

# Terrace Public Library Association



Annual Report 2008





## Chairperson's Report

Allen Wootton

This past year has been a busy, interesting, year for the Board of Trustees of the Terrace Public Library. We began the year very aware of the impending retirement of our long term and very highly regarded librarian, Ed Curell. Consequently, one of our first tasks at the beginning of the year was to advertise for his replacement. After interviewing four excellent candidates we were extremely pleased that Margo Schiller accepted our offer for her services as our new Head Librarian. Margo, her husband Jason, and her daughter Ruth moved here in early May, and Margo began her new job with us on 20 May. By now I am sure you will have had the opportunity to meet her at the library and you will know that she is continuing to maintain the wonderful services and superb atmosphere that our library has provided for so many years.

During 2007 the Board's Negotiating Committee of Dave Warner (chairman), Jody Brown and Patti Barnes along with Ed Curell and Melanie Wilke spent many hours working with our employees Laurie Wesley and Becky Sundberg to negotiate the Library's first union contract. On her arrival, Margo Schiller joined in the negotiations for this contract which continued on throughout 2008 and, although the contract is not yet signed, both the employees and the Board have ratified the memorandum of agreement. The contract negotiations were long and sometimes tedious, but I feel that the effort devoted to them by the negotiation committee of the Board and the Employees has been very beneficial to both groups. Through these negotiations we have gained greater understanding of each others' roles within the Library and, in a courteous and thoughtful manner, we have produced a document that will guide us in our relationships and clarify our roles. I would like to express my great appreciation for the effort of all concerned with these negotiations.

For many years our library has benefited from the use of its own unique Integrated Library System, or ILS, by which we keep track of books borrowed and returned, new acquisitions, our patrons and the catalogue of our holdings. This system worked well for us for all these years, but 2008 was the year in which it had to change so as to integrate our system with the North Coast Library Federation libraries and with other libraries throughout British Columbia. We transferred to the new system, called Evergreen in May of 2008. Amongst other changes that occurred at that time, you probably noticed differences in the computer screens when you looked through our catalogue. Of course, for the library staff the changes were much more significant, but as usual, they took the new ILS in stride and this major change in our operation was remarkable for its smoothness.

It was with great regret that we saw Ed retire as our librarian, but we also took great pleasure in wishing him well at his retirement party on 31 May, 2008. We were also very pleased to recognize his very significant contributions to the Terrace Public Library at a ceremony in November of 2008. At this same ceremony we recognized Willy Schneider, a long term trustee who finished his last term in office in February 2008. Now, as you enter the library, you will see three plaques.

The first is dedicated to Mien van Heek who was our library's first librarian and who served the library with great dedication for many years. It is very fitting that plaques to Ed and Willy now share this space, Ed for the wonderful contributions and superb direction he provided to the library during his 29 years as our librarian, and Willy for his outstanding contributions as a member of the Board of Trustees for 24 years.

During the summer we were very pleased to receive a Toronto Dominion Bank Community Support donation of \$10,000 to the Library's Children's Department. Our children's librarians Melanie Wilke and Jess Dafoe, have already begun putting this money to good use, and children in Terrace and the surrounding areas are the beneficiaries.

We really appreciate the recognition and support given to the Library and its programmes by the TD Bank through this grant and we know that it will be used to further enhance the already wonderful services our Library provides for children.

Like other public libraries in British Columbia, we continue to be the beneficiaries of recent Provincial Government programmes and financial support for them. Examples of these programmes are technology and literacy grants. Unfortunately, the Federal Government has not been as supportive and we did not get a Community Access Programme Youth Initiative grant for 2008/2009 with which to maintain our computer lab. Also, without the provincial programmes we would have been very hard pressed to maintain the services we presently have in our Library because our largest source of income, that from the City and the Regional District, has not kept pace with inflation and, in fact, our percentage of the City budget has decreased from about 3.7% in the year 2000 to 3.2% in 2007 (the most recent date for which we have data). This small percentage decrease in our proportion of the City budget equates to about \$50 000, a nearly 10% decrease in our budget. Consequently the financing of our Library remains a topic of very great concern to the Board of Trustees.

