



Cumberland Public Libraries Annual Report 2016-2017

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.

Our Team

Library Staff

Headquarters and Amherst Branch Staff:

Chief Librarian	Denise Corey	Oct. 2013-
Deputy Chief Librarian	Chantelle Taylor	Dec. 2013-
Youth Services Librarian	Jennifer Atkinson	Feb. 2014-
Systems Manager	Steve Weatherbee	Oct. 2005-
Secretary/Bookkeeper	Lynn Jones	May 1970-Feb. 2017
Secretary/Bookkeeper	Kristy Brown	Jan. 2017-
Library Assistant	Adam Davies	Jan. 2008-
Library Assistant (contract pos.)	Julie Allison-Savage	Sep. 2016-Mar. 2017
Interlibrary Loans Coordinator	Vanessa Sawatzky	July 1994-
Library Clerk	Dianna Lawless	Dec. 1995-
Library Clerk	Lisa Strathearn	Nov. 2009-
Borrow by Mail Clerk	Peggy Sperry	Apr. 1991-
Library Page	Peggy Sperry	Sep. 2015-
Shelver	Dianna Lawless	Nov. 2014-
Branch Delivery Driver	Glen Weatherbee	July 2009-
Casual Substitute	Henri Etta Stevens	Sep. 2013-
Summer Student	Lauren Skabar	May 2016-Aug. 2016
Summer Student	Patricia Deane	May 2016-Aug. 2016
Technology Intern	Megan McNutt	Jan. 2017 -

Branch Staff:

Advocate	Terry Gulliver Sasha Young	Aug. 2006- Oct. 2013-
Oxford	Debra Millard Helen Cole	Apr. 1987- Nov. 2002-
Parrsboro	Eden Bard Amber Allard	Apr. 2012- Jul. 2014-
Pugwash	Mary Hartling Marilyn Horton Joanne Bunn	Sep. 1993- Feb. 2008-Jan. 2016 Mar. 2016-
River Hebert	Rosemary Ulch	Sep. 2009-
Springhill	Dorothy Harroun Cathy Canning Allison Watson	Jan. 2001-Oct. 2016 Sep. 2010- Oct. 2016-

Library Board

Councillor Frank Balcom, Chair (to Oct. 2016)	Town of Amherst
Mr. Dale Fawthrop, Chair	Province of Nova Scotia
Councillor Lisa Ward, Vice-Chair (to Oct. 2016)	Town of Parrsboro
Councillor Marlon Chase, Vice-Chair	Municipality of the County of Cumberland
Mr. Morris Haugg, Treasurer (to Dec. 2016)	Town of Amherst
Councillor Wayne MacKenzie, Treasurer	Town of Amherst
Councillor Daniel Rector	Municipality of the County of Cumberland
Councillor Allison Gillis (to Oct. 2016)	Municipality of the County of Cumberland
Councillor Darlene Ellis (to Oct. 2016)	Town of Oxford
Councillor Brenton Colbourne	Town of Oxford
Jane Wood	Province of Nova Scotia

Our Message

Cumberland Public Libraries saw an overall increase of 4% in circulation this year, a 4.2% increase in holds, a 4.3% increase in reference questions asked and a whopping 42% increase in program attendance.

CPL's usage increased in the 2016/17 fiscal year, but this was not reflected in the funding received from the provincial and municipal governments. In the last 10 years, CPL has had a 1.3% increase in funding, while the cost of living has increased by almost 12%. As a result, the library faced a \$32,000 budget shortfall for the 2017/18 fiscal year.

This winter, library patrons, staff, and board members advocated for increased government spending for libraries. A one-time grant of \$52,000 was issued to each library region in the province, which meant CPL did not have to make drastic cuts to service - such as reducing hours or closing a branch - this year. But we will be in the same position next year if we do not receive sustainable, long-term funding.

April

Libraries in Advocate Harbour, Amherst, and Springhill took part in National Canadian Film Day, a celebration of Canadian cinema.

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

May

The 2016 Hackmatack Children's Choice Award winner Sharon McKay visited Amherst, Parrsboro, Springhill, and Oxford libraries in April, 2016. 276 children in grades 4-6 had the opportunity to hear McKay read from and talk about her historical WWII novel *The End of the Line*.

Summer students were hired with funding from Student Career Skills Development Program through the Nova Scotia Department of Labour and Advanced Education.

