

GRANISLE PUBLIC LIBRARY



Provincial Library Grant Report 2020

Granisle Public Library

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INTRODUCTION

The Granisle Public Library serves the small rural, remote community of Granisle and the surrounding area Regional District area. Located in British Columbia's Northern Interior, Granisle is nestled on the shores of Babine Lake the longest natural lake (177km) in British Columbia and home to one of the largest sockeye salmon runs in the world. Isolated by a paved 49 km drive up Highway 118 from Hwy 16 at Topley, our nearest neighboring communities are Houston (88km) to the west and Burns Lake (98km) to the east. Community members must access necessary services such as medical, dental, groceries, entertainment and shopping outside of the Granisle community by commuting to neighboring towns.

Granisle began as a mine-owned community in 1966 and incorporated as a Village in 1971. Rich with resources there were two operating copper mines in the area from 1966 until the last mine closed in 1992. At its peak as mining-town it saw populations of 2000+ residents with all the necessary services to sustain the local population. Decades later, the town now successfully promotes itself as a retirement community, and seasonal tourist destination located in some of the most pristine conditions nature has to offer, an outdoorsman's dream.

Currently the Lakeside Village of Granisle has a population of 350 residents with a demographic of 67% retired seniors. The Granisle Public Library service area encompasses an additional 350 people living along Hwy 118 within 12km of our Village, Topley Landing, and Tachet Reserve. Available community services within the municipality are slowly growing to address the issues of seniors aging in place and find community groups working together closely to meet and overcome socio-economic barriers that can be a detriment to this initiative.

This report will address the needs of Granisle and how our library plays a vital role as a hub within our community by providing a wide range of services that meet the needs of all of our residents, young and old.

Our local economy relies heavily on tourism with extraordinarily little in the way of a community industrial tax base. The local school teaches K-12 educating approximately 36 students each year, a gas station which provides limited convenience items, a medical clinic with limited services, a small tele-pharmacy with limited supplies, ambulance services, community paramedic, and an unmanned RCMP station which Houston RCMP uses in policing our community.

Granisle is an age friendly community, with the inclusion of a Better at Home program, an important asset in our community with our current demographic. Providing help at home for seniors so that they may remain a vital part of our community, the program successfully applied for a grant through Transit BC in partnership with the Village of Granisle to aid in regular senior transportation. A small bus now offers weekly trips outside the community to our neighboring towns for residents to access services such as medical appointments and groceries. In partnership with grocery stores in Burns Lake and Houston during the pandemic, the van picks up prepaid grocery orders to protect our most vulnerable allowing them to stay safely at home. We also have a community church, post office, municipal office, tourist information, Granisle Public library, an unused arena (used to store boats/rvs in winter), community hall, senior's hall, marina, and a small restaurant.

The community supports local clubs such as an active senior's center, Lions Club, Volunteer Fire Department, and local dart and curling clubs.

Granisle Public Library

For the visiting tourist there are several locations offering RV sites and cabins with breathtaking views. area The Dept. Fisheries and Oceans operates the Fulton River Spawning Channels located 9km from our community. The channels were constructed to produce additional sockeye fry that can take advantage of the rearing potential of Babine Lake. The original spawning channel (Channel 1) was built in 1965 and a second channel (Channel 2, which at five kilometers long, one of the largest in the world), was built in 1971. This is an important facility in the local community, drawing tourists and often used by schools from neighboring communities as well as the public for nature walks and educational purposes. This resource receives more than 2000 visitors annually.

The Granisle Public Library was incorporated in 1974, a result of many volunteer hours, donations, and provincial grants. With its humble beginnings in a trailer and relying greatly on the 1,000-book travelling library, we have grown to our shared building space with the Municipal Office, and a collection of over 13,000 items, computerization, and province-wide services. The Granisle Public Library is one of only a few places in our community where we can offer and promote relevant programming locally that meet the needs of the community and our patrons. Our central location in the Village Square close to the municipal office, post office and restaurant brings many to our doors out of curiosity, but they continue to return for the services and programming.

