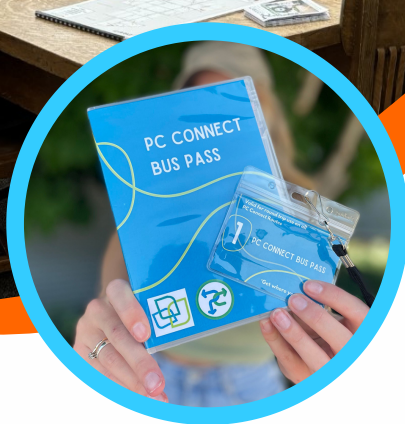




Perth East
Public Library

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



BUILD COMMUNITY ● INSPIRE DISCOVERY ● LIFELONG LEARNING

BOARD MEMBERS

Laura Hallahan - Chair
Mark Steffen - Vice-Chair
Diann Davidson
Allie Fallis
Jeremy Matheson
Patrick Minor
Jerry Smith



STAFF

Laura Bere	Interim CEO
Cindy Dunbar	Library Assistant
Shelley Newman	Library Assistant
Kassy Waddell	Library Assistant
Trisha MacPhee	Library Assistant
Mary Kocher	Casual Library Assistant
Meghan Riddell	Casual Library Assistant
Kaitlyn Noeske	Casual Library Assistant
Sierra Cressman	Library Page
Mya Martin	Library Page
Hayden Snow	Library Page
Kim Jacobs	Facility Caretaker

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

On behalf of the Board, it is my pleasure to endorse the 2023 Annual Report of the Perth East Public Library (PEPL). The PEPL believes strongly in providing innovative ways for you to read, connect, learn and discover.

To this end, we have introduced some new programming and items to borrow this year. Some examples include tech tutoring, career counseling, resettlement services, lego challenges, an adult craft group, an escape room, and stuffie sleepover. New items include a C-Pen, snowshoes, plus (of course) lots of wonderful new books and magazines!

Thank you to the PEPL staff who provide excellent service, and are constantly working hard to bring you new and exciting opportunities and fun/useful things to lend!

Perth East Public Library remains dedicated to being recognized as essential to the community as an innovative hub that takes a collaborative approach to encouraging literacy, innovation and opportunity. We aim to make a difference in the lives of all residents. As always, we encourage you to visit often. There's always something new!

~ Laura Hallahan

2023 HIGHLIGHTS



- Launched our new StoryWalks in Sebringville & Millbank
- Launched our Seed Library
- Partnered with Knollcrest to provide intergenerational storytime
- Began hosting YMCA Settlement worker monthly
- Offered PC Connect Bus Passes
- Hosted STEAM Launch Program with the Canadian Minor STEAM Association
- Hosted Scientists in Schools for two science programs for kids
- Held Fall Reading Challenge
- Participation in our Summer Reading Program increased 56% from 2022

2023 TRENDS

- Partnerships with community groups and organizations continues to be a valuable way to reach our community.
- Circulation of our physical collection continues to rise, approaching pre-COVID levels
- Special collections continue to grow in popularity and provide access to valuable experiences
- We continue to look for opportunities to provide pop-up programs outside of our primary location, increasing access for our community

