

**NAKUSP            2022**  
**PUBLIC        ANNUAL**  
**LIBRARY     REPORT**

# Inclusion Community Accountability Literacy

The **MISSION** of the **Nakusp Public Library** is to provide quality **materials, resources, programs, and services**, which help fulfill the **educational, informational, cultural, and recreational** needs of the community in an environment that is **attractive, respectful, non-judgmental & welcoming**.

## Trustees

Paula Rogers, Chair  
Terry Welsh, Vice-Chair  
Elaine Rogers, Treasurer  
Shori Smith, Secretary  
Deborah Austin  
Jamie Dumonceaux  
Linda Harrington  
Terri McLeod  
Jerry Van Immerzeel

## Staff

Claire Paradis, Library Director  
Susan Rogers, Librarian  
Evelyn Goodell, Librarian  
Cindy Schroff, Assistant  
Librarian  
Tamara Picknell, Assistant  
Librarian  
Stephanie Korolyk, Intern  
Katira Niquidet, Student  
Miles Buckminster, Intern  
Avery Hughes, Student

## Volunteers

Dom Austin, Ann Barrington, Valerie  
Bristowe, Mike Coleman, Linda Dixon,  
Deirdre Dore, Jamie Dumonceaux, Ida  
Fulgenzi, Sandy Hansen, Jean Lancaster,  
Leslie Legate, Leslie Leitch, Hannah  
Mackenzie, Nadine Mackenzie, Barb  
MacPherson, Terry & Marilyn McKinnon,  
Gwen Papov, Charlotte Peglar, Rena  
Plaskett, Rob Plaskett, Patty Riley, May  
Ann Waterfield

# Nakusp Public Library Board of Trustees

## Annual Report from the Chair

### January – December, 2022

2022 was the year when our little library slowly transitioned back from the challenges of the past two years. Our eternal gratitude goes out to the library staff and volunteers who worked so incredibly hard to make our library a place where everyone felt welcome and safe throughout these trials. Claire Paradis went above and beyond and did a fantastic job in her role as Library Director. Susan Rogers, Cindy Schroff and Evelyn Goodall also deserve major praise for their excellent work as Librarians. We are so grateful to this amazing hard-working team!

During 2022 our Library Board continued in its vital role of guiding Library operation and policies and providing adequate funding for the year and into the future. Some changes occurred during the year (as outlined in the Committee Reports) and we said goodbye to some board members and greeted new ones. We are fortunate to have a remarkably cooperative, harmonious board, and each person has done an amazing job in their capacity. We were delighted to shift back to face-to-face meetings halfway through the year.

**Centennial Building Committee:** The committee and subcommittees met via Zoom until June when we began to meet face-to-face once again. During this last year our main discussions concerned: Health and Safety issues with H & S Officers (Archives-Diana Kelland, Library-Deborah Austin, Museum-Judy Hatt) the Village of Nakusp and School District 10; defibrillator information was updated; the Milk Wagon was beautifully restored by Rail Society members in May. After much discussion between the Arrow Lakes Historical Society, Arrow Lakes Museum and Nakusp Library, the Milk Wagon was stored by the ALHS and Rail Society in an undisclosed location until such time adequate funding can be found to complete the rehousing. The library agreed to pay \$25 a month to ALHS for our share of janitorial costs.

**Financial Committee:** We were delighted and grateful to receive the Nakusp Village and Regional District 3% increase of our annual funding. RDCK recommended the library reapply to the Village and the regional district in 2024 for this increase. The Financial Review Sub-committee (Terry Welsh, Claire Paradis, Elaine Rogers and Linda Harrington) met February 16 for a financial review of the library. This financial review was



## Annual Report from the Chair - continued

accepted at the March board meeting. Kootenay Library Federation provided \$500 to the library's Summer Reading Club. In August \$115,000 from the Betty Walton Bequest matured. In September permission was granted by the board for Elaine Rogers, the Library Board Treasurer, to amalgamate the whole amount of the Betty Walton bequest, plus additional monies available to a maximum of \$300,000 into a fully redeemable 1-year term deposit at the Nakusp Kootenay Credit Union. In October, Claire Paradis, with permission from the library board, applied to Columbia Basin Trust's Building Support Grant for \$33,000 to replace the library's roof. CBT awarded 75% of the funding (\$28,875.00 in December); the Village of Nakusp awarded the remaining amount \$8,250 (early January, 2023).



**Friends of the Library:** Barbara MacPherson officially resigned as the FOL coordinator in April. Claire P. and Paula R. met in June and divided up the FOL duties until a coordinator could be found. We thank all the FOL who helped library throughout the year: Leslie Legate put in an amazing amount of shelf reading time, and helped with the Open House. Ida Fulgenzi and Jamie Dumonceaux continue to organize and cart books downstairs for next year's book sale. Valerie Bristowe kept our plants looking great and our library looking lively, and Hans Dummerauf helped with the Outreach Reading program at the Minto. Long-time volunteer Marilyn MacKinnon created two air conditioner cozies

to help stop drafts of cold air into the building. Mike Coleman did a great job cleaning up the garden beds, and Terri McLeod has been keeping the front of the library tidy with her sweeping of the steps, raking of the leaves, and moving of the dirt. We look forward to our newest board member Terri McLeod and Evelyn Goodall taking over the FOL coordinator's position in the new year.