2020 saw the world shift with the Pandemic's arrival in Canada. Libraries across the province closed their doors and encouraged patrons to access digital media and later offered patrons curbside pickup until they could safely open their doors again. Granisle was not spared from the shift in fact with a community predominately seniors we had to be overly cautious. Attempting to promote online activities such as Lego contests and virtual programs/events of interest were promoted on our newly made Facebook page with some results. It became quickly apparent that virtual and digital programming was another hidden barrier for our community with a large demographic of seniors and low-income families. The library's offers of preloading e-Readers with favorite authors and dropping off at patrons' doors was greeted with the equivalent of delivering something abhorrent. Some of our braver patrons tried but were grateful when we quickly reopened our doors with safety protocols in place for in library book browsing. Our patrons enjoy our library and all its many available services and programming.

The circumstances of the pandemic highlighted a need to address the "digital illiteracy within our community" caused by socio-economic barriers. The Provincial Government's Technology Grant couldn't have come at a more auspicious time. As we are fortunate enough that our municipality upgrades and maintains internet/WiFi services we were able to purchase devices to overcome digital fears and barriers for our patrons. With a focus on those with mobility, isolation, and digital illiteracy to start we have accumulated enough devices to start with one-on-one aid that will grow to group workshops once gathering restrictions ease. As library in-person programming was cancelled throughout 2020 and now with limited public access to computer stations, limited hours, limited staff...digital access programs will be put on hold. Although in person one on one help continued to be used more frequently and the free WIFI service is used predominately outdoors by visitors in our green space and parking lot.

Burns Lake Public Library invited us to participate in their seed library by donating a few bags from their spring seed library this allowed us to start our own seed library. It was so well received it had residents donating excess seedlings of their own to the program for other gardeners and with the purchase of some new gardening and seed books. This will certainly become a new annual program which will be collaborated with our local Green Thumbs Group. The library also participates in the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program...assisting low-income patrons/residents with free income tax filling. 2020 we provided this during a closed weekend with one-on-one service with enhanced sanitizing between clients for patron safety.

2021 will see our small municipality turning 50. In celebration of this and to honor our past and those who came before, our library is tackling adding community history to our website and sharing photos and news articles This addition will go live later in 2021.

Strategic Plan:

At the Granisle Public Library our vision is to promote and maintain an active presence in our community, reducing socio-barriers, encourage literacy and creativity and promote a lifelong love of learning.

It is our mission to encompass all individuals seeking knowledge, promote and entice community engagement and encourage usage of local resources and skills, and to celebrate and promote local culture and heritage.

1. Improving Access

The Granisle Public Library strongly feels that to stay current and relevant it is important to foster connections both within the community and with other libraries throughout the province. As such, we expand the materials beyond our library walls by participating in the Inter Library Loan, Inter Library Connect, and BC One Card Programs offered in British Columbia. The strain that the pandemic has placed on digital collections has us rethinking budget allocations in 2021 to purchase an Advantage Overdrive collection to be part of the solution as patrons continue to borrow heavily from digital resources.

By participating in these programs, we provide efficient delivery and/or return of items requested by our patrons while assisting provincially by lending to other libraries. We strive to educate our patrons on the connectivity of libraries throughout the province both physically and most especially digitally. Helping our patrons with their digital devices has added residents ordering books through the interlibrary connect service as well as downloading digital and audio books.

By fostering relationships with other libraries and community organizations we stay relevant in our communities and quickly address gaps in our service and find solutions to make us stronger offering a cohesive service for patrons.

The Granisle Public Library has had patrons who heard about the community paramedic doing his home visiting occasionally with our virtual reality glasses, opening a door to a local service that was desperately needed by a patron. A partnership with the Better at Home friendly visitors often has them dropping off and renewing books for clients. The Granisle library is hoping once restrictions lift and in person visiting services resume that this service could include the digital readers.