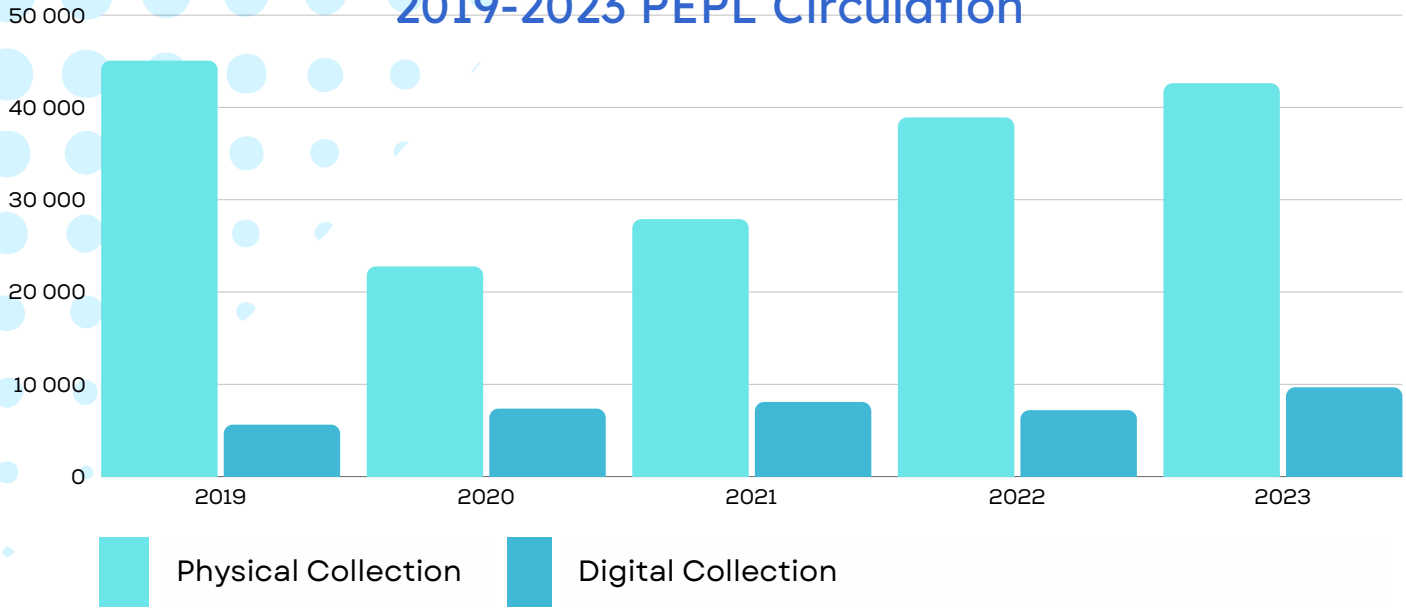
2023 GRANTS

The library was excited to receive the following grant:

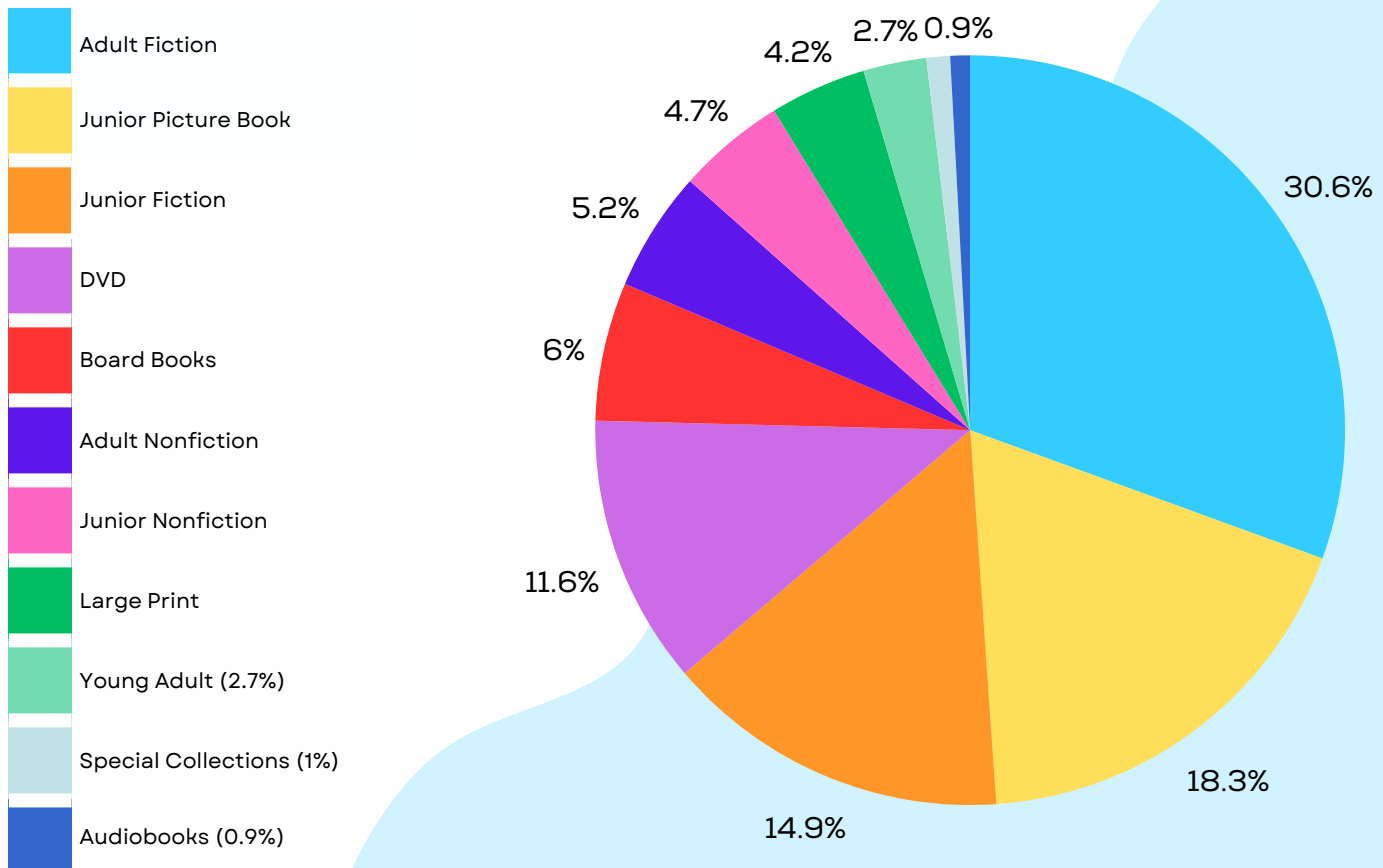
- Stratford-Perth Community Foundation Smart & Caring Community Grant
 - Purchased special collection items, including snowshoes, internet access kits, and circulating tech kits