**Fund Raising Committee:** The first part of the year started off slowly. It was therefore decided to hold off on any fund-raising events until later in the spring when things would likely open up with more patrons coming in-person to the library. Linda Harrington did an excellent job of streamlining the magazine subscription process. The annual book sale and silent auction went very well with kudos to all the amazing volunteers that helped throughout the day. We made

## Annual Report from the Chair - continued

\$2638: \$1342 book sale; \$1196 silent auction. We postponed the Spirits of Christmas raffle until 2023.

**Governance Committee:** January 11 Barbara MacPherson was given a professional Ancestry gift certificate from the library in recognition and to honor her sixteen years of dedication to the Nakusp Library. March 4 we were sad to receive Jamie Dumonceaux's resignation as a library trustee. He was a valued and effective trustee but continued to support and help the library as a FOL. It was decided we needed to create a policy re: trustee recruitment. In April all trustees agreed the annual self-evaluation process of self reflection and informal sharing within the group was valuable. September 25, at the Volunteer Tea, Barb MacPherson was honored again by a special tribute plaque created by local business Counter Intelligence. It was placed in the Poetry section of the library. In November, we were delighted to welcome new trustee Terri McLeod.



**Kootenay Library Federation:** Shori Smith continued as the KLF representative with Terry Welsh as the alternative and KLF Treasurer. They attended the April and October KLF conference meetings, and Claire attended the April KLF and Library Director Advisory Group (LDAG) sessions. Claire reported there were lively & creative discussions, sharing ideas which was valuable! Shori attended the BCLTA on May 1st: "Sharing & celebrating effective public library governance". High points: working with The Trust on a governance team, role of the Board & Library Director, Trustees advocating through storytelling, celebrating at every board meeting. A KLF newsletter article prompted our board to discuss the idea of having a retreat day to discuss censorship and the NPL collection.

## Annual Report from the Chair - continued



**Maintenance Committee:** In January the Nakusp Village agreed to put up the library sign which was completed in November. The need for a new roof was established in January and funding was applied for from CBT with the agreement of the Village in Fall of 2022. see Financial Committee. When a circuit was blown/tripped in January a year-long investigation and discussion with the Village and School District 10 began about the need for access to the space on the exterior of the building between the Centennial building and School District 10 board office. Deborah Austin, as the library Safety representative for the Centennial Building Committee, made note of the electrical room/panel location in the Nakusp library's safety/evacuation plan. Other small tasks were completed throughout the year: replacing track spotlights; making insulated covers for both air conditioners and changing track-lighting bulbs and adding a light fixture outside the bathrooms.

**Policy Committee:** In May the board accepted the following updates and new policies: Fine Free; Collections; Copying and Scanning. In October the committee put forward the need for updates in: board trustee recruitment/exit policy, fundraising policy with a third party and personnel policies. Deborah Austin joined this committee in November.

**Personnel Committee:** In May Katira Niquidet was hired to support staff during the afternoons when there are evening events, in addition to establishing a Reading Outreach Program and creating a Neurodiversity presentation with Miles Buckminster. Miles was the summer employee who did excellent work running the Summer Reading Club. Claire completed the annual staff reviews in October.

## Annual Report from the Chair - continued



The Personnel Committee completed Claire Paradis' annual evaluation on Saturday, November 5, 2022. She demonstrated an overall outstanding performance; thank you for being such an amazing Library Director.

**Public Relations/Advocacy Committee:** In January Claire increased the advertising funding to use for one-pager mail outs to the community and/or condensed annual report/brochure with a great response from the community. Thank you to Barbara MacPherson, Claire P, Ida Fulgenzi

and Jamie D for the huge success of the April 22 first in-person library event, Poetry Night; thirty-one people attended and one via Zoom. In June Deborah A volunteered to take on the library's outreach position.

She is willing to spread the word about our stellar library collection to community organizations. In June Paula R. attended the new Chamber of Commerce Board meeting. She noted they are a dynamic group! On September 25, 18 volunteers joined library staff and board members to celebrate the volunteers hard work at our annual Volunteer Tea and to give tribute to Barbara MacPherson with a commemorative plaque. October 29, the Centennial Building Open House attracted approximately 75 people to the library. Four people registered for their library card, and we gave away some wonderful door prizes. Using a timeline Melissa K. had created of the history of the library, Claire created a slideshow which a few people saw. Councillor Aidan McLaren-Caux visited, Nicole Norris hung her paintings in the library in advance of the open house, and we have been gifted an original by local artist Don Mabie.

