



**Report to Council  
November 13, 2019**

*\*Projected Figures*

	<b>* 2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>Total Visits to the Library</b>	57,000	61,079	42,753	40,364
<b>Total Circulation</b>	38,650	38,671	34,448	32,312
<b>Physical Circulation</b>	32,760	33,054	29,705	27,459
<b>Public Computer Use</b>	9,590	11,953	6,593	7,543
<b>Digital Downloads</b>	5,865	5,617	4,743	4,853
<b>Active Members</b>	1,535	1,471	1,339	1,435
<b>New Members</b>	290	303	328	264

**Putting these Numbers in Context**

The Sioux Lookout Public Library collects a variety of statistics to measure our impact on the community. Analyzing these figures allows us to modify service delivery in response to the unique needs of our patrons.

Foot traffic into the library rose significantly in 2018 and 2019; we attribute this to more class visits, no longer charging for computer use, and the success of the Digital Creator North program.

Circulation of physical material (books, DVDs, magazines, etc.) continues to increase. During the five-year period from 2010-2014 we would typically circulate about 28,000 items each year; we have averaged 31,000 the past five years (2015-2019).

While library service continues to evolve in response to an increasingly technological society, our patrons are checking out more physical material than ever and attendance at traditional library programs such as story time and our book club demonstrates our community's commitment to literacy and celebrating a love of reading through physical books.

## Measuring the Impact of Other Services

Having over 1500 active library card members is a strong confirmation that the library is well used in our community; however, it doesn't capture services provided to those without a library card. Our library, like the community in general, provides services to visitors to Sioux Lookout.

Perhaps the most significant change to library service in recent years (and especially in 2019) is the increasing demand from our patrons for business services. These include printing (from our computers and personal mobile devices), editing/creating documents such as resumes, faxing, scanning, assistance with completing online forms (gun-registry, immigration, legal, etc.) and trouble-shooting technological problems.

*A public library is shared space designed to connect people and information.*



Since their inception thousands of years ago, libraries were built to provide people with information. In the digital age, the public library transformed into an institution that provides **access to information**—rather than a static collection of knowledge. We are not in competition with the internet. **Over 200 people rely upon the library each day to access information online**—either through one of our devices or through our free wifi network. Digital literacy is a critical skill for all people; our staff work directly with patrons to help them find the information they need and develop effective strategies for information acquisition through technical assistance.

*We strive to be an innovative hub that responds to the changing needs of our community.*

## **Notable Events/Milestones**

February 2019 – Secured a Capital Stream grant (\$22,000) from the Ontario Trillium Foundation to purchase six mobile shelving units for the Children's Area.

March 2019 – Home Made Visible (National Film Board of Canada) screening & filmmaking workshop (featuring local filmmaker, Nadine Arpine).

Spring 2019 – Cooking Classes offered in partnership with Lisa-Ann from Vegan Delights.

June 2019 – Screening of movie 'The Grizzlies' in partnership with Equay-wuk Women's Group and the Mayor's Committee on Truth and Reconciliation

July & August 2019 – Summer Reading Club

August 2019 – Blueberry Festival – Super Smash Bros Tournaments, Ice Cream Social, Learn to Needle Felt, Book Give-Away

August/September 2019 – Hosted 3 outdoor movie nights.

October 2019 – Facilitated online streaming of Federal Candidates Forum. Celebrated the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Grand Opening of the Sioux Lookout Public Library on October 16, 2019.

## **Ongoing Programs**

- Visits to Extended Care
- Visits to Aboriginal EarlyON and Firefly EarlyON
- Digital Creator North (art workshops, drop-in programming, outreach)
- Preschool Storytime
- Class visits (Sioux North, Pelican Falls, Sioux Mountain, and Sacred Heart)
- Babies & Books
- Book Club
- Technical assistance appointments
- Homeschooled Families afternoon
- Movie screenings

## **Sioux Lookout Public Library Board Members (Serving in 2019)**

*Robert Labossiere, Chair ~ Joyce Timpson, Council Rep.  
Jonathan Baum ~ Jude Dawes ~ Joanna Klein ~ Lynn Martin  
Bobbi Roberts ~ Anne Saltel ~ Darby Starratt*

*A public library board is a governing board, a legal corporation, with the authority to make policy and to govern the library's affairs under the Public Libraries Act, RSO 1990, c. P.44.*

In 2019 we welcomed Bobbi Roberts and Darby Starratt to the board, which brought our membership up to nine dedicated volunteers. Board members meet 10 times each year and serve on committees. Our board is currently developing an updated strategic plan to guide our organization in the years to come.

The Sioux Lookout Public Library is open 52 hours each week (44 hours per week in July and August). We employ two full-time staff members, four part-time circulation clerks, two student pages (Sioux North High School students), and three Casual Circulation Clerks. When considering our entire staff, we employ 3.6 full-time equivalents.

### **Senior Library Staff**

*Mike Laverty*

CEO/Chief Librarian

737-3660 (ext. 4401), [ceo@slpl.on.ca](mailto:ceo@slpl.on.ca)

*Ada Wassink*

Assistant/Children's Librarian

737-3660 (ext. 4403), [assistant@slpl.on.ca](mailto:assistant@slpl.on.ca)

