



CALGARY
PUBLIC LIBRARY
FOUNDATION



CALGARY PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION
2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

Five years ago, I joined the Board of Directors at the Calgary Public Library Foundation because it allowed me to contribute to three causes closest to my heart; life-long learning, early education, and supporting newcomers. Since then, I've had the pleasure of being part of an organization that has experienced incredible growth and celebrated some very memorable moments. The past year was no exception, and it marked a new beginning for the Library Foundation.

First and foremost, I'd like to thank Patricia Moore for her dedication as Chair of the Library Foundation's Board of Directors from 2013 until 2019. She is a tireless champion of the Library Foundation and has inspired many to support our cause. We are pleased she has chosen to stay involved as a Board Member Emeritus.

Last year, we welcomed four new members to the Board; Jason Jogia, James Pettigrew, Sabina Shah, and Rob Van Wielingen. Each member is passionate about the Library and the Foundation, and I know that their diverse backgrounds and skill sets will be an asset to the organization.

I would also like to acknowledge Ellen Humphrey for her leadership of the Library Foundation over the past two years. Ellen dedicated a large chapter of her life to the Library, and we are so grateful for her oversight and passion for our work.

In July, the Board of Directors appointed Tracy Johnson as Chief Executive Officer. Tracy is a passionate leader who has contributed in countless ways to the success of the Library Foundation, and I have the utmost confidence that she will lead the organization through the coming years of growth and success.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Calgary Public Library Foundation, thank you for helping to make the past year a success. Together, we are creating a robust community space that supports and engages people with learning and big ideas.



Carl Landry, Board Chair
Calgary Public Library Foundation Board of Directors

2020 CALGARY PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHAIR Carl Landry TREASURER James Pettigrew
BOARD DIRECTORS Marshall Abbott, Mark Asberg, Anthony Giuffre, Janet Hutchinson,
Jason Jogia, Barry McNamara, Shereen Samuels, Sabina Shah, Judith Umbach,
Rob Van Wielingen, Patricia Moore (Member Emeritus)

LETTER FROM
CARL LANDRY, BOARD CHAIR
CALGARY PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Like many of you, my relationship with the Library began when I was a child. I remember writing my name on the back of the card, and carefully placing it into my neon-yellow wallet. It was the only card in my wallet, but it gave me such a sense of purpose and possibility.

I've had many wonderful Library memories along the way, and I'm honoured to contribute to such an important institution. When I joined the Library Foundation six years ago, we had 900 donors. Today, we have 21,500—that's one in every 100 Calgarians. Our donors span all ages and backgrounds; from spare change left at the counter to multimillion-dollar investments, each donation has the power to help Calgarians. In the same way that the Library is for everyone, donating to the Library is also for everyone.

The new Central Library celebrated its first birthday last November, and we are more focused on supporting the Calgary Public Library than ever. Demand for our Library has grown exponentially in the past few years, and that trend will only continue. While it's important that we take time to celebrate our successes—and the following pages certainly do that—our work doesn't end here. We will continue to fundraise for the Calgary Public Library so that it can support the evolving needs of Calgarians today and in the future.

If the work that we're doing resonates with you, please tell your friends. Every dollar donated makes a difference, and we are proud to continue to fundraise for our Library. Thank you for your support.



Tracy Johnson, Chief Executive Officer
Calgary Public Library Foundation

LETTER FROM
TRACY JOHNSON, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
CALGARY PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION

OUR COMMUNITY'S
LOVE FOR THEIR LIBRARY
ONLY GROWS...

Since 2011, we
have **raised
more than
\$60 million** in
support of the
Calgary Public
Library.

More than **\$1M**
raised through
the Windows
of Opportunity
Campaign.

\$10,603,728
raised

We increased
our Instagram
following
@libraryfdnyyc
by **138%**

Our **21,500**
donors are
helping
to build a
stronger
Calgary.

IN 2019, CALGARY PUBLIC
LIBRARY SAW...

7,693,663 million **visitors**

15,092,926 **circulation**

24,841 **programs** delivered

9,816,644 **pages** printed

3,649,750 **questions**
asked to Library Staff

Our **top post**
on both
Facebook and
Instagram
announced
Tracy Johnson
as our new
Chief Executive
Officer

BY THE NUMBERS
CALGARY PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION STATS



JANUARY



LIBRARY SCHOOL, SUPPORTED BY CENOVUS ENERGY,

was officially launched at Central Library in January. This immersive and dynamic learning experience is an extension of the Campus Calgary/Open Minds program. During the 2018/19 school year (including a pilot held in the former Central Library), more than 250 students in Grades 1-7 participated in the program. An event celebrating the program and the Cenovus Classroom took place in May.

On January 19th we celebrated the opening of Calgary's newest Library and the **HOPEWELL EARLY LEARNING CENTRE**.

This Library—the 21st in the system—is located in the Seton YMCA and serves the growing south quadrant of the city.

In addition to a Teen Centre, bookable meeting rooms, and programs and services, the newest early learning space is built around a real helicopter courtesy of the Hangar Flight Museum.





FEBRUARY

On February 1st, we hosted the first **LOCKED LIBRARY AT THE NEW CENTRAL LIBRARY**. 1,269 participants showed up on a cold evening to explore the building (many, for the first time) and puzzle their way through different genres of books to escape. Two subsequent Locked Library events were held this year; a Fairytale-themed one in July, and one in partnership with Beakerhead in September.

