



**45,180  
Library  
Visitors**



**Participants  
Attended  
10,314  
Programs**



**70,904  
Items  
Loaned**

**15,657  
Questions  
Answered**



## 2015 Annual Report

**Mission**  
Enriching lives and community

**Vision**  
A welcoming place for discovery, inspiration and recreation

**Guiding Principles**  
Accessible, Professional, Responsive, Innovative, Collaborative

## Message from the Library Director – Emma Dressler



2015 was a year of focusing on the Fernie Heritage Library mission of enriching lives and community. Our goal was to cement our place as the *living room of the community*.

Our living room needed an update, and in 2015 we successfully completed phase two of our library restoration project. The restoration project was a demonstration of the support the library enjoys in the community with over \$60,000 raised to complete the project. The interior of the library was repainted and the exterior trim and doors were repaired and repainted. The new colours enhance our amazing space and add to the welcoming feeling of the library. I am proud to report that we remained open through the renovation with staff and patrons showing their adaptability and patience.

Our community events, in particular the Booked! Fernie Writers Series, events enrich lives and community by presenting casual, yet stimulating, events to community members that promote the literary arts. We continue to explore new partnerships to leverage our resources to best meet the needs of the community. Programs such as the Fernie Book Bike brought library programs and services to the community as well as to those with limited mobility, while our Early Music Workshops brought together teachers and preschool educators to learn new techniques for programming.

I want to thank the Fernie Heritage Library board of trustees for their excellent stewardship of the library and for being such great advocates for the library in the community. I also want to thank our supporters, in particular the City of Fernie, the Regional District East Kootenay, and the Province of British Columbia, for their ongoing support, support which allows us to offer exceptional service and programs to community members and visitors. Finally, I want to thank the amazing library staff and volunteers for always being willing to say “Yes.”

## Message from the Vice Chairperson & Chairperson – Angie Abdou & Karla Germaine

Although funding continues to be a challenge for the Fernie Heritage Library, the Library Director and board, particularly the Treasurer Anna Piney, continue to work hard to maintain a balanced budget.

A key factor to our continued success is the exceptional service that we provide for our community. Our numbers indicate increases in 2014-15 for both library visits and programs offered. The diversity and quality of our programs have been recognized by the City of Fernie as well as at a regional and provincial level. We are particularly pleased by a relatively new program: the writers’ series called “BOOKED!” Through this program, we bring four or five acclaimed writers to Fernie each year. The writers speak to students during the day. In the evening, we host an event featuring local musicians and then an on-stage interview with the author. This program has proven popular and fills the library each time. This year’s series featured: Christian Bök, Kara Stanley, Raziel Reid, and Shelagh Rogers. We will announce the 2016-2017 line-up on April 8<sup>th</sup>.

In board developments, Min Merritt completed her full allowed time as Chair in 2015. Angie Abdou stepped up as Chair, but then because of unexpected commitments had to step down soon after. Karla Germaine filled the role, and Angie is now acting as Vice Chair. There were other board-member changes as well. We welcome new board members: Shelby Knudsen, James Heavey and Karla Germaine.

Another exciting development in the past year was the library restoration project. Thanks to generous donations, we were able to fully repaint the interior and exterior of the building. Regular patrons and out-of-town visitors frequently comment on the impressive results. We are grateful to house the library in this beautiful heritage building, despite its maintenance challenges.

Finally, the board fully appreciates the dedication and hard work of the director, Emma Dressler. With her leadership and guidance, our staff and volunteers provide exceptional service to many facets of the community. It is an honour to be on the board for such a valuable community organization and a privilege to work alongside such a professional dedicated group of library trustees

Signed, Angie Abdou and Karla Germaine



## Friends of the Fernie Library



2015 saw the completion of the Library Restoration project. Interior and exterior painting was completed and doors and windows were refurbished. A great effort saw this endeavour completed on time and on budget. Anne Majic and Emma Dressler were instrumental. Friends volunteers worked with Library staff to maintain and enhance the garden.

In 2016 Friends will be sponsoring our major fundraising event, "A Summer Affair" on June 25. Volunteers on the organizing committee have plans underway.

Submitted by  
Judy Little

### Board

Angie Abdou  
Karla Germaine  
Anna Piney  
Charlotte Ezaki  
Todd Fyfe  
Shelby Knutsen  
James Heavey  
Mark Lento  
Joe Warshawsky, **City Liaison**  
Judy Little, **Secretary**

### Staff

Emma Dressler, Director  
Marilyn Razzo  
Tina Hayes  
Jeanette Sedgwick  
Anie Hepher  
Hayley Bee  
Laura Vaughn  
Genevieve Bee  
Michelle Boyd  
Evan Traverse



## Volunteers, our stars of the library



Johnna Abdou  
Marty Hafke  
Betty Johnson  
Mary Martin  
Cindy Pace  
Stephanie Saumur

Lynda Bird  
Heather Gordon  
Lorrie Kraemer  
John Merritt  
Micheline Picard  
Terry Tombosso