**Safety Committee:** By March masks were optional (although staff continued to wear masks for extra safety) and by April 8 vaccination passport requirements for indoor group activities were lifted so the staff went ahead with in-person programming and community groups meeting at the library again. The library has a Communicable Disease Prevention Plan, which is now the requirement for WCB. May 24, defibrillator (AED) training took place for all the three Centennial Building organizations; 8 people attended the training



## Annual Report from the Chair - continued

including the Library Director. It was decided by the board to keep the AED onsite and to apply to Arrow Lakes Health Care Auxiliary for the cost of updating the pads and batteries. In November CAO Wayne Robinson visited the library and inquired about our safety concerns about the fence between the School Board building and the Centennial Building. The Village CAO was very helpful in these discussions.

**Strategic Plan Committee:** February 25 the committee met and agreed to Terry W.'s suggestion to create two separate documents. One is an "aspirational" document: containing vision and the mission of NPL. It is concise, to be used for advocacy and appropriate to be uploaded to the website. The other document would be considered a workplan with action items and more detailed. The plan is to condense the Strategic Plan so it is approximately 2 pages.



We are grateful for the continued financial support of the Village of Nakusp, the RDCK, and the provincial government, as well as the financial support from our many fantastic members. It is an honour to work with such dedicated staff, board and community members to create such a thriving and exceptional library!

*Paula Rogers,*  
Chair, Nakusp Public Library Board of Trustees



# Nakusp Public Library 2022 the Year of Reconnection

After two years of responding to a rapidly changing public health conditions – two years with very little in-person public programming – 2022 was the beginning of re-connection at the library and in our communities.

In January of 2022, the library received five air filtration units to reduce the risk of airborne illnesses being shared. The air purifiers will also be useful to keep the air clear of particulates during smoky seasons. Mask mandates were still in effect and although most people were



tired of having to wear them, a few people's frustration spilled out and created moments of stress for frontline workers. Library staff offered alternatives for accessing library materials for people who did not want to wear a mask and for people who did not want to expose themselves to potential illnesses, and for the most part the library was conflict-free.

Volunteers began to return to the library as physical distancing guidelines progressively relaxed, making it possible to have more people working in the library at one time. Over the course of the year, volunteers contributed 178 hours of their time to making the library the wonderful place that it is.



Aly Gustafson read from her award-winning novel (soon to be published, we hope!) on Jan. 6, starting the year of with one local author. We were treated to Jo Law, another local author, reading her book *Little Fluffy Cloud* online for Family Literacy Day, Jan. 26. Online events have the added advantage of being easily recorded, and we are fortunate enough to now have a wonderful recording of Jo reading her touching story of loss & connection.

Blind Date with a Book in February introduced some patrons to new books they may love. Feedback said some of our bibliophilic match making was very successful, although there were of course a couple of non-starter dates as well.

Thanks to a BC Libraries Co-op grant, early in the year we were able to purchase and install a firewall which came with additional WiFi access points throughout the library. The Co-op had itself been subject to cyber-attacks in December 2021.



## 2022: The Year of Reconnection continued

In February library staff completed Covid-19 Customer Conflict Management (de-escalation strategies) offered through Arete Training as there were an increasing number of incidents at libraries through the province where staff were encountering angry and frustrated patrons.

The mailout in March 2022 of our annual report brochure was popular with patrons, new and old. We said a sad goodbye to Assistant Librarian Intern Stephanie Korolyk in March who moved on to new adventures. Changes to the collection included replacing most of the VHS tapes with DVDs as the tapes were no longer circulating. Some, such as the Children's VHS, continue to be checked out and watched, and others cannot be found in another format so they will remain in our collection. March saw about 50/50 of patrons wearing masks or not; library staff continued to wear them out of an abundance of caution. Board member Deborah Austin recruited her sister Suzanne to pick up some vinyl armchairs from the Cranbrook Library, which are a beautiful and comfortable addition to our reading lounge.



Our 2022 Poetry Contest winners won a NPL tote bag made locally by Cedra Eichenauer. We are very grateful to the Columbia Basin Trust sponsorship grant which made it possible for us to give prizes and free library centenary pens, magnets and more.

## 2022: The Year of Reconnection continued

Mother Goose returned to the library on April 13! *Overheard at Mother Goose: A young family searching for a community to move to first goes to the library. "The library is always important," said the mom, "especially as a parent."*

Also in April, we had Author Vanessa Farnsworth gave a genealogy workshop, Poetry Night returned to a full house, and Elizabeth Cunningham read some poetry at the library as part of her book tour. In April, our beloved Friends of the Library Coordinator Barbara MacPherson retired, leaving two very large shoes to fill.

*"Thanks so much for the poetry night last Friday. I enjoyed it thoroughly and hope that you might be able to do this more frequently - maybe twice a year? The evening was such a pleasant change from the workaday world and so uplifting after so many months of pandemic restrictions. Well done and most appreciated."*



May was full of visiting and local writers: On May 18 Ron Verzuh gave a fantastic reading about the labour history of Trail from his book *Smelter Wars*. The library was host to a popular writing workshop and a reading from *Cambium Blue* by author Maureen Brownlee. On May 31 we were wowed by Rod McGillis' presentation of *Don Mabie/Chuck Stake and William Blake: A Celebration*. It was a one-of-a-kind deep dive into the art and life of both artists (Don Mabie's art can be seen in the library). Will there be more presentations of this kind? We hope so. With May came the installation of an additional air conditioner and the servicing of our old one in preparation for the hot season.



