



# HUNTSVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT 2023



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Ray Love

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**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**



# Message From the Board Chair

Ray Love, 2023 Library Board Chair

The Huntsville Public Library, a unique and invaluable resource, continues to serve the growing community of Huntsville. Patrons can access a diverse range of materials, from books, videos, music, gaming and sports equipment, to research materials, newspapers, magazines, and ebooks. Our popular online services provide a wealth of research materials, newspapers, magazines, and ebooks. The library is a hub for community groups such as the Muskoka Indigenous Friendship Centre and YWCA, who regularly utilize the space for their programs. Our children's programming maintains its excellence, and our adult programming is expanding to meet the diverse needs of our community.

The library, a beacon of inclusivity, provides a safe and welcoming space for patrons of all ages and backgrounds in the Huntsville community and beyond. It's a place where everyone is welcome, regardless of their age, background, or interests. It is also a hub of information for events and programs in the area, ensuring everyone in our diverse community feels seen and heard.

The Friends of the Library, a productive and committed group, play a crucial role in fundraising for the library. They sell used books in the library, with the funds raised directly supporting the cost of our diverse programs. Their recent significant increase in membership is a testament to their hard work and dedication. We are deeply appreciative of their invaluable contributions to the library's success, and we encourage the community to join us in supporting their efforts.

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- Ribbon Rolling Workshop

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Hi Cara, I'm grateful to you and your team for providing such a supportive and engaging environment for these workshops. It's a pleasure to work with such a dedicated group of individuals, and I'm looking forward to future collaborations. Thanks again for all that you do to support the community.

- Cassie – Muskoka Indigenous Friendship Centre

# Message From the Board Chair

## Ray Love, 2023 Library Board Chair

Since its reorganization in 2022, the Library Board has been working on needs identified in a community survey. Chief among these is the refurbishment and redesign of the library space to meet current trends in library usage. The board will soon approach the Town of Huntsville to initiate a redesign process.

Our board comprises an impressive group of individuals who bring many years of leadership experience to its tasks. As chair, I wish to thank them for their continued efforts and the support and work of the Huntsville Public Library staff. Lastly, thank you to the Town of Huntsville for continuing to build a solid and positive relationship with the Huntsville Public Library.

**Ray Love**  
**Board Chair of Huntsville Public Library**

*– A young patron who loves attending Storytime. “Thursday mornings are her favourite!”*



“Amber, you do a wonderful, organized job with your calm and happy personality, for the children. It is appreciated-thanks!”

*- Grandparent signing their grandchildren up for more library programs.*





# Activity Report

## Annual Milestones



Visitors to the  
Library (2023)  
**85164**

(2022)  
**57161**



Active Card  
Holders in  
2022-2023  
**5011**

(2021-2022)  
**3659**



New Card  
Holders  
(2023)  
**1476**

(2022)  
**1002**



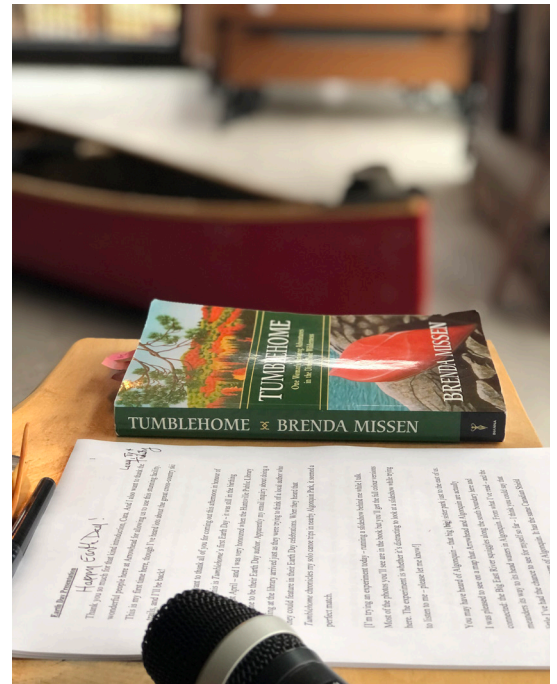
Questions  
Answered By  
Staff  
(2023)  
**6418**