Mary Elson  
Annette Harrison  
Kevin McIsaac  
Randal Macnair  
Meg Prentice

## Community Events



### Fernie's Children Festival



## Annual Christmas Community Celebration



## Financial Report - Revenue

<b>Grants</b>	
City of Fernie	209,521
Regional District of East Kootenay	43,527
Library Service	33,888
Provincial One Card	10,250
Province of BC ILL	3,200
Summer Career Placement	5,411
Youth BC	5,981
Booked Revenue	4,583
Fernie Children's Festival	9,091
<b>Other</b>	
Office	3,657
Donations	56,934
Miscellaneous	67
<b>Gross Revenue</b>	<b>386,090</b>

## Financial Report - Expenditures

<b>Expenditures</b>	
Collection Development	30,326
Employee benefits	3,398
Liability Insurance	1,065
Office expenses	19,554
Project – Booked	8,671
Project – Fernie Children's Festival	4,960
Project – Library Restoration	61,194
Programs	6,154
Pensions	11,996
Publicity	2,317
Repairs and maintenance	11,677
Memberships	1,449
Salaries	234,666
Supplies	5,266
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>402,692</b>

## Services at the Library

### Books, Movies, Music & More

Books  
Movies  
Magazines  
Newspapers  
Public computers  
Scanning  
Faxing  
Children's Programming  
Adult Programming  
Computer Classes  
Room Rentals  
Exam Invigilation  
Author Events  
After-School Care  
Book Clubs

### Virtual Branch

E-books & Audiobooks  
Foreign Language Instruction  
BC Building Codes  
Auto Repair  
EBSCO host periodicals  
Legal Statutes  
TumbleBooks for Children  
Travel Sites  
Homework Help  
Online reference assistance  
Zinio (onlinemagazines)  
One Click Audio  
Ancestry.ca  
Indieflix

### Out in the Community

Daycares  
Preschools  
Senior Centre  
Residential Care Facilities  
Hospitals  
Schools

## Thank you to our partners and supporters

Thank you to all of our partners, the City of Fernie, the Regional District of East Kootenay, the Province of British Columbia and all of our community supporters.

The following are groups the library has enjoyed working with in 2015

AFROS, Better Babies, Brain Injury Caregivers Support Group, Breastfeeding Support Group, Bright Beginnings Preschool, Canada Revenue Agency Community Volunteer Income Tax Program, Canadian Cancer Society, College of the Rockies, Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy, Creative Minds Preschool, Early Childhood Development Team, East Kootenay Credit Union, East Kootenay Kids, Elk Valley Dolphins Swim Club, Elk Valley Society of Community Living, Fernie MOMs, Fernie & District Historical Society, Fernie Academy, Fernie Arts Station, Fernie Chamber of Commerce, Fernie Childcare Society, Fernie Fire Rescue, Fernie Kids Triathlon, Fernie Mountain Market, Fernie Secondary School, Fernie Roll & Sole Trail Fest, Friends of the Fernie Heritage Library, Girl Guides, Isabella Dicken Elementary School, Kootenay Library Federation, Rocky Mountain Village, Rotary, Tom Uphill Manor, Tourism Fernie, Terry Fox Run, Trans Rockies Bike Race, Women's Resource Centre

## Your Library Today

### A Week in the Life of the Fernie Heritage Library

**1,176** people will walk through our doors  
**157** of those will use a computer  
**306** will ask a reference question  
**15** different library programs will be offered  
**1,097** items will signed out at the library

### Library at a glance

Active card holders – **3,208**  
New Memberships – **508**  
Collection (physical format) – **36,411**  
Computer usage – **5,520**  
Computer assistance – **1,361**

### Did you know?

- The library **received 1,422 items** in the mail for patrons, an increase of **12%** from 2014. Items received included books & audio material.
- The library **mailed out 1,377 items** to patrons around the province, an increase of **18%** from 2014.
- We have over **70** magazine subscriptions available in print and **2 daily newspapers**.
- We have **378** downloadable magazine subscriptions available from our website. **1,485** items were **downloaded** in 2015.
- Over **5,328 books** were downloaded from our website.
- **Provided** meeting space for over **16** community groups.
- The Fernie Heritage Library has been run by a charity and has **been incorporated since 1920**.

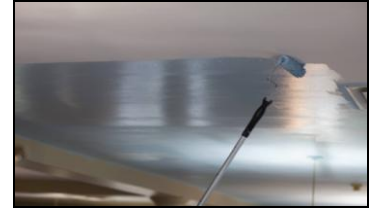
### Programming

Toddler Time had **2,143** attendees  
Storytime for ages 3 to 5 had **1803** attendees  
After School programs for ages 6 to 12 had **1,599** attendees  
There were **26** school orientation visits that helped **434** students  
There were **52** visits to local senior facilities  
Over **450** people attended the Booked! Fernie Writers Series events  
Over **600** people attended the Fernie Children's Festival



# Major highlights of 2015

## Painting project



## Booked! Fernie Writers Series 2015

Christian Bök, Amber Dawn, Kara Stanley, John Vaillant, & Will Ferguson