## 2022: The Year of Reconnection continued

Nakusp Elementary class visits returned in June! We had three classes visit at the end of the month, with more than 60 students visiting, many signing up for their very first library card.

Our Summer employee, Miles Buckminster, organized weekly fun as part of the Summer Reading Club. Highlights included a near architectural blueprint-quality drawing of “Our Dream Town,” a drawing of what the ideal Nakusp would have within its Village limits. A shark-filled swimming pool and a dragon were memorable municipal hot spots. A second 3-D version in Lego was built to complete the picture.



Katira Niquidet brought the Library Reading Outreach Program to Minto and the New Denver Pavilion during the summer, offering a fun variety of readings from library books for residents.

Our newly-configured reading lounge was the cool place to be, with its comfy seating and the library’s new air conditioning capacity.

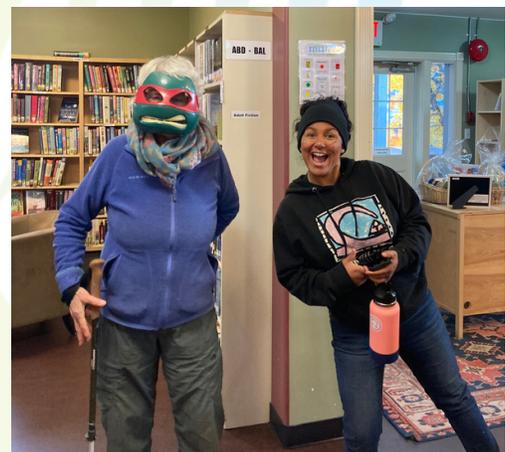
MLA Katrine Conroy visited the library on July 20 and was receptive to the library’s concerns that the Province has not increased operational funding to public libraries in well over a decade, leaving the burden of the cost to local government.

On August 13 the Library held its Annual Book Sale and wrapped up the Silent Auction, and a great day was had by all.

Katira and Miles’ Neurodiversity presentation on October 1 was a stellar introduction to neurodiversity, peppered with humour and personal insight. Mike Coleman did a very professional job as a volunteer of cleaning up our gardens in preparation for fall and winter. Covid reared its ugly head and pre-empted a reading by Revelstoke author Leslie Davidson, who rescheduled her reading for early 2023.

Rounding out that month was the Centennial Building Open House on Oct. 29; the library had around 75 people visit and enjoy the catering from Bella Soriah.

In November we were fortunate enough to have a public screening of the first episode of Knowledge Network’s British Columbia: An Untold History. The screening was followed by a lively discussion about Indigenous and colonial history and present-day reality in the province. We hope to have another screening in the new year.



## 2022: The Year of Reconnection continued

November also saw children's programs Creative Connection's Jump into Music and Little Explorers come to the library. Volunteers continued to give their time and energy to creating a beautiful, welcoming and happy environment at the library. The library was graced with a new original work of art by Don Mabie, on permanent display in the reading lounge. Staff performance reviews were completed, Terri McLeod joined the Board, as did Dolly Edwards as the Village Liaison to the Nakusp Public Library Board. Welcome, Terri and Dolly!

In December Tamara Picknell officially joined the staff; welcome, Tammy! Nakusp Hospice hosted their first Death Café on Dec.1 which attracted a large number of people. A whopping 30 people took part in our Christmas Crafternoon! Avery Hughes began working as a Student Librarian in December; she will be working on social media and also helping with the inventory of our collection. The year came to an abrupt end when the staff closed the library down two hours early on Dec. 23 in order to ensure they could make it home in the heavy snow which was falling.