A volunteer appreciation night was held in Springhill to celebrate those who help with our home delivery program and other events at the branch.

Brian Berry, a Library and Information Technology student at NSCC, did his practicum at the Four Fathers Library.

June

329 children aged 3-12 signed up for the TD Summer Reading Club! Our libraries offered 68 exciting programs that tied into this year's theme "Wild." In total, 1050 children and caregivers attended these programs at our 7 branches, which included Wild West, Survival Academy, Art Attack, Cryptozoology, Storytime in the Park, and more.

We continue to offer a monthly Teen Night in River Hebert, and we added a monthly Teen Night in Parrsboro in June, 2016. In these two branches we hosted Harry Potter parties, Anti-Valentine's Day parties, board game nights, and more.

July



Summer Reading Club Coordinator, Lauren Skabar, demonstrating a science experiment on the lawn of the Four Fathers Library in Amherst.

The Four Fathers Library hosted a visit from Anne Glover, who tells stories with strings. Her engrossing and hilarious hour-long visit was attended by 35 children and caregivers, many of whom were telling their own stories with shoelaces afterwards!

Anne Glover and participants telling string stories.



August

Puppetpalooza, our annual summer puppet show toured Cumberland County in July and August.

The library once again took part in Harbourfest in Pugwash and offered a morning of puppet shows and stories.

September

We had great success with scavenger hunts this year. Capitalizing on the Pokémon Go craze, we offered a Pokémon Scavenger Hunt at all 7 branches in September. Kids had to find Pokémon hidden in the library, and when they succeeded they received a free book (made possible by donations we received from Adopt a Library). The scavenger hunt was done a total of 347 times during the month. It was so popular that we offered a Christmas one, which was done a total of 240 times during 3 weeks in December.

An Amnesty Day was held throughout the County to encourage people to return items and have their fines removed.

Cumberland Public Libraries joined Instagram. Follow us at @cumberland_pl.

October

Our popular family literacy program, Children and Adults Reading Together (CART), turned ten years old and was again offered at all 7 libraries during the fall and winter. Over the 16 weeks the program was offered, 667 children and adults attended sessions, borrowed 1040 books, and nearly all preschool participants saw an improvement in their literacy skills.

Long-time Springhill Library staff member, Dot Harroun, retired after 15 years of excellent library service.

November

One Book NS author Donna Morrissey read at the Springhill Miners Memorial Library to a crowd of 62 people.



Donna Morrissey signing copies of her books at the Springhill Miners Memorial Library.

December

Our popular Food for Fines program added over 650 food items to food banks around Cumberland County and forgave over \$1,300 in fines.

January

In partnership with the Seniors Safety Program, the Four Fathers Library offered Seniors Cafes on topics such as fraud prevention and safety.

Thanks to a grant from the Dr. and Mrs. H.E. Christie Community Foundation the library was able to hire Megan McNutt as the Community Technology Engagement Intern. Megan provided one-on-one technology training and small group training.

February

Long-term staff member, Lynn Jones, retired after 47 years as the library’s Secretary/Bookkeeper.

March

Our March Break programming was very popular again this year. 511 kids attended 22 programs across the county, which included Mad Science, Jedi Academy, Potter Palooza, LEGO, movie screenings, and more!

Annual Activity

Items Borrowed	2015-16	2016-17
Advocate	2,032	2,396
Amherst	51,029	52,447
Oxford	5,760	6,034
Parrsboro	8,809	8,193
Pugwash	9,959	10,139
River Hebert	5,194	4,684
Springhill	10,367	10,828
Borrow By Mail	1,874	1,664
Online Renewals & Processing	14,365	17,496
OverDrive (e- & audio books)	9,393	9,664
Total	118,782	123,545

Holds Placed	2015-16	2016-17
Advocate	798	869
Amherst	13,142	13,475
Oxford	1,338	1,963
Parrsboro	2,239	2,487
Pugwash	2,902	2,482
River Hebert	2,373	2,601
Springhill	3,127	3,631
Borrow By Mail	1,227	1,122
OverDrive (e- & audio books)	2,640	2,416
Total	29,786	31,046

Inter-Library Loans	2015-16	2016-17
<i>Loaned To Other Libraries</i>	2,423	2,635
<i>Borrowed From Other Libraries</i>	2,696	2,943