Working within our Municipality to address digital literacy, fostered the "Cornerstones" program that was scheduled to start last fall but has since been postponed until later in the summer of 2021. This Program will allow individuals to learn about accessing the internet, creating social media accounts, how to access digital audiobooks and e-books, online banking as well as introducing various technologies and relevant virtual guest speakers.

In recognition of all who have come before to make Granisle what it is today we started a Digital History Project. In celebration of Granisle turning 50 in 2021 the link will become active on our webpage in the summer of 2021. Sharing photos and news articles of our community from our humble beginnings this will be a link that will see a lot of interest both locally and with those that once lived here.

2. Developing Skills

We continue to encourage the young minds of our community through our summer reading program, by gifting books to each student at their year-end ceremonies. In 2020 while unable to attend ceremonies due to Covid-19 restrictions, teachers made the presentations, promoting our summer reading club during this time and new online access options. In 2020 our Summer Reading Program enrolled 17 young readers who visited the library individually to report reading 225 books. With the realization that reading fosters imagination parents are enjoying sharing this time with their children. We have promoted online resources for Storytime, Tumble books, etc. but are not yet offering online programming of our own. While no in person programming was offered in conjunction with our summer reading program, we urged participants to partake of the online resources and programs being offered through the BC Summer Reading Club website.

The Dolly Parton's Imagination Library putting free books each month into the hands of children under the age of 5 continues to be a program that is appreciated by our young readers.

Our Lego Club encourages the minds of our young patrons as well as promotes literacy as they read the how-to instructions to build their next amazing project. In 2020 children were invited to participate in online contests and submit their entries virtually. Children love dropping by after school and spending a little time at an available computer access station or using the new children's tablets that are preloaded with fun educational programming.

Granisle Public Library introduced new tech devices to seniors who are wary of such things...we thought to start with something fun and interactive and chose an Alexa Echo. One-on-one demos showed how it can assist with telling you the weather to turning on a lamp or coffee pot with the smart bulbs and plugs, even reading an audio book to you. Devices such as this can be an asset to those with mobility issues and such. During the Christmas holidays we offered patrons access to virtually call loved ones to share family moments privately by appointment with our Alexa device or iPads. A purchase of a 3D printer and a partnership with our Community Paramedic saw mask straps and door hooks being printed to give away to patrons during the pandemic. GPL looks forward to the local students visiting with their classes to learn more about the amazing technology of 3D printing. A fun new addition to our library...we purchased Virtual Reality glasses and through a collaboration with our Community Paramedic managed to get them in the hands of some of our most vulnerable seniors and shut-ins this winter, giving them a chance to escape for a short while and kayak with whales or Wander with friends and visit cities around the world. We have added Tai Chi for exercise and are excited to take requests for additional programming to consider. The addition of Amazon Fire Tablets which are preloaded with Kindle Unlimited children's programming offer books, videos, and education games for young enquiring minds. It did not take long for these tablets to quickly become the most popular item in our library with young readers.

The Granisle Public Library is a hub in our community providing library services, educational programs, and workshops, as well as entertainment. At the onset of "Stay at Home" Provincial Orders this spring all the Granisle library part time and casual on call staff retired we have since hired new part time and casual employees and are engaged in actively training. The Library Director continues to take online courses and workshops to better serve our patrons.



3/4. Collaborating on Shared Goals / Enhancing Governance

Libraries across the province support the strategic work of governments as governments support the work of libraries by aligning our key strategies. From a municipal community level to a provincial, nothing is truer than the simple words “we are stronger together”. The Granisle Public Library presents relevant programming within the community for locals and visitors addressing the needs of patrons and pivoting as necessary to improve access, build capacity while advancing citizen engagement. In doing so we work with other libraries, the Province, the North Central Library Federation, Court House Libraries, municipality, regional district and various groups and individuals within our community. These collaborations are vital allowing the patrons of British Columbia to receive the best we have to offer in service and programming.

