

Nova Scotia's Public Libraries: A Year in Review

In the past year, regional libraries have achieved many milestones and offered many programs and services; below are just a few highlights:

Annapolis Valley Regional Library

A new multipurpose Sprinter Bookmobile now serves rural, outlying areas and institutions. It is great for promoting library services at community events.

Cape Breton Regional Library

New projects and programs included additional Babies & Books programs and, in conjunction with community partners, a digital project, "Through Her Eyes: Katharine McLennan".

Colchester-East Hants Public Library

Honouring the past, building the future, municipal and library officials are renovating and expanding the 19th century, former Normal College to become the region's central library.

Cumberland Public Libraries

Throughout the year the region began offering programs for all ages, at all locations, and saw a 20% increase in program attendance.

Eastern Counties Regional Library

Through partnerships, the Mulgrave Library was renovated and services and collections expanded in Port Hood. Member driven collection development led to a 5.5% increase in circulation.

Halifax Public Libraries

The library collection switched to RFID tags; a librarian position was created to service the Musquodoboit Valley; and Halifax Central Library is energizing the city as it takes shape.

Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library

The 10th anniversary of the Writer-in-Residence@Library program welcomed award-winning author and storyteller, literacy advocate and UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador – Sheree Fitch.

South Shore Public Libraries

The recently opened Margaret Hennigar Public Library is providing a visible example of growth of library usage and dedication to service across the region.

Western Counties Regional Library

The WOW Reading Challenge was introduced in French to all Conseil Scolaire Acadien Provincial elementary schools in the municipalities of Clare and Argyle.

Nova Scotia Public Libraries Annual Report

2013–2014

78 library
branches
across the province

29,900
new users

Message from the Minister



As the Minister of the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage, I am pleased to be a steward of our public libraries.

Our libraries are excellent examples of collaborative community spaces that support life-long learning and literacy. They have proven to be important gathering places for communities, both rural and urban, that offer creative solutions, and programs and services that support our youth, seniors and new Nova Scotians where they live.

On behalf of the Province, I continue to encourage you to work together to make our public libraries a significant model of how partnerships can lead to building strong, vibrant and welcoming communities.

Tony Ince, Minister
Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage

Message from the Director



Working collaboratively with the public library community continues to be central to the Provincial Library mission as we coordinate and deliver multiple services and programs to Nova Scotia

public libraries. We worked with the Council of Regional Librarians on the development of a core services document for NS public libraries. The Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage provided a collections grant of \$100,000 to assist libraries in buying more materials for Nova Scotians in support of lifelong learning, leisure reading and numerous information needs and interests. The Provincial Library developed a web content strategy and launched a new web presence, ensuring that the stories of public libraries are highlighted and told on a provincial level.

Jennifer Evans
Director, Nova Scotia Provincial Library

Public Library Contact Information

Annapolis Valley Regional Library (AVR)
valleylibrary.ca
Population: 101,602

Cape Breton Regional Library (CBR)
cbrl.ca
Population: 107,686

Colchester-East Hants Public Library (CEH)
lovemylibrary.ca
Population: 75,295

Cumberland Public Libraries (CPL)
cumberlandpubliclibraries.ca
Population: 31,089

Eastern Counties Regional Library (ECR)
ecrl.library.ns.ca
Population: 34,786

Halifax Public Libraries (HPL)
halifaxpubliclibraries.ca
Population: 408,714

Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library (PAR)
parl.ns.ca
Population: 65,758

South Shore Public Libraries (SSP)
southshorepubliclibraries.ca
Population: 58,864

Western Counties Regional Library (WCR)
westerncounties.ca
Population: 408,714



Nova Scotia
**PUBLIC
LIBRARIES**
publiclibraries.ns.ca

15,500 Youth
in Summer Reading clubs

7.1 million
items borrowed

253,000
people
attended library programs

50,000
ebooks available

3.5 million
visits
to library websites

In-person visits in 000s

AVR	254
CBR	258
CEH	165
CPL	83
ECR	72
HPL	2,349
PAR	292
SSP	104
WCR	141
Total	3,713

Materials borrowed in 000s

AVR	619
CBR	416
CEH	280
CPL	130
ECR	128
HPL	4,709
PAR	295
SSP	279
WCR	243
Total	7,099

of programs

AVR	2,030
CBR	2,300
CEH	1,750
CPL	650
ECR	710
HPL	7,380
PAR	1,470
SSP	530
WCR	1,180
Total	18,000

Wi-Fi sessions

AVR	36,200
CBR	16,500
CEH	11,500
CPL	7,000
ECR	12,300
HPL	173,100
PAR	54,300
SSP	9,000
WCR	15,300
Total	335,400

Hours – public computer use

AVR	38,800
CBR	43,100
CEH	25,400
CPL	21,900
ECR	10,400
HPL	265,300
PAR	56,200
SSP	14,400
WCR	33,600
Total	509,100

Active users

AVR	28,900
CBR	24,200
CEH	22,000
CPL	8,500
ECR	8,800
HPL	160,000
PAR	22,800
SSP	12,400
WCR	17,600
Total	304,900

Membership % of population

AVR	29
CBR	22
CEH	29
CPL	27
ECR	25
HPL	39
PAR	35
SSP	21
WCR	31
Avg	32



Funding in 000s

	Provincial	Municipal	Board	Total
AVR	\$ 1,713	\$ 647	\$ 126	\$ 2,486
CBR	1,901	696	171	2,768
CEH	1,259	461	212	1,933
CPL	541	209	104	854
ECR	718	229	109	1,055
HPL	4,886	16,898	1,769	23,552
PAR	1,104	510	299	1,914
SSP	990	376	115	1,481
WCR	1,103	372	173	1,649
Total	\$ 14,214	\$20,398	\$ 3,079	\$ 37,691

Expenditures in 000s

	Collections	Staffing	Other	Total
AVR	\$ 232	\$ 1,893	\$ 299	\$ 2,424
CBR	259	2,141	291	2,692
CEH	111	1,466	286	1,863
CPL	73	601	139	813
ECR	131	695	214	1,041
HPL	2,458	15,959	5,135	23,553
PAR	122	1,494	309	1,926
SSP	253	983	357	1,593
WCR	187	1,205	227	1,619
Total	\$ 3,827	\$26,439	\$ 7,259	\$ 37,525

Expenditures as % of budget

	Collections	Staffing	Other
AVR	10	78	12
CBR	10	80	11
CEH	6	79	15
CPL	9	74	17
ECR	13	67	21
HPL	10	68	22
PAR	6	78	16
SSP	16	62	22
WCR	12	74	14
Avg	10	70	19



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