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Reference Questions	2015-16	2016-17
Advocate	328	310
Amherst	3,072	3,146
Oxford	1,055	1,042
Parrsboro	892	852
Pugwash	1,991	2,125
River Hebert	431	524
Springhill	1,160	1,305
Borrow By Mail	474	509
Remote (e-mail)	53	48
Total	9,456	9,861

Programming	2015-16	2016-17
Number of Programs Offered	540	596
Total Attendance	8,399	11,939

Children's Summer Reading Program	2015-16	2016-17
Participants	313	329
Hours Read	1,923	1,968
Program attendees	1,101	1,050

Teen Summer Reading Program	2015-16	2016-17
Participants	12	17
Hours Read	294	398

Adult Summer Reading Program	2015-16	2016-17
Participants	134	33
Books Read	1,073	322

Our Technology

Public Access Computer use hours	2015-16	2016-17
Advocate	928	539
Amherst	8,613	10,812
Oxford	903	1,365
Parrsboro	2,928	3,313
Pugwash	392	411
River Hebert	302	482
Springhill	4,010	4,291
Total	18,076	21,213

Our Community

Members*	2015-16	2016-17
Advocate	247	282
Amherst	4,065	4035
Oxford	485	464
Parrsboro	704	652
Pugwash	860	853
River Hebert	261	233
Springhill	896	857
Borrow By Mail	76	62
Total	7,594	7,438

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

New Members	2015-16	2016-17
Advocate	14	97
Amherst	545	560
Oxford	46	71
Parrsboro	87	66
Pugwash	104	118
River Hebert	32	6
Springhill	100	120
Borrow By Mail	0	1
Total	928	1,039

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

Amherst Lioness Club	Clayton Gabriel	Ron Patterson
Amherst Lions Club	T. Gracie Goodwin	Pugwash Co-operative
Andrea Arseneau	Pat Griffiths	Marion Richards
Jenn Atkinson	Morris Haugg	Veronica Richards
Sally Austin	Susan Haugg	Lisa Ripley
Frank Balcolm	June Henwood	Debbie Rolfe
Marguerite Bishop	Vivian Hsu	Dennis Ross
Bonnie Bond	Beverly Hunter	Rotary Club of Amherst
Evelyn Bradford	Fred Hurley	Elizabeth Ross
Robert Brown	Tim Iler	Viola Sangster
Ruth Buckinger	Wendy Iler	Shirley Sauveur
Elizabeth Canning	Bev Jones	Jean Schiefer
Sarah Chappell	Jorgensen & Bickerton	Wanda Skidmore
Dr. & Mrs. H.E. Christie	Sharon Knowlton	Michael Smith
Community Foundation	Andrew Lloyd	Elizabeth Smith-McCrossin
Elizabeth Clinton	Lord Amherst Chapter IODE	Dale Steele-Nicholov
Compass Minerals Canada	Kelly Martin	Ronald Sumara
Kathryn Conrad	D'Arcy Murray	Marguerite Taylor
Sally Cove	Nova Scotia Institute of	Crystal Wallis
Cumberland Barristers	Science	Glen Weatherbee
Association	Carol Oram	David Wood
Pam Davis	Parrsboro Lions Club	Jane Wood
Vicki DuLong	Mary Parsons	Marilyn Young
Jessi Fogan	Carlene Patterson	

Financial Statement 2016-2017*

Revenue

Province of Nova Scotia	\$ 550,000
Municipality of Cumberland	132,400
Town of Amherst	61,820
Town of Oxford	7,680
Town of Parrsboro	6,840
Board Generated Revenue	<u>59,734</u>

Total **\$ 818,474**

Expenditures

Salaries and Benefits	\$ 649,933
Library Materials	79,226
Automation	10,340
Vehicle Operation & Insurance	5,525
Board and Staff Travel and Training	6,946
Office expenses, rent, postage, utilities, etc.	89,392
Bank, Professional Fees, Memberships	<u>7,362</u>

Total **\$ 848,724**

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

**Advocate
Harbour Library**



93 Mills Rd.
Advocate
902-392-2214

**Four Fathers
Memorial Library**



21 Acadia St.
Amherst
902-667-2549

Parrsboro Library



91 Queen St.
Parrsboro
902-254-2046

Oxford Library



22 Water St.
Oxford
902-447-2440

Pugwash Library



10222 Durham St.
Pugwash
902-243-3331

**River Hebert
Library**



River Hebert
2730 Barronsfield Rd.
902-251-2324

**Miners Memorial
Library**



85 Main St.
Springhill
902-597-2211