

Tillsonburg Public Library Annual Report 2006

Prepared March 6, 2007

Matthew Scholtz - Chief Librarian

Part A: Statistics

Memberships:

2006 5,795

2005 5,827

2004 5,670

2003 5,687

These statistics represent active members only.

Residency:

	2006	2005	2004
Elgin:	169	184	223
Norfolk:	412	425	452
Oxford:	837	831	865
Tills	4,244	4,225	3,956

Resources:

	New	Discard	Unreturned	Lost
Fict	774	1,142	40	12
NonFic	485	404	42	34
AdPap	831	256	43	9
JuvFic	308	229	102	14
JuvNF	167	290	21	5
JuvPap	143	41	55	8
Videos	278	47		
Audio/rec	110	158		
2006	3,096	2,567		
2005	2,317	2,161	286	132
2004	2,767	1,750	287	193

Items Lost indicate materials discovered missing after an inventory was taken.

There was a consideration increase materials purchases because of the surprise Literacy grant. This year (June) also saw the debut of our DVD collection.

Projector Use

	2006	2005	2004
8mm	1	0	7
16mm	1	5	4
Overhead	4	3	9
Slide	1	3	3

As expected, projector equipment use continues to decline, as new forms of technology becoming available. We remain, however, the only source of such equipment, so that some people remain grateful to have this access.

Other Services

	2006	2005	2004	2003
Internet Users:	9,346	7,875	7,092	5,903
Website Hits	3,321	4,464	3,946	4,501
Database Hits	1,861	2,276	2,271	1,584
Photocopies	76K	n/a	83K	91K
Faxes	938	380	365	862

Circulation

	2006	2005	2004	2003
Fiction	62,319	58,606	58,830	52,555
Ad NF	15,331	15,023	15,927	14,024
JuvFic	37,257	34,228	36,470	33,483
JuvNF	8,476	6,225	6,127	6,167
Audiotapes	4,892	3,677	3,501	2,586
Videos	13,082	11,770	13,530	10,396
Talking Bks	98	290	476	186
Totals	141,455	129,819	134,861	119,397

Interlibrary Loan

	2006	2005	2004	2003
In:	891	865	1,020	580
Out:	668	615	735	575

Part B : Highlights

Collection

In June, our DVD collection was launched. In preparation for this new collection, an efficient system of circulation was devised and tested, and then DVD titles selected. Both Mary Stevens and Carole Stephenson were involved in the selection, based on their feedback from our patrons. That they chose well has been proven by the extraordinary DVD circulation statistics every month since the collection began. Continuing to build on this public input, we hope to add more titles in 2007. Our VHS collection still remains popular, probably due to the strength of the selection, and because commercial video stores are offering fewer VHS titles.

Building Expansion

Following the preparation of an engineer's report on options for expanding the Library, the Board explored the six means whereby additional space could be created. These options included a mezzanine in various configurations, as well as a block addition at the southwest corner of the building. A final decision on the best way to expand the building remains under study.

Automation System Migration

Our Library has been using MultiLis as its automated system since 1987, when it was managed by Avec Ltd in Mississauga. Since that time, the owners of MultiLis have changed a number of times, most recently in 2003 when it became part of SirsiDynix, a U.S.-based company. At that time, we were advised that MultiLis would continue to be supported indefinitely. However, in the spring, we were advised that SirsiDynix would no longer support MultiLis after June 2007. Accordingly, the Board formed a committee to effect the migration to a new system, which should be effected in 2007. Options being considered: (a) stand-alone operation (b) partnership with Woodstock PL or (c) joining the Ontario Library Consortium.

ServiceOntario

The Ministry of Culture selected our library (along with about a dozen others across Ontario) for a pilot project entitled ServiceOntario. This Internet-based program was intended to make it easy for the general public to access Ontario government services and information. The program, funded by \$2,000, will conclude in February 2007.

Survey

A public survey was conducted in June with the intent to learn how the public felt about the Library and its services. The results of the survey will help plan for the future although it seems apparent at this point, that most of the suggestions made would be best fulfilled with a new library building.

Accreditation

The Board decided in the fall to apply for accreditation. To date, only 17 libraries out of 190 in Ontario have gone through accreditation. The first step was taken in December when a representative of the Southern Ontario Library Service visited our library to conduct a pre-audit. The results of that audit will be considered this year as the accreditation process continues.

Summer Reading Program

Thanks to a special one-time provincial grant for literacy promotion, we were able to provide a higher level of staffing than in previous years. The grant also allowed us to purchase additional new children's titles (the unveiling of which helped us to launch the 2006 Summer Reading Program in grand style. As a consequence, we achieved the highest monthly (July) circulation in the Library's history. (The grant also enabled us to acquire a children's literacy computer, which has proven to be very popular.)

In terms of other children's services, Mary Stevens co-operates with other literacy agencies, and helps with the Thursday morning Jumpin' Jive program.

Library Board

David Stubbs found it necessary to resign from the Board towards the end of the year, and was replaced by Barb MacKinnon.

Appreciation

On behalf of the Library staff, I would like to thank the members of the Library Board, for their continuing interest in effective and efficient library service for our community.

I would also like to express my thanks to the staff for their dedication to the library and its patrons.

Finally, thanks are also extended to Cynthia Hildebrand, Director of Community Services, and other Town staff for their continuing support.

Respectfully submitted

Matthew Scholtz - Chief Librarian

2007 March 6