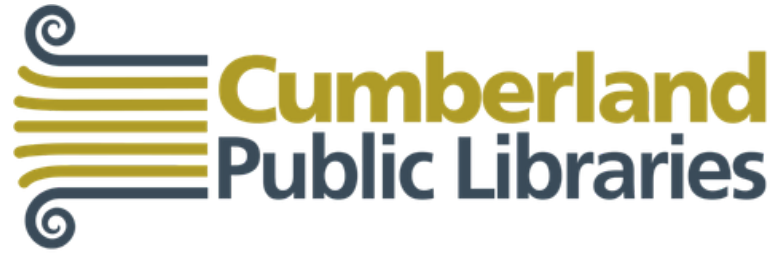
- grants
- donations
- fundraisers



FUNDS RAISED BY THE LIBRARY

Photocopies/printing/fees	\$16,816
Donations	\$29,142
Income from investments/interest	\$5,653
Fundraising	\$6,628
Grants	\$27,178
Taken from library savings	\$111,380
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Subtotal	\$234,497
Total revenue for 2025/26	<u>\$1,293,798</u>

Based on
unaudited
financials.



LIBRARY SPENDING

Based on 2025/26
fiscal year unaudited
report.

Salaries and benefits	\$1,069,762
Books and library materials	\$67,662
HQ office rent	\$33,783
Office supplies	\$4,216
Shipping / Postage	\$12,127
Furniture and computers	\$14,257
Professional fees	\$48,669
Library catalogue and automation	\$22,747
Program costs	\$9,020
Staff & board training & development	\$12,296
Insurance	\$10,182
Library van	\$6,848
Phone/fax	\$2,065
Printing and advertising	\$124
Grant disbursement	\$25,061
Total	\$1,338,819



DIFFERENCE BETWEEN REVENUE AND EXPENSES 2025/26

-\$45,021
and \$111,380
taken from savings.



FUNDING: 2026-2027

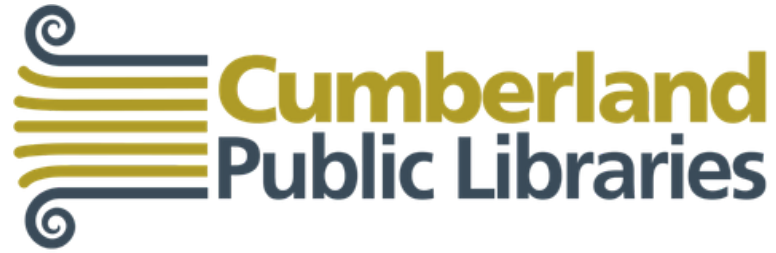
WHAT DOES THIS YEAR (2026-2027) LOOK LIKE?

Province of Nova Scotia	\$775,400
Cumberland County	\$186,267
Amherst	\$87,300
Oxford	\$10,334
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Subtotal	\$1,059,301

ANTICIPATED FUNDS RAISED BY THE LIBRARY

Photocopies/printing/fees	\$16,750
Donations	\$28,000
Income from investments/interest	\$5,500
Fundraising	\$6,500
Grants	\$219,290
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Subtotal	\$276,040

Total anticipated revenue for 2026/27 \$1,335,341



LIBRARY SPENDING

DRAFT 2026-27
BUDGET

Salaries and benefits	\$1,021,500
Books and library materials	\$31,000
HQ office rent	\$35,000
Office supplies	\$5,500
Shipping / Postage	\$13,000
Furniture and computers	\$18,500
Professional fees	\$64,150
Library catalogue and automation	\$27,000
Program costs	\$5,000
Staff & board development	\$8,700
Insurance	\$12,000
Library van	\$8,000
Phone/fax	\$2,100
Printing and advertising	\$400
Grant disbursement	\$134,000
Total	\$1,385,850



DIFFERENCE BETWEEN REVENUE AND EXPENSES 2026/27

-\$50,509

WHAT WE HAVE CUT/REDUCED TO SAVE MONEY IN 2026-27 (SO FAR)



Reduction Made	Projected Savings
Elimination of Hoopla	\$38,400
Reduced full-time HQ staff hours by 10%	\$47,231
Reduced Library material spending	\$36,662
Reduced programs	\$13,000
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Subtotal of reductions	\$135,293

WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S COMING UP?

Follow us on:



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or check out our website:
www.cumberlandpubliclibraries.ca