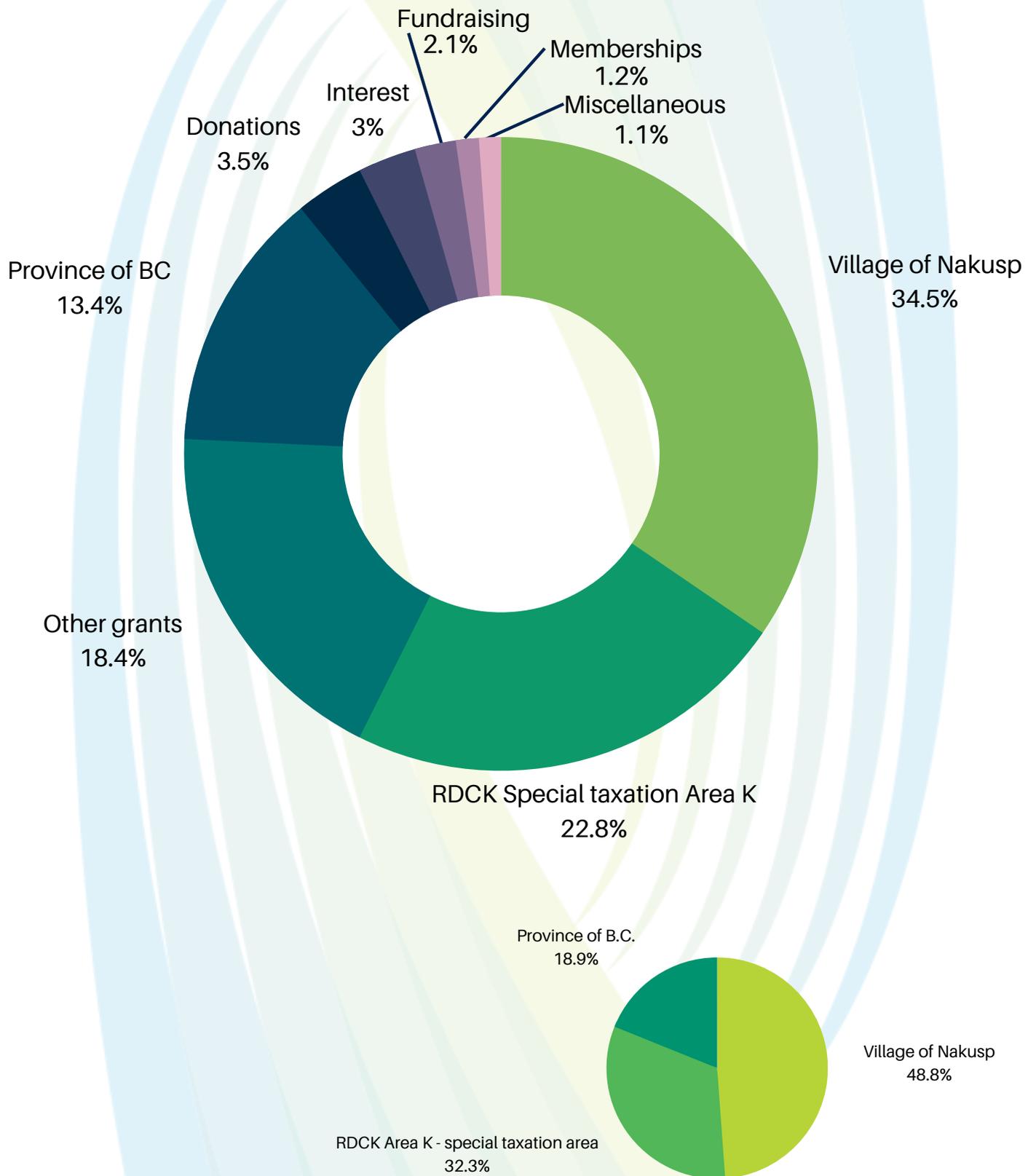
Thanks to grants from the Nakusp and Area Community Foundation, the Province of British Columbia Public Libraries Branch, and the Kootenay Library Foundation, the library was able to add a SmartScreen suitable for presentations and events to its roster of digital equipment. Ordered in December, it arrived early in January.

Let's connect again in 2023!