CIRCULATION TRENDS

2019-2023 PEPL Circulation



2023 PEPL Collections Circulation





2023 BY THE NUMBERS

16 769 VISITS



↑ 54%
from
2022

new
library
cards

189



42 624



9 681



95

books & other items

digital items

park, pool, & bus passes



CIRCULATION

52 305

ITEMS CHECKED OUT



3 620

computer
appointments



52 552

social media
interactions



22 336

library catalogue
& website sessions



11 535

Perth East items
circulated throughout
PCIN



187

materials were sent to
other Ontario libraries



333

PROGRAMS
OFFERED



3 413

PARTICIPANTS

Ask Us!

2 037

readers advisory,
reference, & tech
inquiries

BUILD COMMUNITY ● INSPIRE DISCOVERY ● LIFELONG LEARNING

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



Play & Learn
Baby Time



Monthly wellness speaker

Park passes for Ontario Parks & Grand River
& Upper Thames Conservation Authorities



UPPER THAMES RIVER
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY



Monthly visits from settlement worker

1 library card = access to 5 public libraries



CURRENT PROGRAMS

- Tech Tutoring
- 2 Book Clubs
- Weekly LEGO Challenges
- 1000 Books Before Kindergarten
- Sing to Me!
- Play & Learn with EarlyON
- Babytime with EarlyON
- Summer Reading Program



BUILD COMMUNITY ● INSPIRE DISCOVERY ● LIFELONG LEARNING

DID YOU KNOW



Your library card gets you access to thousands of books, DVDs, video games, board games, and more!

We have wifi, public computers, and iPads available

Our front room is available to rent for public & private functions

Our Special Collections include wifi hotspots, a Nintendo Switch, tech, & more!

You can make suggestions for items to add to our collection!



New special collections and new digital resources!

New partnerships and programs, including Service Canada pop-ups and tech programs for seniors!

COMING UP IN 2024 AT PEPL!

BUILD COMMUNITY ● **INSPIRE DISCOVERY** ● **LIFELONG LEARNING**