(2022)  
**5113**



WiFi  
Connections  
(2022)  
**67469**





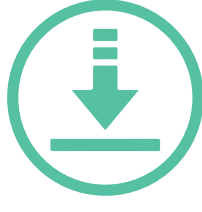

(2022)  
**47690**



“Cara, I wanted to extend my heartfelt thanks to you and everyone at HPL and Arrowhead Provincial Park who worked so diligently to plan the Earth Day event for Tumblehome and made the afternoon such a success. The event space was just beautiful, and I thoroughly enjoyed myself – and it seemed like the audience did too. And thank you for encouraging me to bring my canoe – as well as to put together a slide show - cus I think they really made the day!”  
-Brenda Misen – Author of Tumblehome

# Activity Report

## Annual Milestones

					
Activities Offered (2023) <b>544</b>	People Attended Activities (2023) <b>9221</b>	Items Checked Out (2023) <b>120585</b>	Items Added to Collection (2023) <b>4083</b>	Items Borrowed (2023) <b>48328</b>	Outreach Visits (2023) <b>135</b>
(2022) <b>418</b>	(2022) <b>5927</b>	(2022) <b>106811</b>	(2022) <b>5015</b>	(2022) <b>39296</b>	(2022) <b>168</b>



- Huntsville Theatre Company, cast of the Murder Mystery

“Cara, that was INCREDIBLE!!! I hope you’re feeling high from the experience and really proud of what you accomplished on Saturday night. The energy in the place was so positive, and we almost forgot where we were! It was fun, light-hearted, inclusive, accessible, and inspiring! The best part was being able to chat with so many people I otherwise wouldn’t have the chance to, and in COSTUME to boot! There were a lot of wishes for more events like this to take place! Well done!”  
-E-mail from patron that attended the Murder Mystery



-Participants attending Murder Mystery



# Top 10 Lists

## Most Popular Items of 2023



### – Top 10 Adult Fiction of 2023

“Thanks for everything and for always welcoming my students with open arms. Have a great summer!”

- Grade 4 Teacher at Huntsville Public School, who came regularly with their class every three weeks.

### – Top 10 Adult Non-Fiction of 2023

“Hey!! My daughter and I loved doing this puzzle together...thanks for adding puzzles to the mix!”

-Mom – submitted image of her and her daughter completing one of the puzzles after we added the puzzle collection.



### – Top 10 Picture Books of 2023



“Hi Amber, a big thank you for your library orientation presentation on Monday. We got back to school and all the kids wanted to do was read on Monday, and they still haven’t stopped asking for silent reading time!” - Grade 8 Teacher at Huntsville Public School

# Acknowledgements

## Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Library continues to provide financial fundraising support to the Huntsville Public Library. They have contributed by paying for children's performances during March Break and Summer, book bags for the TD Summer Reading Club and supplies for Summer Pop-Ups.



In 2023, they generously donated funds to create the library's Nintendo Switch Collection, which included the purchase of two consoles and about 90 games.

We are grateful for all their hard work and contribution to the library.



- Nintendo Switch Collection

The Library Board and Staff would like to thank the Friends of the Library, donors, and partners for their generosity and support. You all help us to achieve our goals and meet the needs of users.

- Speaking of Wildlife summer presentation at the Huntsville Legion

### VISION

A vital centre to collaborate, connect and explore the world in which we live.

### MISSION

To provide accessible services, programs, collections and spaces designed to inspire and enrich the community.

### VALUES

Intellectual Freedom  
Equitable Access  
Sustainability | Respect  
Innovation | Accountability  
Leadership | Community  
Life Long Learning | Creativity