To enhance their knowledge, a number of our employees are working on Community Librarian programmes. The Board is very pleased at their commitment. Also we would like to congratulate Melanie Wilke on the completion of her Master of Library Science degree.

The Board of Trustees is very sorry that a very distinguished member of the Board, Dave Warner, is ending his term with us. During his twelve years as a trustee Dave has served as trustee, treasurer, vice chairman and chairman. In this last year he has ably served as the chairman of our negotiating committee and as a member of the personnel committee. As well he has been the treasurer of the North Coast Library Federation. We will miss his advice and experience very much.

I have had the very great privilege of serving as the chairman of the Board of Trustees for the past two years. It has been an honour to work with a wonderful staff at the Library and with a dedicated and committed Board of Trustees.

*“ It has been an honour to work with a wonderful staff at the Library and with a dedicated and committed Board of Trustees ”*



## Librarian's Report

Margo Schiller

2008 was a year of change. Ed Curell retired after 29 years working for the Library. He left behind a legacy of excellent customer service and great relationships with both staff and patrons. His knowledge and expertise cannot be replaced. I began working as Head Librarian in May and, like Ed, my priority is to provide the best possible library service to the community.

2008 was a great year. Although the population of our service area decreased, we experienced increases in membership, number of books borrowed, reference questions, and computer use. Attendance at library programs increased by 46% and our Children's Coordinators, Melanie Wilke and Jess Dafoe, provided an additional 35 library programmes. I would like to extend my gratitude to all of our funders including the City of Terrace, the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine, the Provincial Government, and TD Bank. The Library has continued its tradition of providing excellent service to the community because of their financial support.

*“ my priority is to provide the best possible library service to the community ”*

The Library migrated to an open source Integrated Library System called Evergreen in May. This change marked the beginning of a province-wide collaborative approach of library automation. By the end of 2008, thirteen B.C. libraries were using Evergreen, Terrace was the third.

In my short time working for the Terrace Public Library Association, I have strived to maintain the Library's excellent reputation. Upon my arrival to Terrace, I was struck by the number of patrons who expressed how much they loved this library and truly appreciated the services it provides. The Library provides an amazing variety of services including innovative children's programming, free access to the Internet, the delivery of reading materials to home bound patrons, and of course reading material. There is truly something to please everyone at the Library.

I wish to extend my thanks to the dedicated staff and Library Board members who have spent countless hours



making our library one of the best. We will all continue to endeavor to meet the needs and expectations of the community in 2009.



*Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested.*

*– Sir Francis Bacon*

# Read



## ANNUAL REPORT STATISTICS 2008

population	20,728	21,919
membership	8,270	7,291

### ACQUISITIONS

Books	4,585	5,162
Audio-Visual	563	441

### CIRCULATION

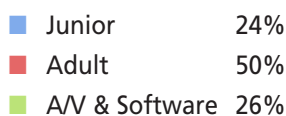
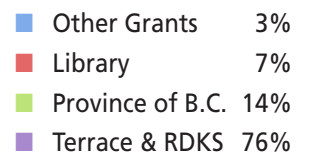
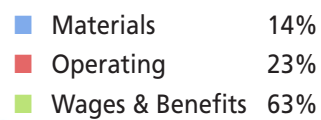
Adult	96,666	92,756
Junior	46,879	46,775
Audio-Visual	49,914	60,059

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>193,459</b>	<b>199,590</b>
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### INTERLIBRARY LOAN

Borrowed	987	1,092
Loaned	1,172	1,072

Reference questions	9,195	8,082
Virtual Library Visits	20,040	--
In Person Visits Library	133,767	155,235
In Library Internet Use	28,600	24,473



Statement of Disbursements and Receipts for the year ended December 31, 2008 (with 2007 figures for comparison)

**RECEIPTS**

Grants		
City of Terrace & RD Kitimat-Stikine	527,850	532,450
Province of B.C.	95,626	94,023
TD Bank	10,000	--
Other (Federal, Private, Capital)	13,963	18,774

**LIBRARY REVENUE**

Book Fines	20,844	22,072
Photocopier Fees	4,379	4,802
Membership	2,737	566
Lost Books	1,377	1,881
Book Sales	3,155	2,956
Interest Earned	456	568
Donations	871	1,557
GST Refund	8,709	--
Lost Cards	180	217
Miscellaneous	1,743	9,657

