

Annual Report 2018



Bowen Island
Public Library



Board Chair and Chief Librarian's Message

2018 was a tremendous year for the Bowen Island Public Library. In March we celebrated the completion of the Cove Commons building and Library Annex by sharing our deep gratitude for the vast contributions of funding, time, materials, energy, and expertise made to this ambitious project.

Our beautiful new space immediately began to accommodate growth in programming and services with expanded regular programs and fresh new ideas. One initiative, Knowing Our Place, gave participants the opportunity to deepen their insight into Indigenous history and seek understanding of possible paths towards reconciliation. An existing service, the Med Shed, was enhanced by being moved into the new building and catalogued for easy access.

Close ties with community groups continued to enhance and fortify the Library's effectiveness in 2018. Partnerships with the Bowen Island Arts Council, Bowen Children's Centre, the Early Childhood Development Table, and others led to many well-received workshops and presentations. We are grateful to the Knick Knack Nook for funding to cover extension of the heat pump from the new building into the older library space.

We hope you will enjoy reading the details and statistics shared in this Annual Report. We believe they paint a picture of the vibrant relationship between Bowen Islanders and their library.



Cynthia Nicolson, Board Chair



Tina Nielsen, Chief Librarian

2018 Strategic Highlights



Library Spaces

The new Library Annex in the Cove Commons opened in March 2018. The Cove Commons building, shared with Bowen Arts Council, was constructed in one year, under budget, and entirely from donations, grants, and gifts-in-kind. With our expanded space we were able to fill a long-term goal of providing improved and increased programming. In 2018 our adult programming grew by 275% and the community was excited to see our new and innovative offerings.



Patrons and Services

In partnership with Bowen Island Arts Council and Pauline LeBel, we co-hosted ten Knowing Our Place programs, including the first ever National Indigenous People's Day celebration on Bowen on June 21, 2018. The event drew more than 60 community members to share in storytelling, dance, drumming, and bannock snacks with members of the Sk̓w̓w̓7mesh (Squamish) Nation. The Knowing Our Place programs aim to teach the true history of Indigenous peoples and to foster mutually enhancing relationships.

To improve awareness of our Med Shed collection and to make these materials easier to access, we added every item of our Med Shed equipment collection to the library catalog. The collection can now be found online by searching our catalog under "medical equipment". Patrons can see what we own, what is currently available, and can place holds.



Community and Partnerships

Bowen Library values our partnerships with community organizations and individuals. By leveraging our resources with other organizations, both parties are able to serve the community more efficiently and more effectively. Bowen Island Arts Council, our neighbour in the Cove Commons, is one of our strongest partners. As well, the library has wonderful partnerships with early childhood service providers, educational organizations, and of course our municipality. Partnered events in 2018 included author talks, Knowing Our Place programs, end of life planning webinars, and parent education sessions.

In partnership with WorkBC, Bowen Library was pleased to offer monthly Career Advice sessions. One Wednesday per month the library was host to a career advisor from North Shore Employment Services, offering resume help, career planning, and employment assistance. The program will continue in 2019.

Library Activity

Service	2018	2017
Visits to the library	52,690	34,850
Materials borrowed (physical and electronic)	51,871	38,294
Questions answered	8,217	6,145
Programs for Adults	30	8
Participants	934	453
Programs for Children	94	64
Participants	1,224	1,006
New library members	443	268
Total library patrons	2151	2072
Public Wifi Connections	53,095	45,625
Volunteer hours	1,849	1,669



All in a Day

Bowen Library is a busy place, and our volunteers make it warm and welcoming to all.

Pictured below, Lisa and Craig shelving returned books.



Average Daily Activity	
174	People visit the library
171	Items are borrowed
27	Questions are answered
7	People attend a program
6	People use the public internet computers
2	New members join the library

Our Team

Library Board of Trustees

The 11-member Library Board of Trustees is appointed by Municipal Council and is responsible for the Library's highest level of decision making. The Board establishes the library's vision and mission and then sets policy, budget, and strategic direction to support that vision and mission.

2018 Board members

Executive Committee

Cynthia Nicolson, *Chair*

Michael Penny, *Treasurer and InterLINK Rep*

Susan Munro, *Vice Chair*

Sue Ellen Fast, *BIM Council Representative*

Trustees

Elizabeth Bowker

Melissa Harrison

Don Heth

Peter Matthews

Melanie McLeod

Steve Mitchell

Staff

Bowen Library is staffed by 1 full time and 5 part time employees. The total full time equivalent is 3.4 staff.

Tina Nielsen, Chief Librarian	Sue Geist, Supervisor	Christine Miller, Supervisor
Leo Pedersen, LA II – Tech Tutor	Marysia McGilvray, LA II – Programs	Devon McLeod, LA I - Circulation

Library Volunteers

Not only will you meet a volunteer at the front desk helping to check out your books, but behind the scenes volunteers are contributing even more. From covering new books, assisting with programming, and helping us manage our computer networks, volunteers contribute to the success of Bowen Library in many special ways.

2018 Volunteers

Lisa Avery
Marian Bantjes
Elaine Cameron
Sarah Cormier
Allie Drake
Sally Fitz-Gibbon

Jeff Kellner
Jane Kellett
Robbie Kennard
Richard Labonte
Rosemarie Leverton
Gale Lyttle

Craig MacDonald
Ainslie Manson
Linnea McCaskill
David McCullum
Roger McGillivray
Patty Montgomery

Laura Robertson
Donna Scorer
Susan Sheehan
Janet Sims
Tess Taylor
Aubin van Berckel



Friends of the Library

Bowen Library was started by Friends of the Bowen Island Library Society (FOBILS), and the group continues to provide unwavering support – not to mention significant funding – to the library today. FOBILS run the mini bookstore as well as the annual BookFest sale in May. Through their hard work the library has received support for our Summer Reading Club program, special events, and most recently for the construction of the Cove Commons.

2018 FOBILS Directors

Ily Allen	Steve Frazer	Michael Penny	Greta Smith
Anna-Marie Atherton	Pam Miller	Rupert Ritchie	Sheila Webster

Library Foundation

Bowen Island Public Library Foundation is a registered Charitable Organization working to support Bowen Library services. The Foundation receives cash donations, bequests, trusts, and property for the benefit of the Bowen Island Public Library. The Foundation was the body receiving donations and grants and administering the building of the Cove Commons. The fundraising was done by the Arts Council and the Bowen Library and brought in over \$1 million to the Foundation for the Cove Commons construction. The building came in on time and under budget.

Financial Resources

Revenue

Bowen Island Municipality	\$ 276,850
Grants – Provincial and other	24,367
Library Revenue (Fine, fees, etc.)	16,143
Donations & Disbursements	9,128
Library surplus reserve	42
TOTAL	326,530



Expense

Staffing	\$ 216,203
Collections	32,412
Operations	68,696
Capital (Including Library renovation)	9,219
TOTAL	326,530

Thanks

Bowen Library thanks the following for financial support that keeps our library running and provides opportunities for special projects to be developed and completed.

Bowen Island Municipality
Libraries Branch, Ministry of Education, Province of British Columbia
Government of Canada
Friends of the Bowen Island Library Society
Bowen Island Community Foundation
Knick Knack Nook Re-use It Society
RBC Financial Group
Hundreds of private donors