That being said...2020 was a year like no other; in-person programs were cancelled...libraries across the province closed their doors to the pandemic and with that their patrons. We were forced to pivot and provide basic services and deliver programming in an alternate method in an effort of keeping our patrons safe. Socio-economic barriers made online delivery in our community difficult, so we pivoted with offering by appointment services during closed hours with enhanced cleaning or dropping books off on patrons doors at a specified time. Working with our local health center the Granisle Public Library reopened our doors quickly for in person browsing. Many of our local seniors prefer not to use digital methods, they don't have home internet access, data plans or satellite/cable television and it quickly became apparent that mental health needed to be a priority. Our community paramedic stepped up to help with printing Covid items for patrons, such as mask straps and door hooks; as well as delivering a Virtual Reality experience to his clients who were shut-ins with our Virtual Reality glasses. The municipality offered free use of the community hall to offer digital education in a large space for a small group (postponed with current restrictions). The local school stepped in and donated 3 new laptops to the digital program. Granisle has learned through years of hardships that we are stronger together, and make every effort to work as a cohesive group towards the benefit of all our residents. The library programs would not be possible if not for the grants and support we receive from the Province, Village of Granisle Municipality and our Regional District. As well as the dedication to fundraising and volunteer hours by Board Members, Staff, and local groups.

Granisle Public Library offers Wi-Fi access thanks to our Municipal provider and free public access computers. This service continues to be well used by locals even with limited stations available and free 24/7 WiFi makes us a hub for visitors. Our computers are kept up to date thanks to funding from the Regional District, Local Fundraising, and our amazing IT person.

The North Central Library Federation continues to play a large part in our success. In addition to mentoring workshops for new directors, 2020 saw the North Central Library Federation subsidizing professional develop for staff. Working with the North Central Library Federation offers us access to data base programs through consortium pricing that are needed and used but would not be possible to squeeze into our budget. Our residents enjoy accessing the Ancestry Program and during the pandemic this service was also made available for home use, Gale courses, and others. It is through the NCLF that we also offer “Books for Babies” putting books into hands of mothers with new babies. The purchasing of a “Digital Advantage Collection” to ease long waits for digital media in the north during the pandemic allowed access digital media for patrons without the 6 month wait on some new releases encouraging many patrons to learn to access eBooks, digital magazines and audiobooks.



Technology Grant – Final Report

The Granisle Public Library is grateful to the Province for the one-time Technology grant. We are fortunate enough to have our internet provided/maintained by our Municipality, so we were able to invest in technology items to educate, assist and foster the love of learning with new tech devices.

We were able to purchase devices that will aid us in teaching an aging population that not all tech need be overwhelming and frightening. Devices were purchased for patrons to borrow as well as devices for in library use and programs. Funding has now been spent in its entirety. The Granisle Public Library is working on local collaborations to get the devices into the hands of patrons that are shut-ins and those who cannot come to us. Many of our patrons have already had the benefit of one-on-one training with some of our new tech devices and have moved on to purchase their own or borrow our equipment with their library cards. Other patrons continue to book appointments to come by and use our new devices or to get continued training. Loanable devices such as the new Kobo e-readers can be preloaded with books for patrons needing a bit of assistance in how to use these devices and the more digital patron can easily do it themselves from home.

Many of our young patrons run over after school to use our tablets, and computers. Preschoolers regularly come by to play with the preloaded children's tablets learning problem solving, numbers, and their alphabet. The local Community Paramedic took our Virtual Reality Glasses with him during some of his home visits this winter. Providing a positive experience that had many of our seniors excitedly talking about their experience and the program with their family and staff at their medical appointments.

