

# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT





# MESSAGE FROM THE LIBRARY CHAIR

On one hand, routines can often seem...well, routine. Maybe a bit boring or predictable.

On the other hand, a routine can provide a strong foundation or a starting place for growth. Take, for example, brushing your teeth or following a daily exercise program.

One thing for sure is that thousands of people continued to make using the Library part of their routine in 2022. Whether it was to visit a branch to borrow books, attend a program or use an online service to do things like read digital editions of newspapers or learn a new skill, the Library played an important role in the lives of Brantford residents.

The most exciting part is that so many new people made the Library part of their routine as we emerged from the pandemic. Nearly 5,000 people joined the Library in 2022!

The Library Board is thrilled that the Library continues to play an important role in the lives of Brantford residents, whether young or old. I encourage you to share your love for the Library with everyone you know to help others build the Library into their routine.

~ **MARION MCGEEIN**



## In Memoriam

In July 2022, the Brantford Public Library lost a passionate advocate and long-time Board member, Caroline Freibauer.

Caroline served as a Board member from 2010 to 2022. In that time, she held the position of chair and vice-chair and became known for her ability to ask tough questions in light-hearted ways. She was also always keen to take on extra duties, such as MC-ing Author Talks held at the Library.

# 2022

# SERVICE & OPERATION HIGHLIGHTS

Design planning began for a **new 13,500 square foot library branch** in the southwest area of the city that will be part of a joint build in partnership with the Grand Erie District School Board and the City of Brantford.

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A committee consisting of Library Board and staff members collaboratively created a **Strategic Plan** that will guide the Library from 2023 to 2027.

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An Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility (IDEA) committee was formed and a **multi-year IDEA workplan** was created.

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A **YouTube video ad series** highlighting how people can use the Library everyday had more than 130,000 impressions.

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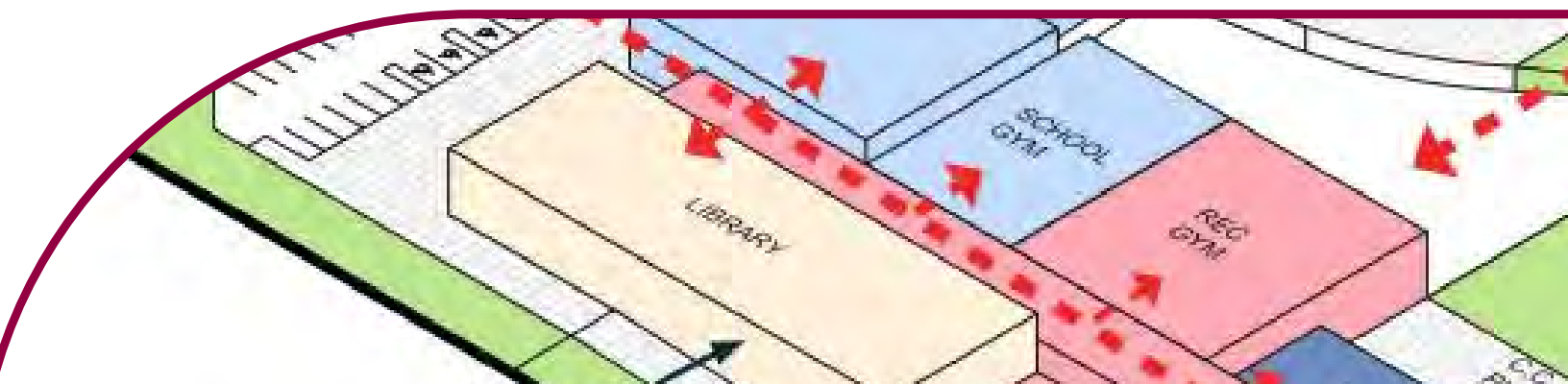
The Library began lending a **virtual reality headset**, more **Ukrainian and Spanish children's books** and a **C-Pen**, which reads scanned text out loud.

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The Library received a **Healthy Communities Initiative grant** to purchase five new WiFi hotspots and five laptops that will be lent to the public.

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New subject headings and labels were created for Indigenous materials following a diversity audit.



# SERVICE AND OPERATION HIGHLIGHTS CONT'D

Work began on transitioning to a **new Integrated Library System (ILS)**. The ILS is the Library's main customer and material database.

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An IT assessment was conducted that provided several recommendations on how to make the organization more efficient and secure.

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For the first time, a community-wide reading challenge **Read for your Ward** ran throughout the summer. Nearly 18,000 books were read by participants of all ages. Ward 1 emerged as the 2022 winner.

