

Stratford PUBLIC LIBRARY 2017

annual report to the community

An equitable, safe and welcoming environment where anyone can explore, learn, create and connect

Message from the BOARD CHAIR JEFF ORR

2017 was the year of construction. The front entrance is now finished and we have a great open view and more accessible stairs. Our MakerSpace is up and running and keeping everyone enthralled, and lastly the auditorium was completely renovated and is now a bright modern facility for everyone to use. Our library looks the best it has in years and we know all our patrons will continue to enjoy the new/old building in the years to come.



CEO JULIA MERRITT

2017 was an exciting year for SPL as we made our spaces more creative, dynamic, and safer. We thank each and every one of you for your patience and support during the construction.



In 2018, we look forward to a strategic planning process that will refresh our mission and give us new goals to aim towards. Look for your chance to have your say this spring!

“ I LOVE the library! ”

- Sydney, age 4

“ Thank you for your help on the computer with my resume last week. I got the job! ”

- customer who required computer assistance

2017 by the numbers

159,000+
people walked through our doors



that's 53
people
per hour
open

1,292
new library cards issued



number of attendees

13,715

number of
programs
held

519

14,800+

information questions answered
in person, by phone, through email



4,400+

hours volunteers contributed

1,104,000+

social media impressions



336,600+

items borrowed



15%
digital



85%
physical

2017 highlights

- We celebrated the opening of our new MakerSpace. The MakerSpace allows people to access technologies for personal, educational, or professional development. Equipment includes: a 3D printer, vinyl cutter, robotics, analog to digital conversion tools, and Adobe Creative Cloud software.
- A new logo and tagline were launched to complement our bold new services and style. *"Ever. Wonder."*
- Adults and Teen programs continued to expand as we explored partnerships with the University of Waterloo Stratford Campus, Local Community Food Centre, and many others.
- Building on our successful Summer Reading Program, the number and variety of programs available for children during the summer and school year has increased.
- The front stairs were re-constructed to remove safety hazards, add new features for accessibility, and showcase the architecture of the building.



“What a great spot to learn and grow your mind and your children’s minds. They have something for everyone with lots of great programming and services to help.”

- Dean, Google Reviewer



“It’s awesome what a wide range of ages you have for volunteers. You can tell they are not here because they HAVE to be. They WANT TO BE.”

- “Reading Buddy” mom