The new sound station we have in our study corner allows patrons to sit and listen with headphones to an audiobook, language discs or even music of their choice. Our new 3D printer offered patrons the opportunity to watch us printing mask straps and door hooks for patron giveaways. The school is hoping to bring classes by once restrictions ease to learn more about this wonderful technology. Community interest has even been getting us patron requests for printing items.

Our new projector purchased for webinars and meetings will be doing double duty with our drive-in gaming program scheduled to start in the back parking lot in the spring of 2021, and the addition of Alexa on our counter with smart bulbs and plugins is a joy for all our patrons from the younger ones asking for a joke to the older ones asking about the weather or a question.

Our goal is to open minds and alleviate fears of technology-gearred items in patrons, opening new worlds and encouraging a lifelong love of learning. The addition of iPads with keyboard cases adds to the safety of our patrons by being portable and easily sanitized. The Provincial Technology Grant has opened many doors for our community and our patrons, and we look forward to the end of the Pandemic when we can build on the opportunities these devices provide.

Of note, The Technology Grant has been the springboard for the Library's "Cornerstones" project. The result of the pandemic shining a spotlight on our senior population with their inability to access online services. We find ourselves increasingly helping clients who have never turned on a digital device, and by the time they come to us are overwhelmed and frustrated. Local coordinators and directors throughout the community find themselves increasingly helping clients access government websites and such from the side of their desks. This program will provide peer mentoring as well as help our clients navigate the digital world, and hopefully remove another barrier. A collaboration with the Municipality (donated space), Better at Homes, Community Paramedic Program and the local school who donated 3 new laptops to the project. "Cornerstones" will offer digital, online and tech education and include guest speakers via zoom covering a variety of topics relevant to our patronage. Offered one day a week to start with 3 sittings to allow distancing and the last sitting to be for a youth after-school program offering homework help and e-gaming.

Local senior program providers such as Better at Home, and Lifeline will also provide workshops and talk about their programs.

While the project is put on hold with the current pandemic restrictions, we are looking forward to getting started once restrictions ease. Keeping in mind that libraries are the “cornerstones” of healthy vibrant communities which provide opportunities for people to acquire the knowledge and skills to reach their full potential and thus participate in a strong sustainable economy.

Covid-19 and Public Libraries

Last year “2020” was a year like no other with libraries closing their doors to protect patrons and staff. The suspension of interlibrary loans caused an additional stress on the already heavily used digital collections as patrons were asked to access digital collections until curbside services were put in place. The Pandemic saw staffing issues arising with senior staff retiring, and vulnerable staff members making tough choices. Library programs were cancelled or postponed, and Volunteers followed the Provincial Stay at Home request.

During this tumultuous year, the ones most affected were also our most vulnerable. Socio-economic barriers, seniors, homeless and low-income families that can't afford digital devices or high monthly internet access fees that rely on our libraries? Seniors asked to use digital collections while library doors were closed but who approach technology with fear and trepidation? With government programs such as CERB or the BC Recovery Benefit more easily accessed online than through a long frustrating wait on a computerized 1-800 number. Now more than ever libraries are Needed.

Granisle, as a retirement community, has a high senior population (67%), as well as a large low-income base. Our community has little in the way of employment with limited services in the community. How do you raise their ceiling?

The Granisle Public Library worked with our local clinic to safely open our doors as quickly as possible, limiting the number of people in our space and sanitizing heavily. Patrons gratefully loaded up on books, even individuals from other communities came.. We pushed our digital readers as much as possible a difficult transition for many seniors. Covid-19 shone a bright spotlight on our most vulnerable...not just for their vulnerability to the virus but their inability to function in a digital world. The Granisle Public Library acknowledged there was a problem and quickly realized we must do more...electronically and digitally.

With many libraries throughout the province pivoting to offer online programming through their social media accounts. We created our Facebook Page, advertised a few Lego Contests, and began building a following. History pictures of the Community were quite popular bringing responses from across the country as we work on our Digital History Project. There is not enough of a following to spend the time required for programming but sharing other library programs and events of interest to our patrons was something we were able to do.

