



TAYLOR PUBLIC LIBRARY PROVINCIAL LIBRARY GRANTS 2019 REPORT



INTRODUCTION

The District of Taylor is located at Mile 36 of the historic Alaska Highway. There are approximately 1550 residents. Within the District boundaries are several industries such as the Enbridge/NorthRiver Midstream Gas Plant, Cameron River Enterprises, Pembina, Nels Ostero Ltd (provider of gravel and sand), and the Canfor Taylor Pulp Mill. The amenities here include: the Lone Wolf Golf Club (an 18-hole golf course with an extensive walking trail around its perimeter), Hockey and Skating arena (with a 'leisure pad' for those who wish to skate while games or competitions are happening), a Curling Rink which becomes the seasonal Summer-time swimming pool, a Community Hall, the Taylor Elementary School, numerous parks, playgrounds and baseball diamonds, and of course the Taylor Public Library which is next door to the Taylor Medical Clinic. Across the Peace River we have Peace Island Park for camping and community events, and the Big Bam ski hill for winter pleasure activities.

Our community is mostly families (but not forgetting about the single peoples who also reside here). Some are transient (here for contractual or seasonal work), some are young (here for the lower cost of housing), some are residents who came for a job and stayed, while some are long-time residents or pioneers. We have apartment blocks, houses, mobile homes, and even a few senior housing placements.

Our challenges are finding enough space to hold valuable workshops and volunteers to help with programming or even to sit on the Board. The goal of a 5 (five) member library board (with alternating two-year terms for four members) is also a challenge. We emphasize that being on the Board is a great way to get to know your community, as we do community events once or twice a year.

We reviewed and revised our Strategic Plan this past year, but we worked with the 2017-2019 until the end of 2019. The 2017-2019 Strategic Plan held these goals: Focus on Equitable Access, Supports for Education Transformation, Support for BC's Skills for Jobs Blueprint & #BCTECH Strategy, and finally Shared Services and Collaboration.

PROVINCIAL PRIORITIES

PROVINCIAL PRIORITY – IMPROVING ACCESS

Library Goal that supports the priority:

Our number one library goal "Focus on Equitable Access" resembles this Provincial initiative. Library cards are available for everyone. If a visitor does not have a library card, our library consents that non-cardholders have the ability to use items in-house. This is due to the fact we are on the famous Alaska Highway which brings travellers from across the globe.

Programs and/or Services that support this priority:

Programs like: Interlibrary Loans, BC Interlibrary Connect, National Network for Equitable Library Services (NNELS), and BC OneCard service are available to anyone who holds a valid British Columbia library card.

Our library has partnerships with BC Cooperative for Libraries, North East Library Federation, and North Coast Library Federation where we share databases, resources, programming, and also consortia purchasing plans which allows our library to provide more of the above than if we were standing as a lone library. Benefits are shared to non-cardholders through our in-house use. Free Internet and Wi-Fi services are available for anyone who visits our library.

We also maintain a presence in the social media world. This is where we do a lot of promotion for programming, services, and literacy education. The other resource we have is the Taylor Times – a small local newspaper to relay what’s happening within and for our community.

There are two “Little Free Libraries” (one at the North Peace Regional Airport and one at Peace Island Park) which we help to keep stocked with books and magazines. We have been complimented by both organizations with our efforts to keep travellers contented with these free reading materials. Of course, the travellers themselves will trade in materials from somewhere else to support these “libraries”.

Partnerships that support this priority:

- North East Library Federation – Federation partner for BC ILC
- Illume – Partner for the Interlibrary Loan system
- National Network for Equitable Library Services – for print/perceptively disabled patrons
- BC Libraries Cooperative – partner for the BC ILC , shared databases, and SITKA support team
- United Library Systems – Library Collection wholesaler
- Chapters/Indigo – Library Collection retailer
- North Peace Airport Society – offering free materials to travelers, local and abroad
- Ministry of Education – funding for resource sharing, equity, and literacy
- FoodSafe – invigilation services
- United Way – program offerings and grant info which we pass along to the community
- Pimm’s IT Services –computer equipment wholesaler and IT services

Outcomes that were identified:

Over the past year, we have had several transitions from employed to unemployed around and in our community. Our patrons and jobseekers were able to come in and use our internet services for job searching, training updating, and/or resume building and printing. With the economy based around the oil and gas industry we always see this kind of cycle.

2019 saw a big increase in Internet users. Approximately 540 (five hundred forty), up from 362 (three hundred sixty-two), Internet users and approximately 297 (two hundred ninety-seven), up

from 120 (one hundred twenty), wireless users. Most of these users were job seekers, a few were gamers, and even some were travellers checking in with family back home.