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>691,889</b>	<b>689,523</b>
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**DISBURSEMENTS**

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Wages	363,715	358,100
Acquisitions	92,538	86,989
Law Matters Books	5,028	--
Employee Benefits	67,046	63,594
Utilities	28,209	32,701
Supplies, Postage, Programs	29,367	25,838
Equipment & Furnishings	3,987	18,692
Automation	31,667	18,430
Advertising, Courses, Travel, Conference	12,152	16,285
Janitorial	10,520	14,022
Bank Charges, Insurance, Misc.	6,444	6,317
Telecommunications	5,241	4,867
Repairs and Maintenance	4,331	3,606
Janitor Supplies	1,445	2,494
Dues	2,004	1,664
Books for Babies	--	500
Bursary	500	500
Photocopier	1,302	462
GST Expense	9,421	-5,122
Eleanor Muehle Newspaper Archive	--	20,594
Recruitment	10,391	--

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>685,310</b>	<b>670,533</b>
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Excess of Receipts over Disbursements for the year	6,579
Cash in Bank - Beginning of Year	30,429
Cash in Bank - End of Year	35,733



"Girls Get Real"  
Skin care with  
Spa Essentials



## Youth Services

Melanie Wilkie

2008 was a year of enormous changes at the Terrace Public Library as we sadly said goodbye to our Head Librarian of 29 years, Ed Curell. Although we wish Ed well in his retirement, Jess and I miss his quiet presence in all aspects of the library. We both had the pleasure of working with Ed for eight years and considered him a mentor, manager and friend. We hope that he enjoys the rest that he so readily deserves in his retirement. We offer a warm welcome to the new librarian, Margo Schiller. We are sure that her new perspectives will offer continued growth to the library.

We began 2008 with the offer for schools to "Win an Author". Sixteen primary and elementary classrooms took the challenge and helped us track their at-home reading minutes for a month. Congratulations to Ms. Mulder's and Ms. Palahicky's classes for all of their reading. These lucky students won a visit from children's author, Julie Lawson. Julie then visited both of the junior high schools in Terrace and met with the students who had the highest number of Accelerated Reader points.

For the sixth year of NorthWords Creative Writing Camp we decided to try a new direction. Instead of having various presenters through the week, we invited author/illustrator Dean Griffiths to join us for the whole week and lead the children through the entire process of writing, illustrating and publishing. The new direction worked so well that we have decided we will continue with that format in 2009.

A new addition to our programmes this year was "Girls Get Real", a day long celebration of adolescence girls and the issues that they face in regards to body image and health. Our thanks to contributing author Ev Bishop, who launched Cleavage: Breakaway Fiction For Real Girls and introduced journaling to the young women, Community Nutritionist Flo Sheppard for discussing body image, Spa Essentials for the fa-

cial and skin care information, and Dea Motre Yoga Studio for teaching us some relaxation techniques. What an amazing day!

The Youth Department ended the year with another family sleepover to help get ready for Christmas. The families participated in Christmas crafts, games and activities – and even in a bit of sleep!

A new initiative from the Terrace Public Library, Success by Six and the Terrace Churches Food Bank is the giving away of books at the food bank. We are distributing approximately 300 books to eager families each month. It is very exciting to see this growing desire to read.

We always have a difficult time reporting of the highlights of year in the Youth Department, because there are so many exciting things that happen every day, and although we keep thinking that it can't get any better, it does! In this respect, 2008 is no different than other years. We have enjoyed pre-school story-times, school and community visits, Read Set Learn, PALS (Parents as Literacy Supporters), Books for Babies, DASH Family Literacy/Nutrition Sessions, Headstart programming, craft programmes, visits to the Nass Valley, puppet shows and the Family Fair. Jess and I have become involved with fantastic children, parents, teachers, authors and community members who make our jobs the best jobs in Terrace.