The Technology Grant played a large part in our “limited” programming in 2020. We started simply by placing an Alexa device on our counter, with comments, such as, “I’d never have one” or “they can listen to me” quickly turning to “Alexa, what’s the weather this weekend”, and “Alexa play oldies music”. Learning that Alexa could make calls by voice command through their contacts was a game changer for some seniors living alone.

With most community groups suspending in-home services in 2020 we did one-on-one teaching and tech help. iPads and tablets for in library use, easily sanitized and Chromebooks were donated from our local school, A few of our collaborators were able to get devices into patron’s hands for a limited time and patrons continue to bring us their devices for help and to learn how to do more with them. The library printed bookmarks on how to set up Overdrive and Libby and include with books going out the door...nudging patrons to make that transition. While

Granisle Public Library

we have purchased and Advantage Overdrive collection to be part of a solution for a heavily used digital media system. We look forward to the time when we can once again safely gather. Anxiously wait for a time to safely start our "Cornerstones" net/tech/talk program which is already full for 1 group sitting before advertising.

Summary

Small communities often find their resources stretched thin, volunteers serve in several groups, limited venues to hold events and associated costs of programming... and now we have a pandemic asking people to stay home. In small communities, libraries are hubs, offering education, entertainment, internet access to a world many cannot access at home, and a safe place to gather. The Granisle Public Library believes that by collaborating with other groups and organizations it will ease some of the limitations associated by living in a small community. Our goal is to foster a life-long love of learning in patrons of all ages and strive to make a difference.

Partnerships with many of the groups mentioned above have enhanced our Library and the programming we have been able to offer. The Granisle Public Library was able to maintain our patronage count and statistics safely through a pandemic. We could not have done it without the support of so many who made a difference. We look forward to building on our success in 2021 while remembering that there is strength when we build and work together and what we have to offer is so much richer for it ... even during a Pandemic.

2020 Library Technology Grant – Granisle Public Library

October 15, 2020

Granisle is a small rural remote retirement community located on the shores of Babine Lake. We have approximately 300+ residents of which 67% are seniors. The outlying regional district just beyond town and Tachet Reserve add an additional few hundred. The Granisle Public Library strives to meet the needs of all residents through programs and available technology; we act as a hub and learning center in a community with little in the way of stores, services and entertainment. Residents are required to drive a minimum of 100km to access shopping, groceries, medical and dental.

The Granisle Public Library shares a building with the Municipality who is also the local internet provider. The Village of Granisle provides internet, hotspot and wi-fi services to the library as part of our annual funding.

The 2020 Technology Grant issued by the Province of British Columbia was gratefully accepted by our library. The needs of our community lay in not broadband and internet hubs but in the deficits our community has in understanding technology and a means of accessing it. With no industry in our community our demographics are largely seniors and low-income families who have difficulties overcoming financial barriers in connecting and accessing technology.

Seniors are easily overwhelmed in today's digital world. Surrounded by a variety of digital devices there is no avoiding technology that plays an increasing part in our day to day lives. Attempting to avoid technology, which many do, only leads to a feeling of frustration and disconnection. There is also a lack of perceived benefit or need, negative feelings about social media and an outright fear for their safety personally and financially. Computer anxiety is a huge issue with many of our patrons who believe that it will put them at risk for scams or financial jeopardy.

Currently the library offers a simple Tech Help program which has been increasingly used by patrons with questions regarding personal devices. Patrons bring us cell phones, laptops, and even the occasional Alexa with requests for assistance. Especially during these unprecedented times when we are isolated by Covid, it is now more than ever vital we connect patrons remotely to the world as they try to find information, financial services, government websites and pay bills online. Libraries were/are encouraging patrons to access digital catalogs for audio and reading materials as were doors shut across the province. The Granisle Public Library limited patron access but didn't close our doors and had patrons driving 150km to us to access a physical book because they didn't have the knowledge or means to access digitally.