We have found the Interlibrary Loan and BC Interlibrary Connect services very useful at fulfilling our patrons reading when we don't have the item they are looking for. Both services remain to be well used with approximately 222 (two hundred twenty-two) borrowed from other libraries and approximately 1378 (one thousand three hundred and seventy-eight) loaned to other libraries across BC. An increase over last year for both borrowing and lending.

The BC OneCard services is used regularly, as we are within driving distance of several other libraries, including Fort. St. John and Dawson Creek, and as we are on the Alaska Highway (a tourist attraction) we return books from across the province. Last year our library returned approximately 59 (fifty-nine) items back to their home libraries.

BC Interlibrary Connect, Interlibrary Loans, and the BC OneCard service are an expense, but having provincial grants enables libraries to keep these very important services going. Patrons are not tied to one library, but are welcome to all libraries across BC. This creates a much larger community for everyone.

PROVINCIAL PRIORITY – DEVELOPING SKILLS

Library Goal that supports the priority:

Our goal that would best suit this priority would be “Supports for Education Transformation” and even goal three would be pertinent here – “Support for BC’s Skills for Jobs Blueprint & #BCTECH Strategy”. We kept “Supports for Education Transformation” as part of our strategic plan because we felt it was still important for our community due to the up and down turns in the economy meaning cycles from employed to unemployed. As a hub, we need to be helpful to our community and be on top of aiding others in their pursuits of job skills training, upgrading, or finding their first job. The latter goal was dropped from our new Strategic Plan (2020-2022).

Programs and/or Services that support this priority:

We have staff that are able to help patrons (and non-patrons) with computer skills.

Last year we offered Financial workshops – budgeting and taxes – as both of these would be very pertinent to the economic condition of last year within and around our community.

Our library maintains the Lego Night and Board Game Afternoon programs and we expanded on this to allow board games to be checked out and Lego can be played with at any time. Our I Spy table has turned into a display case for those projects that were built with lego.

Summer Reading Club is still an active program. We are pleased that new generations are joining in, as the older crowd moves on to other types of reading.

Our partnership with NELF, allows us to offer educational (and entertaining) tours to our community and are blessed to provide this service through our partnership with the Summer Kids Kamp.

Invigilation services are available for residents furthering their skills and knowledge.

Books for Babies is still being offered and used in our community (and sometimes surrounding area).

The free Internet and wifi services are a valuable commodity for our job seekers and low income families.

Partnerships that support this priority:

- North East Library Federation – shared costs, programs, and resources
- North Coast Library Federation - shared costs, programs, and resources
- District of Taylor – Summer story time partnership, author/entertainer tours
- Kids Kamp – Summer story time partnership
- Leif the Magician – through partnership with NELF & NCLF
- Taylor Elementary School – author/entertainer tours
- BC Books 4 Babes – annual purchase of reading/music materials
- Agent Outlook Online – Partner for the Interlibrary Loan system
- BC Interlibrary Connect – Partner for the Interlibrary Connect system
- FoodSafe – invigilation services
- Ministry of Education – funding for resource sharing, equity, and literacy
- BC Libraries Cooperative – shared databases and resources
- GCF Learnfree.org – computer skills, career skills (resume writing), etc.
- MCR Accounting – Financial workshops

Outcomes that were identified:

Continuous maintenance and review of these services help us to identify where we can do better or what we need to provide more of. We find that some years we are doing more computer skills training due to the economic environment. Financial workshops fall into this same atmosphere. Our two financial workshops in 2019 had a total of 14 (fourteen) attendees (one had 5, the other had 9). This is great considering the size of our very small space in which to provide the workshop.

Lego Night and Board Game Afternoon numbers fluctuated from zero to 5 for each event. The total attendees for both of these events over the course of the year was approximately 17 (seventeen). More for Board Games than for Lego, perhaps because Lego was an evening event. There were two board games checked out during 2019. We are now cataloguing board games.

Summer Reading Club had 18 (eighteen) participants this year. A slight increase over last year's number of 15 (fifteen). It is exciting when we see new names on the list.

NELF and NCLF continue to be valuable partners. In 2019, Leif the Magician was the main attraction. He travelled through many communities across the Province. One such stop was our

local Summer Kids Kamp which hosts approximately 30 (thirty) kids ranging in age from 8 to 13. Leif showed and taught his magic to the kids and adults (about four) during his visit in our community. Our library received very positive reviews from the Kamp leaders. This entertainer is something we can put on our list as a callback in the future. Kids learn more when learning is fun!