*Claire Paradis*  
Library Director



# Revenue

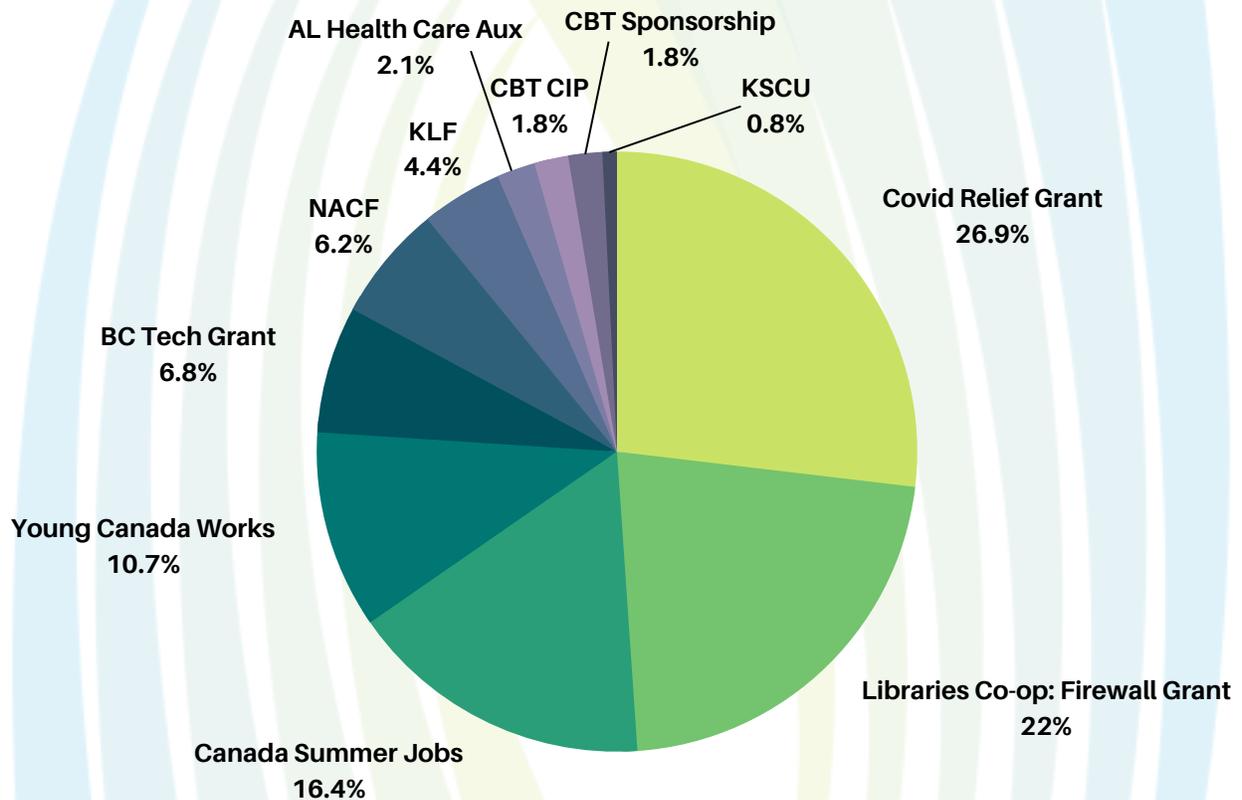


Province of B.C.  
18.9%

RDCK Area K - special taxation area  
32.3%

Village of Nakusp  
48.8%

# Revenue Grants

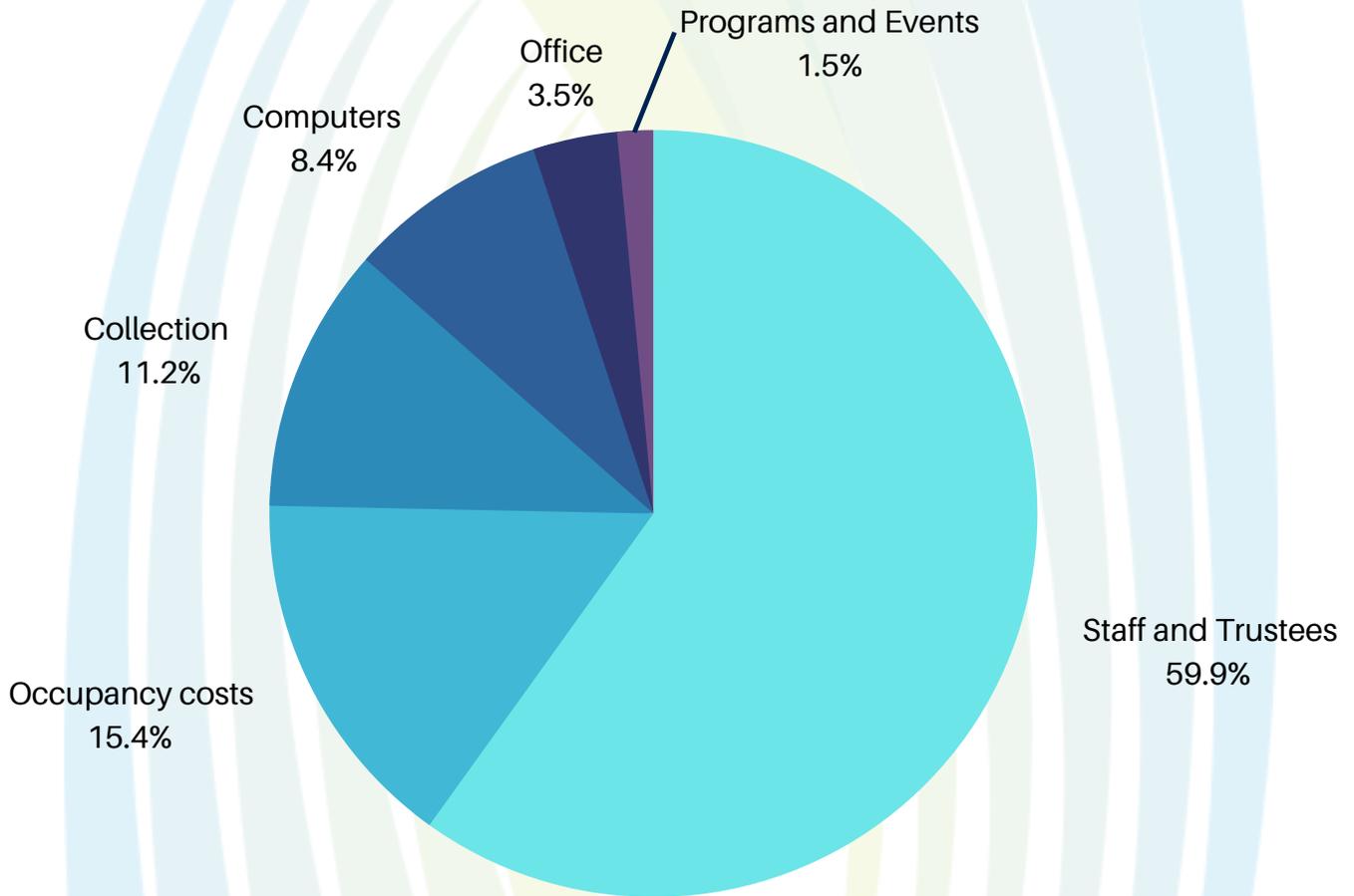


Thanks to funding from the Village of Nakusp, RDCK, and Province of BC, Nakusp Public Library continues to provide programs, events, and outstanding library services in a welcoming and vibrant public space.