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The Library completed a number of security-focused projects, including the installation of **new security cameras** and the completion of **Psychological First Aid** and **Crisis Prevention Institute** training for staff.

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Customers were given the option to receive **SMS text message notifications** when items were available to pick-up or due to be returned.

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More than **200 children** in grades 2-6 participated in the annual Read-On Summer tutoring program.

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The four-year term of the **Library Board** ended in late 2022. Thank you to 2018-2022 Board members: Josie Heath, Caroline Freibauer, Marion McGeein, Lindsay Morris, John Morrisey, Matt Reniers, Karen Towler, Councillor John Utley, Councillor Joshua Wall and Gladys Woodburn.

A **new Library Board** was appointed in December 2022. New Board members include: Diego Aguilar, Rebecca Breen, Councillor Gino Caputo, Alec Fisztauf, Josie Heath, Marion McGeein, Matt Reniers, Councillor Mandy Samwell and Karen Towler.

# SERVICE & OPERATION HIGHLIGHTS

# NEW CHILDREN'S AREA

A refreshed children's area was unveiled at the Main Branch in 2022.

A project that began prior COVID-19, the refreshed children's area was officially unveiled at a March 2022 ceremony that was attended by local dignitaries and guests.

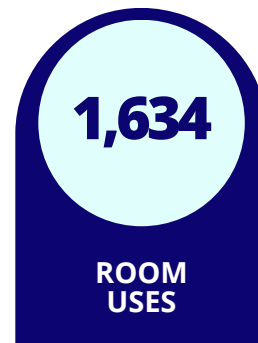
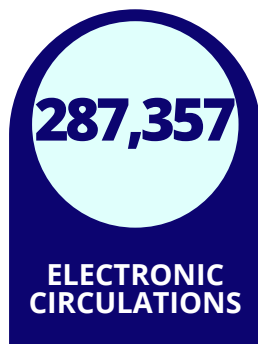
The project involved installing new carpeting and shelving in the 10,000 square foot space. The area was also painted and several play-based learning toys were added to the space.

Notably, two large murals were included as part of the project, which were funded in-part through the city's Public Art fund.



# 2022

# USAGE HIGHLIGHTS



## More highlights

More than 7,000 items were circulated through the Home Delivery program • There were 239 bookings of the Digital Media Lab • 399 programs were delivered in-person or online • 1,325 items were loaned through Inter-Library Loan • There were 43,930 reference questions asked • There were 28,048 uses of the public computers • There were 175,540 pages printed • More than 446,550 website visits were logged.



# 2022

# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Extracted in a condensed format from the audited financial statement  
**Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus**

	Budget 2022	Actual 2022	Actual 2021
<b>Revenues</b>			
Government transfers	5,160,200	5,164,942	5,325,675
Other revenue	225,500	293,750	158,053
	5,385,700	5,458,692	5,483,728
<b>Expenses</b>			
Salaries and benefits	4,010,000	3,893,007	3,780,167
Building	281,740	272,811	246,702
Other operating expenses	535,630	539,434	491,284
Administrative expenses	142,450	206,574	272,431
	4,969,820	4,911,826	4,790,584
<b>Excess of Revenues over Expenses Before Under-noted Items</b>	415,880	546,866	693,144
<b>Other Income/(Expense)</b>			
Amortization of tangible capital assets		(886,377)	(927,178)
<b>Annual Surplus/(Deficit) from Operations</b>		(339,511)	(234,034)
<b>Accumulated Surplus - Beginning of Year</b>		6,923,336	7,157,370
<b>Accumulated Surplus - End of Year</b>		6,583,825	6,923,336
<b>Other Financial Information</b>			
Capital Asset Additions - Library Resources		322,555	354,892
Capital Asset Additions Other		265,950	393,153
Transfers to Reserve Funds		263,364	199,279
Transfers from Reserve Fund		361,128	270,042

## Donations

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Library in 2022. In total, \$20,099 were donated throughout the year. Nearly \$13,000 of these funds came as gifts in memoriam for long-time Library Board member and advocate Caroline Freibauer.

The Library's 2022 summer reading program was supported by a \$5,000 grant from SC Johnson.

# MISSION

The Brantford Public Library enhances the quality of life in our diverse community. We invest in valuable experiences, resources, and services, in a welcoming and equitable environment for all.

# VISION

The Brantford Public Library listens and adapts; to offer engaging services that foster development for our whole community.

# VALUES

We serve our customers with professionalism, respect and knowledge.

We welcome everyone and strive to reduce barriers to access.

We encourage curiosity and creativity.

We work in partnership.

We support lifelong learning and literacy.