Our invigilation services are free – we feel with our community’s economic trends this is one way we can support the financial situation of our residents. In 2019, our staff invigilated two tests - one was for Foodsafe while the other was for a completion exam in Social Working.

PROVINCIAL PRIORITY – COLLABORATING ON SHARED GOALS

Library Goal that supports the priority:

Within our Strategic Plan, goal number four “Shared Services and Collaboration” best suits the Provincial priority of “*Collaborating on Shared Goals*”.

Programs and/or Services that support this priority:

We have developed and maintained many partnerships including BC Interlibrary Connect, Interlibrary Loans, National Network for Equitable Library Services (NNELS), BC Cooperative for Libraries, BC OneCard Initiative/Program, consortia partnerships with NELF and NCLF, BC Books for Babies, and local partnerships that include the District of Taylor, Taylor Elementary School, Summer Kids Kamp, and Kid Zone.

In most cases partnering with these different organizations is a cost and resource sharing initiative, while others are about providing more services and expanding resources for our community and patrons.

Partnerships that support this priority:

- BC Libraries Cooperative – database and resource provider and SITKA support team
- LibPress – website development and provider
- North East Library Federation – shared costs, programs, and resources
- North Coast Library Federation - shared costs, programs, and resources
- INTERLINK - shared costs, programs, and resources
- Kids Kamp – Summer story time partnership
- Taylor Elementary School – author/entertainer tours
- Leif the Magician – shared tour with NCLF & NELF
- BC Books 4 Babes – annual purchase of reading/music materials
- Community Services/District of Taylor – space for annual Bingo

- United Way – updates, program offerings, and grant info which we pass along to the community
- National Network for Equitable Library Services – for print/perceptively disabled patrons
- United Library Systems – Library Collection wholesaler
- Chapters/Indigo/Coles – Library Collection retailer
- North Peace Airport Society – offering free materials to travelers, local and abroad
- Peace Island Park – “Little Free Library”
- ILLUME – Partner for the Interlibrary Loan system
- BC Interlibrary Connect – Partner for the Interlibrary Connect system
- BC OneCard – free material returns to home libraries
- FoodSafe – we provide invigilation services

Outcomes that were identified:

Annually the Library hosts the Community Bingo night. In 2019 our theme was similar to the year before where we had new books and the prizes were themed to the book and HIDDEN inside a library bag – attendees had to choose based on the book instead of the prizes. The attendance at the 2019 bingo was around 51 (fifty-one). Almost double of 2018's number of 27 (twenty-seven).

Leif the Magician was the scheduled summer tour created by the North East Library Federation and the North Coast Library Federation. It is through this partnership that costs were shared for many libraries across Northern BC. As mentioned before approximately 30 (thirty) kids ranging in age from 8 to 13 enjoyed his talents and training.

Sharing resources with other libraries creates an almost never ending supply of resources for our own community. We have access to most libraries, which includes the college and university libraries, with which to provide materials to this Northern community. Interlibrary Loans and BC Interlibrary Connect have been a valuable set of programs for us. We saw almost 240 (two hundred forty) interlibrary loans come into our library for our patrons. Up from 2018's 161 (one hundred sixty-one). Shipping out to other libraries was a bit lower than 2018. Going out in 2019 was 1327 (one thousand three hundred twenty-seven) whereas in 2018 the number was around 1341 (one thousand three hundred forty-one). Only a slight decrease.

We continue to restock the “Little Free Libraries” at the Peace Island Park and North Peace Regional Airport when the need arises. More so the airport as the trade in and out is more difficult for those travellers.

PROVINCIAL PRIORITY – ENHANCING GOVERNANCE

Library Goal that supports the priority:

We don't have a strategic goal that fits into this category, but our new one (2020-2022) does. Even so we have followed a governance and transparency approach from the humble beginnings of this library.

Programs and/or Services that support this priority:

The Library Board is presented each month with a report showing statistics and budget changes and a comparison of statistics to the previous year. We also do an annual statistic comparison to as far back to when the library was first opened.

