

Our Board

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Annual Report 2013

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Message from our Board Chair

These days, libraries are much more than just bricks, mortar and collections of materials. They are community centres where people come to learn everything from creative writing to yoga; students can meet with their tutors; space for gala events can be rented; movies are shown; meetings and seminars are held; and particularly in Orillia, an historic Farmers' Market can maintain its presence year round.

I am proud that in the past year the CEO and staff of the Library have strengthened our connection to the communities we serve with an ever-increasing variety of dynamic programs and activities which underline our commitment to excellence, to literacy, to learning and to our community.

Message from our CEO

In the first full year in the new building the Library has become a central part of the community. We have seen more people than ever enjoying our inviting spaces, joining the library and using our extensive services both in the library and on-line. A big thank you to Library staff, to Library Board and volunteers, to City of Orillia Council and staff for making the library a place of civic pride -- a place where connections are made.

Our Volunteers

Eighty-nine dedicated and energetic volunteers contributed a total 5102 hours in 2013.



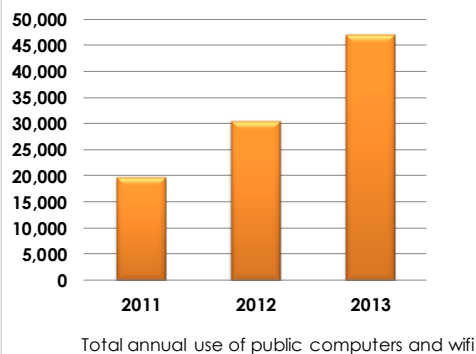
Whether shelving materials, fundraising, shelf-reading, delivering books to housebound customers, running the Library Boutique, welcoming visitors or helping out at special events -- our volunteers mean the world to us!

Connecting with our Community in 2013

2013 quick facts

- 3,536** new members
- 18,817** people attended programs
- 72,654** reference questions answered
- 314,201** in-person visits
- 360,286** items borrowed

In-House Technology Use



From June 3-8 we celebrated our first birthday in this new building with a week of special programs for all ages.

The interactive early literacy centre (including the affectionately named “Whirligig”) was installed in Children’s Services.

Readers connected in our book clubs: Chick Chat, He Said/She Said, Mother/Daughter, Bookworms, Orillia’s Big Read, Hot Summer Readers and our newest club: Readers’ Roundtable.

OPL and architects Perkins+Will received the Ontario Library Association New Building award for 2013.

Orillia Seed Lending Library launched in May in partnership with Orillia Community Gardens.

1000 Acts of Reading, a program supporting early literacy through fun activities at home, launched in March. Funding was provided by the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport.

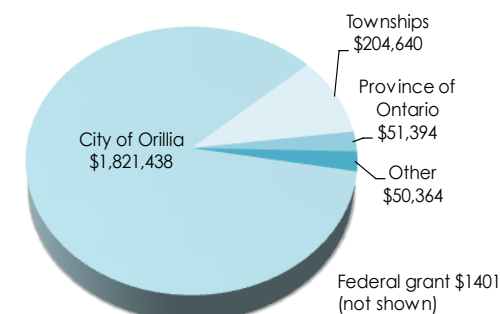
Authors and illustrators visited the library and shared their love of literature. We welcomed Pat Gagnon, Maureen Jennings, Kelley Armstrong, Rebecca Bender, Sandra Joyce, Gloria Philips, Cathy Marie Buchanan, Lauren Carter and Sherry Lawson in 2013.



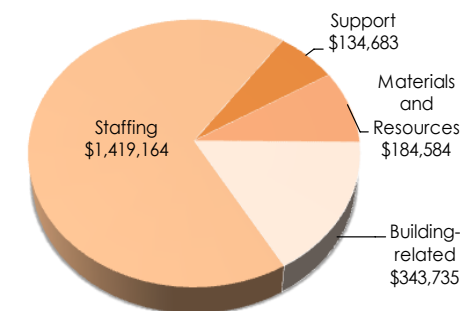
410 children participated in our TD “Around the World” Summer Reading Club.

The library partnered with the AIDS Committee of Simcoe County -- LGBT Youth Connection to offer a biweekly drop-in providing a supportive and inclusive environment for LGBTQ youth between the ages of 13 and 23.

Revenue



Expenditures



Unaudited figures

Our partners: Lakehead University; Georgian College; City of Orillia Parks, Recreation and Culture Department; Orillia Lions Club; Rotary Club of Orillia – Lake Country; Ontario Early Years Centre; Therapeutic Paws of Canada; Information Orillia; AIDS Committee of Simcoe County -- LGBT Youth Connection; Welcome Centre Immigrant Services; Chippewas of Rama First Nation; Mariposa Writers’ Group; Sharing Place Food Bank; Downtown Orillia Management Board; Doors Open; Orillia Youth Opportunities Committee; Orillia Youth Centre; Orillia Community Gardens; Orillia and District Literacy Council; Sunshine Ukulele Network; Orillia Midwives; Santa for Seniors; TD Summer Reading Club.