Taylor and Charlotte are sisters that have a very special family tradition. Every year on their birthday, the two forego gifts in favour of a contribution to the **TAYLOR & CHARLOTTE YOUNG SCIENTIST FUND**, which provides access to science and math programming and collections for children. This year, they held their birthday parties at Central Library, and celebrated \$38,201 in donations to date, which has purchased almost 800 juvenile science books for the Library. Thank you and your parents, Taylor and Charlotte!

Christine Gingerick, Director of Donor Relations, gave a presentation to a local chapter of **BETA SIGMA PHI**, an international women's friendship network.

Beta Sigma Phi has supported the It's a Crime Not to Read program for two years, and in 2018, they purchased a new Central Library Window to commemorate its 15 chapters across the city. A number of the chapters have participated in Library Tours and visited their window, which reads, "Calgary Beta Sigma Phi, Life Learning and Friendship."

MARCH



APRIL

April 10th marked the launch of **LIBRARY GIVING DAY**, a fundraising movement to support public libraries. We joined libraries across North America to raise awareness and funds, and the day acted as a precursor to our work for the International Library Fundraising Conference in July.

MAY



Our **2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** was held in the TD Great Reading Room at the Central Library. The event marked the retirement of two members of our Board of Directors; Patricia Moore, Chair of the Board, and Brenda Nicholls, Treasurer. We want to thank them for their dedication and years of service. Carl Landry was officially named Chair of the Board of Directors, and we welcomed four new members; Jason Jogia, James Pettigrew (Treasurer), Sabina Shah, and Rob Van Wielingen.



ROZSA ARTS AT THE LIBRARY launched on May 25th. The ten-year performing arts program brings accessible arts and culture experiences to all Calgarians through the Library while supporting the work of emerging and mid-career performing artists. In 2019, more than 1,500 Calgarians attended performances by five different performing artists and groups.

Five libraries were transformed into Superhero Headquarters on June 1st for the first-ever **SUPERHERO DAY**. The event, which saw a 21% increase of visitors at Crowfoot, Country Hills, Central, Quarry Park and Village Square libraries, acted as the official kick-off for the Library's Ultimate Summer Challenge.

JUNE





JULY

TRACY JOHNSON WAS APPOINTED CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE LIBRARY FOUNDATION

effective July 2nd. In her new role, Johnson will oversee all strategic initiatives and provide direction for the next chapter of the Library Foundation.

In July, we were the first Canadian Library Foundation to host the **INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC LIBRARY FUNDRAISING CONFERENCE**. Library fundraising professionals from North America came together at the Central Library to network, explore common areas of interest and hear from other fundraising experts.



AUGUST

The Library's multi-faceted summer program, the **ULTIMATE SUMMER CHALLENGE**, celebrated a successful run, with more than 24,000 children and 2,499 teens registered, and a 199 per cent increase in hours read city-wide. The program supports school readiness, reduces the effects of summer slide, fosters social-emotional growth and reduces barriers to Library services. The 2019 program was presented by the J K L MacLachlan Family Fund, and included program partners Susan Anderson, the Glen & Nancy Charitable Gift Fund and Panago.

SEPTEMBER



On September 1st, **MARK ASBERG WAS NAMED CEO OF THE CALGARY PUBLIC LIBRARY**. Over the past five years, he has led a number of transformative initiatives at the Library, including expanding service to new communities, enhancing virtual and mobile services, and developing productive partnerships with key government and community groups.

We celebrated a transformational gift to enhance the Library's Early Learning Strategy from local entrepreneur and philanthropist Susan Anderson—one of the largest gifts in our history. In recognition of this gift, the **JOCELYN LOUISE ANDERSON CHILDREN'S LIBRARY** was named at Central Library in honour of Anderson's mother, who was a school teacher.



OCTOBER



In honour of former Calgary Public Library CEO Bill Ptacek, who passed away peacefully on October 15th, we partnered with the Library to launch the **BILL PTACEK FUND FOR INNOVATION**. This fund, which was created in consultation with the Ptacek Family, will support the growth of bold new ideas and initiatives at the Library in memory of this imaginative and passionate leader. Visit billptacekfund.ca for more information on the fund and how we plan to honour Bill's legacy.

NOVEMBER



With more than \$1 million raised and 2,500 window inscriptions, the **WINDOWS OF OPPORTUNITY CAMPAIGN** closed on November 4th.

The **FISH CREEK EARLY LEARNING CENTRE** was the Library's first Early Learning Centre. The Library has learned so much about how little learners use the area since it opened in 2016. In November, we celebrated the reopening of the expanded space, which includes a Questionarium for school-age kids.

On November 22nd, a group of donors met the innovative new leaders of the Library and Foundation and learned about their **VISION FOR THE FUTURE**.

CENTRAL LIBRARY'S FIRST BIRTHDAY was certainly a cause for celebration, and on November 2nd, Calgarians were invited to its party. The event featured a special storytime with Mayor Nenshi, a Friendship Round Dance, pop-up performances and activities, including a Plinko Game hosted by the Library Foundation. In its first year, Central Library welcomed more than 1.74 million visitors, checked out nearly 754,000 items and delivered an astounding 5,100 programs.



DECEMBER



The Central Library was included in **TIME MAGAZINE'S GREATEST PLACES**. Its architecture, large collection of books, and cutting-edge educational resources helped land it a spot on the list.

DOING **MORE** WITH YOUR SUPPORT.

Removing **more** Barriers.

Sparking **more** Innovation.

Building a **more** Resilient Community.

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Charitable Registration #87292-3537-RR-0001