YEAR	ESY - Boardbks	Juvenile JHC/JPB	Young Adult YHC/YPB	Ad/FIC/PBK/LP/Dwmt	NON-fiction	Periodicals Magazines	Taking Books/Kits	CD/Audiobooks	DVD	Read IN/HOUSE	ILL To Our Patrons	ILL To Other Libraries	Overdue Fines	Photocopies	Printing	Faxes	Sales: Bookbuss- Pens, Pencils	Book Sale	Donations	EL Station	Internet Users	Leapfrog Tablets	Wireless Users	New Members	Pat
2007	313	172	45	319	179	6	0	0	0	244	0		34.07	0	6.34	0	71	646.1	18.71		152			185	
2008	1079	602	46	1364	599	49	9	13	13	695	137		148.48	1.30	69.50	37.50	45.70	108.36	40.08		423			141	
2009	727	577	123	1424	407	39	1	24	18	301	234		229.22	1.50	83.77	180.67	27.98	353.34	72.70		887			107	
2010	1011	797	307	1671	453	113	5	19	42	220	191	93	79.00	9.75	44.05	87.75	10.00	303.70	68.12	0	605			73	
2011	812	844	268	1881	439	134	4	25	88	152	232	163	59.95	17.50	34.00	46.97	31.00	129.56	65.04	248	514			42	
2012	996	648	327	2247	463	109	7	36	60	140	219	659	71.25	4.00	57.55	46.55	135.00	226.68	65.26	199	597		20	30	
2013	1167	552	410	2413	451	108	2	22	91	154	278	800	210.67	3.00	82.75	52.00	0.00	119.60	1207.04	177	283		57	50	
2014	958	616	456	1724	363	81	2	23	83	358	220	886	104.70	23.25	177.25	70.50	60.00	121.20	8537.07	240	420		76	42	
2015	762	705	346	1465	347	36	6	85	91	222	201	872	128.00	46.00	160.00	16.00	5.00	188.90	2977.86	181	365		35	45	
2016	972	506	237	1252	271	10		10	124	173	192	1032	23.00	22.25	125.15	65.00	5.00	151.20	33.75	135	506		127	34	
2017	709	383	212	1118	247	9	1	24	98	60	182	1207	142.29	20.75	140.60	46.20		188.65	361.05	225	469		114	16	
2018	795	408	155	1055	264	12		52	177	60	161	1341	93.83	6.25	127.00	89.00		70.00	610.36	188	362	100	120	33	
2019	863	473	239	1106	210	20	1	33	219	53	239	1327	105.69	4.50	113.25	33.00		16.35	9927.90	139	540	76	297	29	
Tot	11164	7283	3171	19039	4693	726	38	366	1104	2832	2486	8380	1430	160	1221	771	391	2624	23985	1732	6123	176	846	827	
Was not a "Lending Library"											Total:			30581.84						No ELS station					

	Patrons Per Hour										Total Monthly Visits
	9:00 to 10:00	10:00 to 11:00	11:00 to 12:00	12:00 to 1:00	1:00 to 2:00	2:00 to 3:00	3:00 to 4:00	4:00 to 5:00	5:00 to 6:00	6:00 to 7:00	7:00 to 8:00
2007	19	43	51	80	80	223	155	34	33	20	738
2008	76	92	182	189	218	738	381	181	182	105	2344
2009	91	117	332	264	340	943	567	212	188	119	3173
2010	82	114	232	241	357	703	418	181	184	113	2625
2011	63	113	277	222	296	589	308	141	168	109	2286
2012	50	98	240	342	296	558	377	150	123	100	2334
2013	75	243	191	175	177	224	424	303	120	101	2098
2014	99	255	255	266	191	231	436	351	101	91	2362
2015	49	285	281	173	189	229	426	250	75	78	2073
2016	57	330	166	201	158	205	389	284	172	134	2096
2017	99	296	176	169	160	191	398	274	202	127	2092
2018	62	146	109	163	318	182	348	240	158	106	1832
2019	54	298	144	176	164	161	436	300	265	157	2155
	495	2234	1899	2637	2695	3010	6611	4208	1992	1672	755
	Total:										28208
	New Hours Began										Hours changed Feb 1 2016

A monthly statistical report and cash out report are sent to the District of Taylor's financial office. This reporting is predominantly used for the cash transactions that occurred over the course of each month, but having the entire month shows the activity within the library.

Annually the Library Director reviews and updates a "year-in-review" report for the District of Taylor to be put into the District's own annually presented budget/year-in-review report to the community. Our report generally lets the community know what is available at the library. The District's entire report is based on transparency reporting.

The Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) is done annually and submitted to the Province for review. A copy stays on hand with the District of Taylor Financial Department and the Library for our own record keeping.

This grant report is also done on an annual basis to outline how our library best uses the grant monies from the Provincial government. A copy of which is submitted to the District of Taylor for their records.

A further annual statistics report is done online for the Libraries and Literacy Branch of the Provincial Government. Once again a copy of this report is submitted to the District of Taylor's financial department for their records and a copy is kept within the Library's own records.