Grants from a number of other funders are a significant source of revenue and provide employment, necessary equipment and supplies to the library.

Covid Relief Grant	8612
Libraries Co-op: Firew	7059
Canada Summer Jobs	5267
Young Canada Works	3420
BC Tech Grant	2190
NACF	2000
KLF	1404
AL Health Care Aux	663
CBT CIP	588
Sponsorship	585
KSCU Financial Litera	250

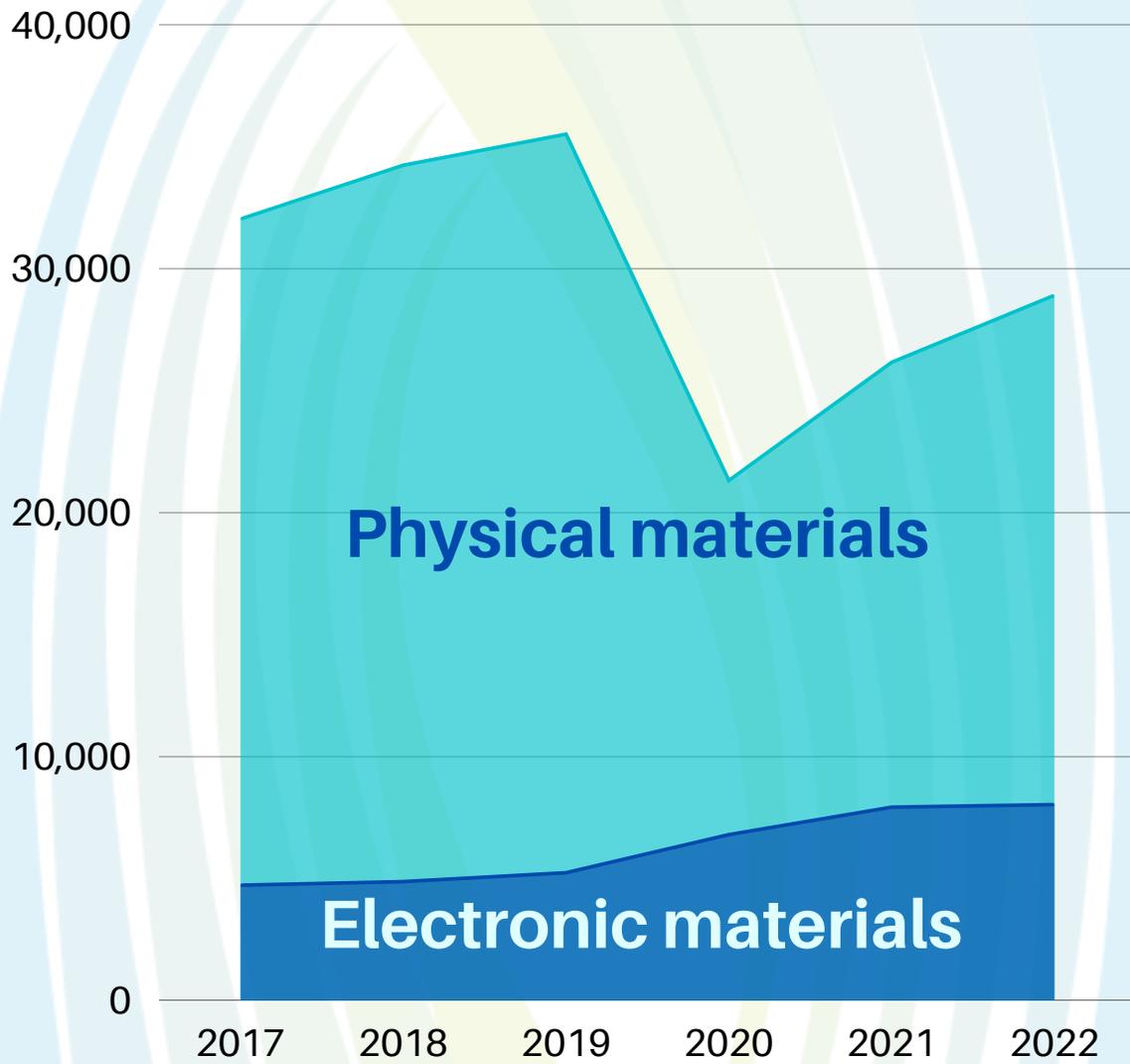
# Expenditures



The library is more than just a building with books, comfy chairs and computers. Staff, trustees, and volunteers are the people who make the Nakusp Public Library the wonderful place it is.

