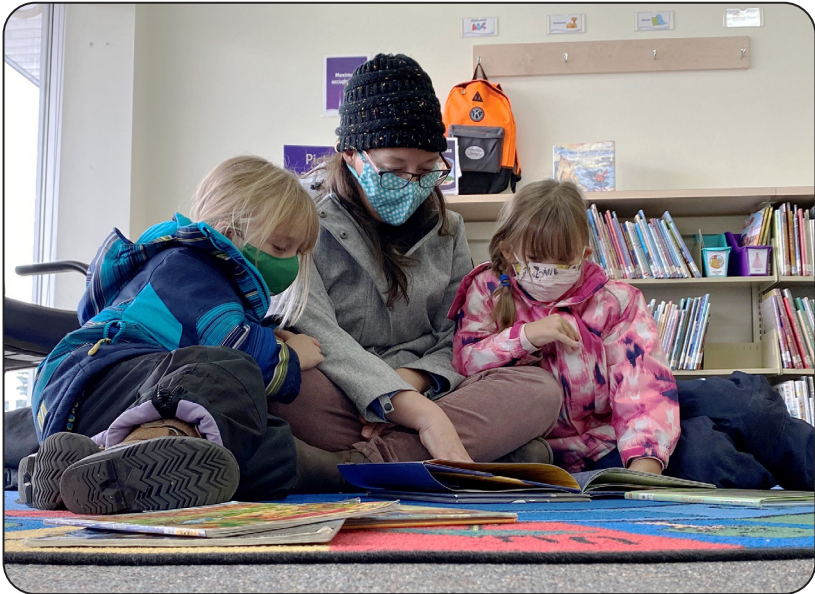


Airdrie Public
Library

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



2020

imagine ... discover ... connect

COMMITMENT



Library Board Chair
Daniel Nelles

Statement from the Chairman of the Board

It would be an understatement to say that 2020 was a year full of unexpected challenges. The global pandemic put a stop to a significant proportion of library programming for most of the year. While we were pleased to be able to continue offering services such as online programming, interlibrary loans and curbside pickups, I know our library staff misses interacting with Airdronians on a daily basis.

Our guiding document for library services is our Plan of Service. Under normal circumstances, the Board of Trustees creates this Plan of Service on a three year cycle. 2020 was to be the last year of the current plan of service, but the disruption posed by the pandemic caused us to interrupt progress on several of our service goals. This has prompted us to take the unusual step of extending the Plan of Service goals for one additional year, giving everyone time to get vaccinated and create the conditions where we can consult with the community later in 2021 on a new three-year Plan of Service that will start in 2022.

We look forward to the day where we can reopen our doors to the community and get library programming and services ramped up back to normal. 2020 was an exceptional year and one that, it's safe to say, everyone is eager to put behind them. Your Library Board looks forward to 2021 and the major steps that will be taken this year alongside Airdrie City Council to plan for a new library facility.

Statement from the Library Director

APL was mandated shut twice by Alberta Health Service in 2020. During the first closure from March 17-July 5, APL's collection was inaccessible and interlibrary loan was completely suspended. Most of APL's public service staff were laid off.

Limited curbside pick-up began in June. From July to mid-December, the library's main facility was open to the public under strict pandemic safety protocols. On December 13, the library was once again ordered shut. This time interlibrary loan remained active and Airdrie patrons were able to access books from both our own collection and those of other libraries.

Curbside pickup was so brisk the library recalled staff that had been sent home in a second temporary layoff.

Library service measures were profoundly impacted by the closures. Circulation, especially circulation of digital materials, was much higher than we anticipated, but in-person visits plummeted. Live programming was offered in the first quarter of the year but suspended entirely for the remaining nine months. Virtual programming, however, became one of APL's 2020 successes.



Library Director
Pamela Medland

INNOVATION



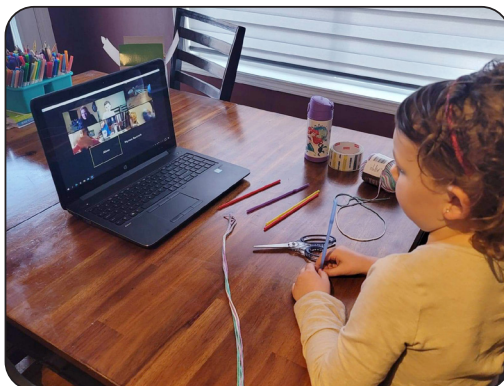
It took exactly two and a half weeks for the library's programming department to move to home-based work, learn to create and produce online programs, and implement a process for mounting video programming for all ages on YouTube, accessible through the APL website. There has never been a better example of how nimble and creative APL can be when faced with a challenge.

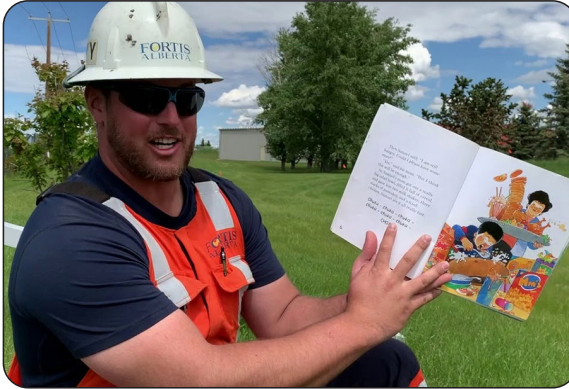
GROWTH

Children's programming attendance increased 43%.

Digital downloads increased 40%.

Attendance at the new online programs was high, with 22,948 participants in 597 virtual programs.