Surveys are done every time we have a workshop or have an event that needs reporting. This is our best way of knowing if this library needs to change programs or add services. What our patrons read, watch, or listen to is also done through surveys. Our community is our best barometer of how we are doing as an entertaining, informational, and educational hub.

Partnerships that support this priority:

- District of Taylor – Budgeting, SOFI
- Taylor Public Library Board – Annual SOFI, Annual Policy Reviews
- District of Taylor Mayor and Council – appointments to Library Board with one council person as a representative on the Library Board
- Taylor Public Library Staff – monthly statistics reporting to Library Board and District of Taylor, annual BC Statistics reporting, annual Grant Letter report to Libraries and Literacy
- Libraries & Literacy, Province of BC – SOFI, annual statistics report, annual Grant Report
- Ministry of Education – Grant programs
- Peace River Regional District – Operating Grant program

Outcomes that were identified:

Reporting annually and monthly show impact and activity at our library. It also keeps to the model of transparency.

Our library has kept the statistics ongoing as it shows our pace, what changed when, and if we have bought new equipment (such as the Early Literacy Stations), how it may have affected our patrons. Reporting and statistics keep an honest record of “how we are doing” to benefit our community.

OPTIONAL SECTION: LIBRARIES IN ACTION – SUCCESS STORIES FROM BC'S PUBLIC LIBRARIES

We are very fortunate to have a grants writer who is working for our community. Andy Ackerman has been a member of the Fort St. John Library Board in different capacities for many years (stepped away after eight years on board) and he was there when the Peace Region Association for Libraries became the North East Library Federation in 2007. He also has the capacity to train new trustees, as well as guide boards through strategic planning sessions. Mr. Ackerman is fully supportive of libraries and their needs and is sometimes the driving force behind pushing libraries forward and into the spotlight. Ergo, a wonderful grant writer with the wants of a library within his sights.

When this library put forward a grant request for some new laptops, he didn't stop there. He asked, "What else do you need?" Well, this Library Director had to put her thinking cap on and see what else our little library needed. The list became longer..... "We could use newer and faster desktops for our internet users and how about a new projector (since ours went missing) and screen?" You see our so-called screen was white plastic tablecloth covering a large piece of cardboard. Mobile for sure, but not very professional. It was bad enough that our presenters always had to supply their own projector!

Well, the calls for grant monies went out! Andy worked quickly. Everyday saw more requests going out to a total of 19 (nineteen). Of course, we didn't hear from some (six), and some were declined (five), some still undecided (two), but there were some companies who did answer our call: Fort St. John Co-operative Association, North Peace Savings and Credit Union, Pembina, Canfor, Shell, and Peace Hydro Partners. We asked for \$5000.00 – we received \$17,000.00.

Our little library is now equipped with:

6 Lenova laptops: each has: laptop bag w/shoulder strap, surge protector, and one wireless and one corded mouse (in case batteries are an issue)

3 new higher speed desktops with graphic cards for our Internet users (as the old ones were too slow / out of date)

1 new OPAC computer (as our other one 'blue-screened')

1 new office computer (the one we had was nearing its end of life)

1 new Epson projector

1 new Logitech presentation remote/clicker/pointer

1 new Epson PORTABLE screen (can be set on a shelf or on a table – we have space constraints)

1 new Cocar dual-ratio screen (we are hoping to host some outdoor movie nights/presentations)

1 new media cart (instead of using available furniture to set presenter's laptop/notes on)

We are extremely grateful to the companies that have provided this funding! Without them, we would be farther behind in buying this equipment.

Overall, we spent \$16, 492.12. Remember, we only asked for \$5000.00.

SUMMARY

We do attempt workshops, even though our space is small. Even if we gather five people, it is still a welcome benefit.

Funding, grants, and partnerships provide a lot and could be deemed as critical for our small library as we could not have supplied equipment, valuable resources and databases or programs in the past without the extra monies. Over the years, since 2007, we have gained two Early Literacy Stations, many new and faster desktop replacements for the Internet users, a projector, two different projector screens (instead of our home-made one of plastic table-cloth over cardboard), twelve laptops (six used/revived and six brand new for 2019 to replace the now defunct used/revived), a media cart, two printers, a supply of board books for new parents, and other computer attachments (mice, etc). All of the above from generous grants from community-minded companies who “live” within our community. But without operating grants, literacy grants, and resource grants, we would not be open today. Everything works in tandem to support our community.

Reporting methods inspire honesty and give us a basis on which knowledgeable business decisions are made - decisions that impact our community.

Whether it is local or across BC. As a network of libraries, we are all part of a much bigger community. Our community matters to us. We are here to provide services and programs to help entertain, educate, and bolster our community. A healthy community is a growing community.