However, we also have books, comfy chairs and computers, as well as a plethora of fun events, interesting programs, and neat toys and tools you can check out with your library card.

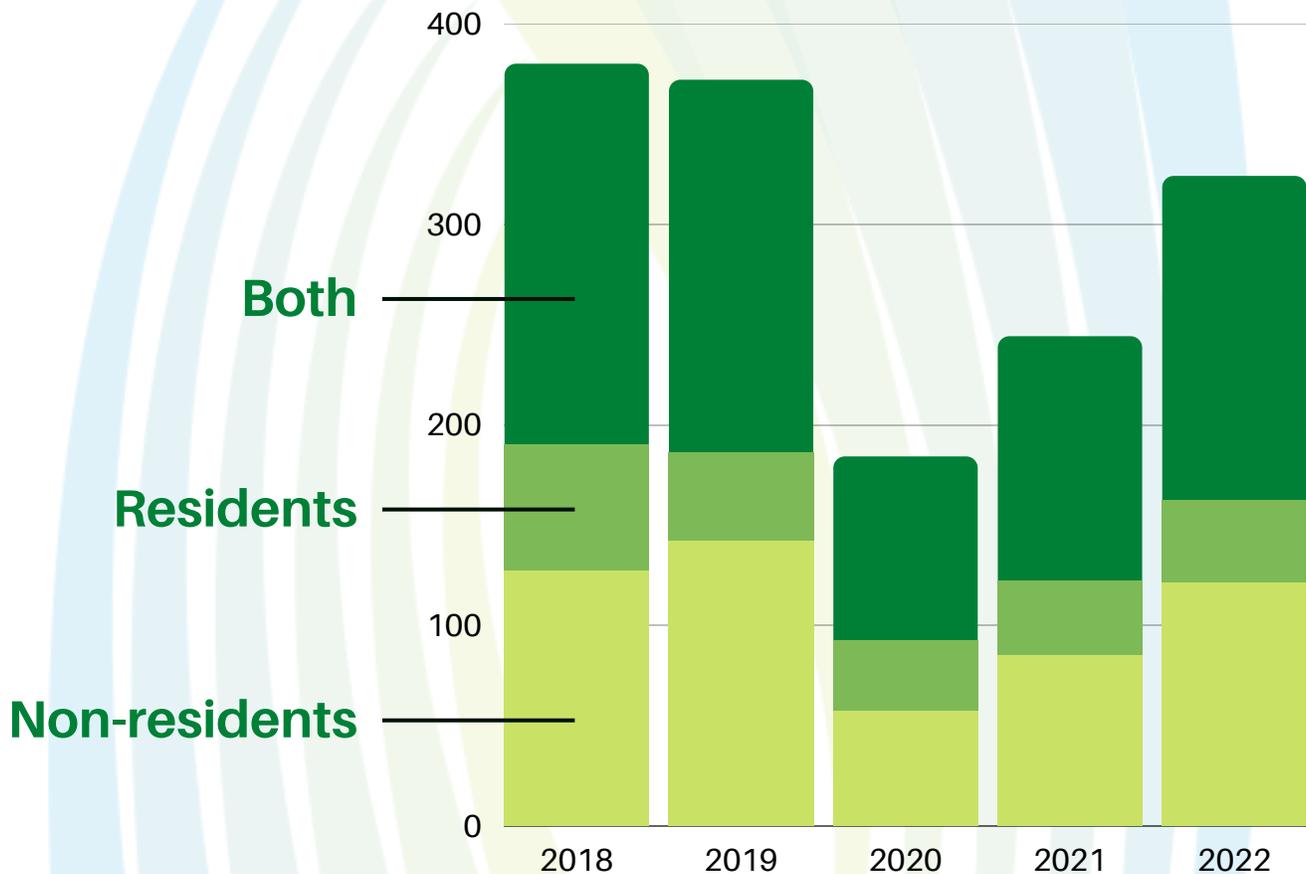
# Circulation



Circulation continues to recover post-pandemic:

	Electronic	Physical
2017	4728	27335
2018	4873	29371
2019	5238	30279
2020	6799	14520
2021	7926	18237
2022	8029	20853

# Library Membership



Membership numbers fluctuate year to year because members must renew their memberships - then we have an accurate count of the number of people using the library. Resident memberships need renewing every three years, and non-resident memberships need renewing every year. Anyone outside our taxation zone must sign up and pay for an annual membership or a temporary membership. We also have people moving in and out of the area, which affects the numbers. Many people didn't bother renewing their memberships during the pandemic.

# Events, Programs, Bookings

	Number	Attendance
Events	19	378
Programs	56	430
Bookings	62	181



**37**  
**volunteers**            **201**  
**hours**



Questions? Comments? We'd love to hear from you:

[www.nakusplibrary.ca](http://www.nakusplibrary.ca)  
[contact@nakusplibrary.ca](mailto:contact@nakusplibrary.ca)  
250-265-3363