Program Type	Number of Programmes	Number of Participants
Pre-School Programmes	95	1660
School-Aged Programmes	53	2087
School Visits	56	1726
Adult Programmes	12	415
Family Programmes	21	2677

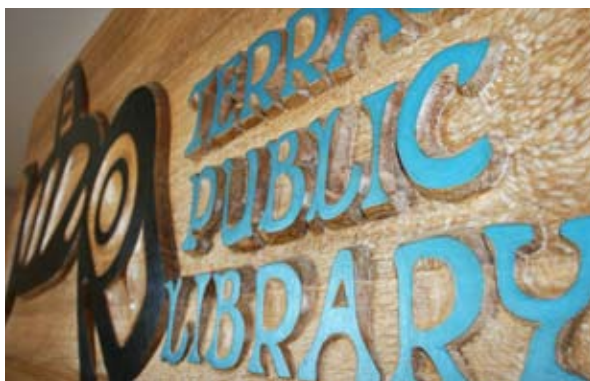
## Thank you from the Children's Department

Alisa Thompson  
Alison Excel – Dea Motres Yoga Studio  
Alison Roberts  
CBC  
Dean Griffiths  
Directorate of Agencies for School Health  
Ev Bishop  
Flo Sheppard  
Julie Lawson  
Kari Lynn Winters – BC Book Prizes  
Laurie Mutschke  
McBike – Bruce Martindale  
McDonalds

Mark Margerison  
Mary Novik – BC Book Prizes  
Misty River Books - Anna Beddie  
Nan Gregory – BC Book Prizes  
North West Community College  
Patti Barnes  
Public Library Services Branch  
Russell Bowers  
Spa Essentials  
Terrace and District Arts Council  
Terrace Art Gallery – Ava Haw  
Theresa Kishkan – BC Book Prizes  
Toronto Dominion Bank



Fun



## Board of Trustees

2008

Allen Wootton, Chair  
Audrey Bennett, Vice-Chair  
Dave Warner, Treasurer  
David Try  
Doug Sandwell, Corresponding Secretary  
Jody Brown

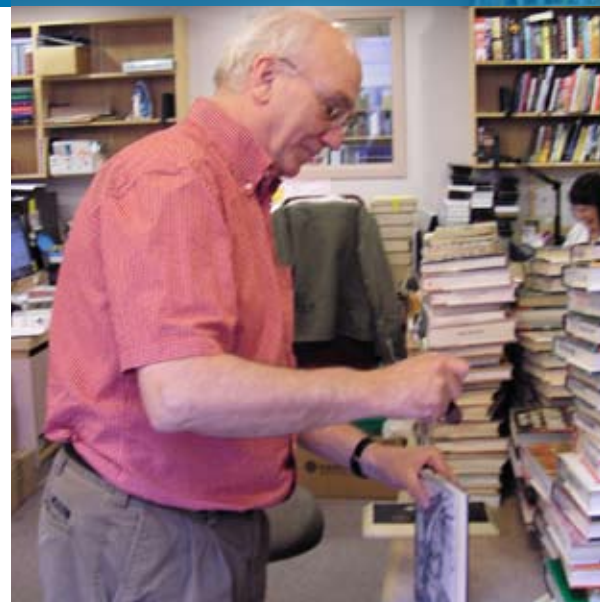
Judy Chrysler  
Les Watmough, Representative,  
Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine  
Marylin Davies, Representative, City of Terrace  
Patti Barnes  
Patti Chapman

## Staff

2008

Barbara Guderjhan  
Becky Sundberg  
Brianna Quock  
Christina Losier (to May)  
Ed Curell (to May)  
Ereka Roach  
Grace Straw  
Hikari Shiga  
Jonathan Rosebush  
Jennifer Brubacher  
Jess Dafoe

Joyce Zimmermann  
June Cure  
Kim Woodd  
Laurie Wesley  
Lena Anderson  
Marianne Underwood  
Marlee Carter (to August)  
Melanie Wilke  
Margo Schiller  
Taurian Grauman-McElroy  
Tianna Pedro



## Special Thanks To

City of Terrace  
Community Access Program (Industry Canada)  
Ed Curell  
Greg Broadway  
LawMatters  
Mike Peters  
North Coast Library Federation  
Pat Orrey and the City Maintenance Crew  
Public Library Services Branch  
Province of British Columbia  
Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine  
saz communication  
Sitka Technical Support  
Toronto Dominion Bank

*Books are lighthouses erected  
in the great sea of time.*  
– Edwin P. Whipple

# Learn



# Terrace Public Library Association



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