With our library only having 1 computer station open currently (Covid distancing rules, usually we have 3) we have added adult and children tablets to our inventory through this grant. The accessibility offered through various mediums have also been added with ereaders, and an alexa device (electronic books, audio books, speech to print programs, changing font and print) all of these can be game changers for many who are struggling.

Currently we are collaborating with the local Community Paramedic and with the purchase of a 3D printer we are printing mask straps and door pulls for patrons. The local school is discussing bringing over classes to show the wonder of 3D printing technology.

Teaching patrons tech can be fun... with the use of VR glasses and programs like “Wander with Friends” or “Tai Chi” locals can travel safely and learn new exercise programs to keep active.

The library is striving to find various ways to connect patrons with loved ones through social media platforms, assist with connections to medical services and show the wonders of mobility assistive technology devices that can assist at home. Accessing government websites and forms, financial institutions, legal assistance, the possibilities are endless once we overcome barriers.

We are thankful for the means to begin this journey with our patrons in troubling times and keep them connected as well as meet so many of our community’s needs.

2020 LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY GRANT REPORTING FORM: GRANISLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Total Technology Grant Amount: \$5658

Area of Need	Outcome	Metrics	Strategic Links	Actions	Collaborative Links	Timeframe	Project Budget	In-Kind/Leveraged funds	Comments
Patron Loanable Devices Children’s Tablets, Adult Tablets ereaders, eaudio	Digital Inclusion with loanable devices reducing barriers. Encouraging digital learning	Increase public computer accessibility in the library, increase available devices for patrons	Accessible, loanable devices supports the provincial strategic priority to improve access for British Columbians.	Purchase tablets for adults and children as well as ereaders to provide more access and replace the older models currently in use	Working with Better at home and community paramedic to encourage isolated seniors to contact virtually loved ones that they can not travel to during the pandemic at the library	July 2020 researched and purchased tablets August 2020 purchased ereader October research and purchase eaudio and additional adult tablets	\$4000	Partner with the Friends of the Library using additional fundraising to add to the Technology Grant to meet all our wish list to the benefit of patrons of all ages.	Tablets have the ability to digitally connect our patrons in so many ways. Speech to text, text to speech, large fonts...Children’s tablets are preloaded with educational games, books, and videos
Educational devices that enhance/improve Alexa, wifi smart devices, 3D printer, VR Glasses,	Digital Inclusion for local seniors on electronic items that enhance their day to day lives.	Increase public patronage to library with one on one workshops for seniors on devices	Improved connectivity helps reduce barriers to digital inclusion and equity for those patrons who rely on the library for internet access.	Purchase devices that will enhance community members ability to connect digitally	Working with Better at Home, Community Paramedic and local school to allow safe access to devices	September 2020 Researched/purchased October 2020 available for public use and community projects.	\$2000	Community Paremedic working with the library to print mask straps and door pulls for locals and seniors.	Alexa aids patrons with mobility issues enhanced when combined with smart devices. VR Glasses allow our snowbirds to travel without travelling in the pandemic and learn new skills like Tai Chi
Patron software upgrades,	Digital inclusion, improving ability to connect, reducing barriers, and ensuring equity for patrons who rely on the library for internet access and the ability to use it	Increase public patronage to the library by providing essential programming for patrons to access and navigate the internet	Improving usage of accessible loanable devices by having programs that enable patrons to partake equitably. Supports the provincial strategic priority to improve access for British Columbians	Research and Purchase programs that will enhance patrons’ access that have learning impediments	Collaboration with local schools, senior groups and senior health groups	September/October 2020 research November/December purchase	\$700	Partner with the Friends of the Library using additional fundraising to add to the Technology Grant to meet all our wish list to the benefit of patrons of all ages.	Our patrons like that libraries allow them to connect with the world, learn new tech and know that we are here for all their needs. In Small rural communities we are a game changer for many

