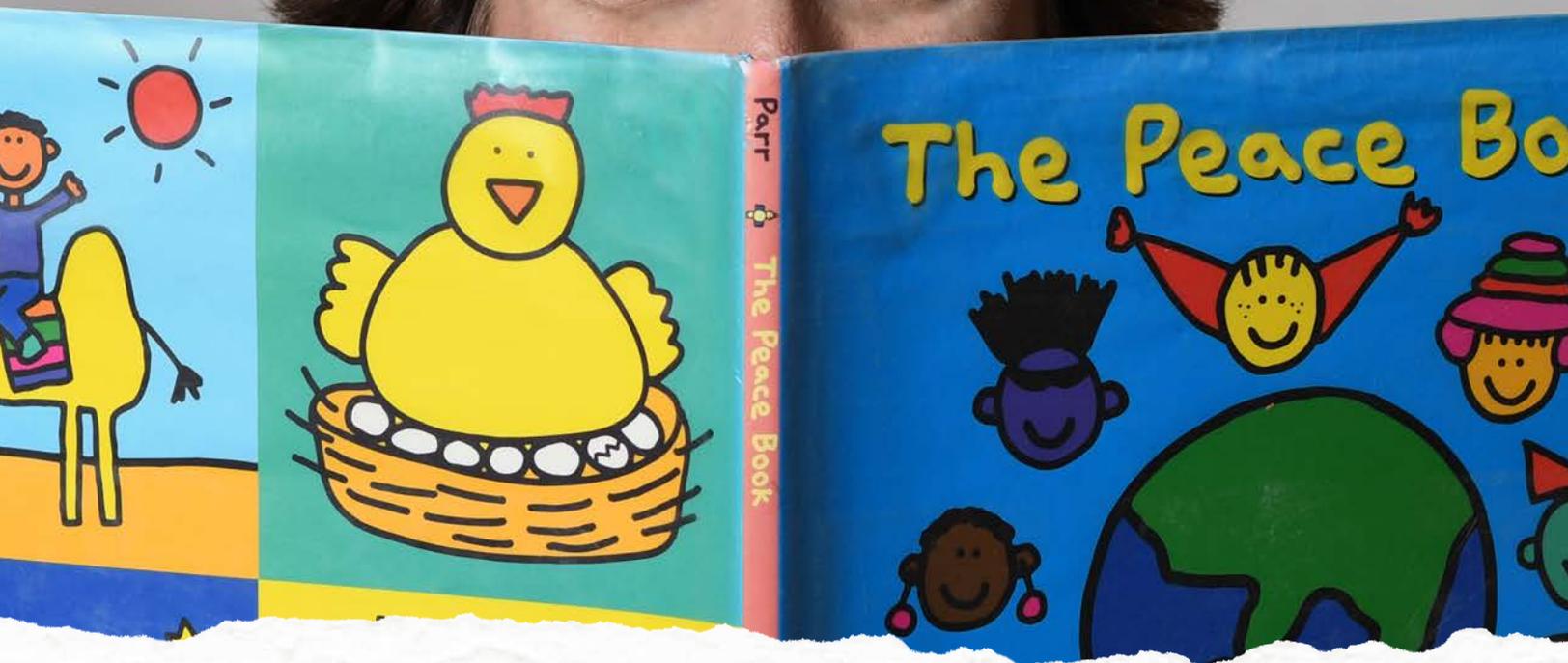


# 2018 Annual Report



*We are a place where hope and wonder fly.*

**Brandi Gillett, Board Chair**

The SPL Board is proud of the successful completion of the 2013-2018 Strategic Plan. Now, after comprehensive community consultation, the Board is delighted to begin work on the 2019-2022 Plan, which is designed to enhance existing library services and ensure the robust future of the library. Together we'll create a Library that reflects and supports our community in the best ways possible.

**Julia Merritt, CEO**

In 2018 SPL continued to see record high usage of programs and services. The MakerSpace has been a great success and we are excited to expand on the possibilities for the library to help people realize their dreams. Likewise, the experiential programming for people of all ages is sparking community connections and personal discovery. And underpinning it all is a superb staff complement whose dedication and joy in their work make the Library such a vibrant place. Here's to 2019!



# How 2018 Adds Up

167,775+  
people walked through our doors



That's 55  
people per  
hour open

1,516  
new cards issued



14,330 people  
attended

576 programs



babytime, reading, coding, knitting, singing, robotics, planting, resume writing, virtual reality, lego, star gazing

340,800+  
items borrowed  
by 10,100+  
members



15%  
digital



85%  
physical

? 12,100  
we helped answer over  
questions by phone,  
email and in person

2,850 hours  
of time were contributed by  
94 volunteers

1,336  
visits to the MakerSpace  
during 190 open labs

24,000+  
connections to the library  
wifi and public Internet

## More Than Just Numbers



I'd love to take my kids on a trip around the world to each country and immerse them in culture. I'm on a budget, so I use the Library to do that. [Community Member]

Stratford Library is a wondrous place - affording the public so much knowledge and entertainment: computers, scanning, printers, cds, dvds, movies, books! The staff are always full of knowledge, assisting when asked, polite, pleasant, kind and understanding (as well as very patient!) Thank you! [Community Member]



The Stratford Public Library brings me the comfort of home, the welcome as if amongst family and the support and encouragement to explore more. I've learned new skills and shared my talents, its great to feel connected with my community. The Stratford Public Library is like my "Cheers," where everybody knows your name. [MakerSpace Visitor]



Ever. Wonder.

[splibrary.on.ca](http://splibrary.on.ca)