89,666

Visits to library

112,720

Visits to website

14,257

Questions
answered

463

Volunteer hours
donated



24,724

Library members

429,378

Items borrowed



LENCE

27,443

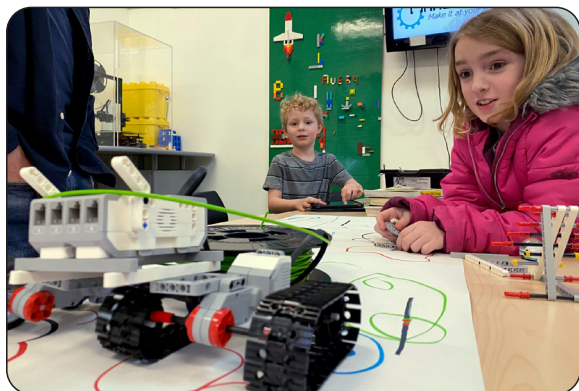
Program
attendees

913

Programs offered

25,363

Children's program
participants



78,657

Items owned

12,884

Items added

10,000,000+

Shared items
province wide

73,279

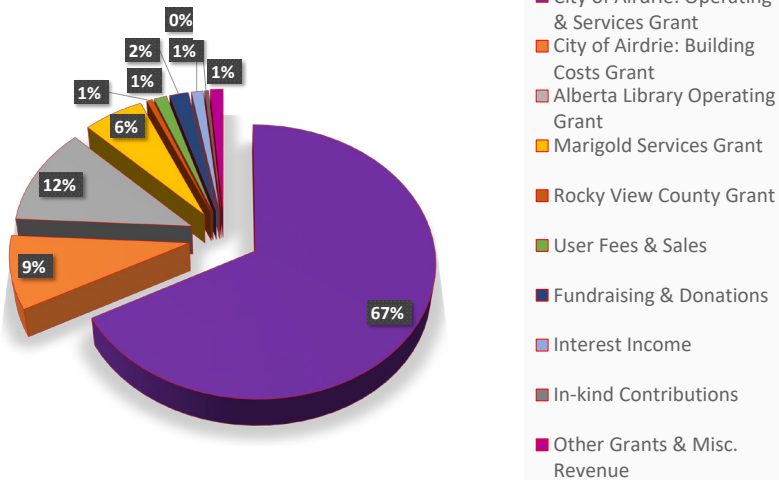
Digital
downloads

99,089

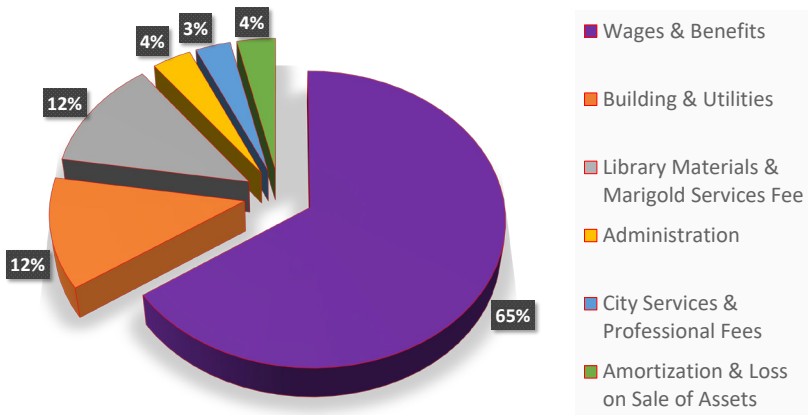
Computer &
Wi-Fi use



Revenue 2020



Expenditures 2020



Visit Airdrie Public Library's website
airdriepubliclibrary.ca
 for a copy of our 2020 audited financial statements.

APPRECIATION

APL receives financial support from government, business, service clubs, individuals and fundraising activities. We are proud to recognize our partners and contributors for their generous support of our events, programs and services.

Community Builder: \$10,000-\$24,999

Switchback Creative

Vitreous Glass

Benefactor: \$1,000-\$9,999

Air Alta Insurance

Harold Sanders

Airdrie Lioness Club

The Lecky Foundation

Chinook Gate

Lanark Landing by Melcor

Danial & Robyn Thomas

TD Bank Group

Promoter: \$100-\$999

Advocates for Airdrie
Public Library

Jeanne Beaty
Jessica & Evan Friesen

Nancy & Robert
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Airdrie Chrysler
Dodge Jeep

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Norma Frost

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Kiwanis Club
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& Reading Centre

Roland Beisswenger

Catherine Buchanan

Rotary Club of Airdrie

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Lori DuMont

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Empowering Youth
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James Light

Tracey Forbes

Tyler Weatherall

Media Supporters

airdrielife, Air 106.1 FM, Airdrie City View, Airdrie Echo

**A special thank you to all of
our supporters and many volunteers.**

IMPACT

“This was my first experience with APL, and it was very positive.
Both the presenter and the librarian did a fantastic job.
They were so welcoming and informative.”

“I was hesitant to join the zoom groups, but I am so grateful
I have it. You are doing amazing work! I look forward
to continuing participation.”

“Wonderful way to keep my children connected during these
difficult times. They look forward to their library time and
it is a nice way to start the day for success.”

“As a mom it was great to get to do something for myself!”

“This [delivery] program has been a welcomed distraction for many of our
seniors during what has proven to be a very challenging year. These books have
been a way for the residents to still be a part of the world, while being
isolated and kept safe during COVID. Thank you Airdrie
Public Library for thinking of our seniors.”
Staff Member, Luxstone Senior Living

Our Mission

Airdrie Public Library fosters literacy, knowledge
and cultural connections. We seek to inspire lifelong
learning, imagination and creativity through our
inclusive programs, services and collections.



www.airdriepubliclibrary.ca