

## LIBRARY REPORT



### April 16 to May 22

April and May were exceptional months for the Library working to supporting its strategic framework, particularly when it comes to providing engaging spaces for the community to create knowledge and share stories, as well by nurturing an engaged, adaptive organization.

#### INSPIRING AND SUPPORTING A COMMUNITY OF LEARNING AND A CULTURE OF READING

On April 22, the **world celebrated Earth Day**. In support of the Earth Day movement, the NVDPL offered a series of events throughout April that focused on teaching the community about the environment through a variety of mediums.



##### **Beasts of the North Shore**

The Beasts of the North Shore presentation was held at Parkgate Library on April 8. This informative session outlined local animal inhabitants and the effects of human impact and densification on some species of animals.

##### **Movie Screening: *If a Tree Falls***

On April 17, the Parkgate Library screened the movie *If a Tree Falls*—an environmental documentary which provided a rare, behind-the-curtain look at the Earth Liberation Front.

##### **How Many Light Bulbs Does it Take to Change Your Hydro Bill?**

One event, titled “How many light bulbs does it take to change your Hydro bill?” was held on April 30 at the Lynn Valley Library. This workshop helped participants understand what makes a real difference to their household energy bills, their comfort, the health of their homes, and the environment.

All of the above events are an example of some of the informative programming the NVDPL has to offer, which aims to support a community of lifelong learning.

## PROVIDING ENGAGING SPACES TO CREATE KNOWLEDGE AND SHARE STORIES

Throughout April and May, the Library was proud to be a part of several unique events which activated the Library in non-traditional and new ways. These events showcased the Library's ability to provide engaging spaces wherein community members could share stories and create knowledge. These events also promoted and instilled the idea that the NVDPL is truly a gathering place for local residents; it is truly "their Library." Below are just a few of the unique ways the NVDPL engaged over the last month, and we look forward to many more unique ways to occupy and stimulate Library spaces in the future.

### North Shore Writers Festival

The 16<sup>th</sup> annual North Shore Writers Festival was held on April 17 and 18 at the West Vancouver Memorial Library. The two day event, co-planned by the three North shore Library systems, featured a trivia night, several author discussions and panels, complimentary food and beverage, live music, and more! The West Vancouver Memorial Library was engaged in a way that many patrons had not seen before. Now, the NVDPL and the planning committee look forward to activating the Lynn Valley Library in an exciting way in 2016, to bring the community together for thought-provoking and informative workshops.



*Attendees enjoy the Trio of Poets panel discussion on Saturday, April 18.*

### A Whisky Library

The inaugural Whisky Library event was held on Saturday, May 9. The entire second floor of the Library was adapted for a gala-style evening of live music, fine scotch whiskies, delicious food, auctions, and live literature readings. Book spinners were re-distributed, audiovisual stacks were removed, mood lighting and décor were applied to the entire floor, a photo booth was set-up...the list goes on. The Lynn Valley Library was seen in a new light by all attendees, and the event opened up the opportunity for locals to envision their own events in this space, which are supported by the Library.



*Guests listen to Allan McMordie at the opening of the first annual Whisky Library event. 150 people attended the event throughout the evening.*

### Musical Entertainment

Music...at a library?!? Wednesday, May 6 was a busy day for musical entertainment NVDPL. Parkgate Library featured the Parkgate Men's Singers—a group of local residents who sing casual Barber Shop style favourites with piano accompaniment, of course. In the evening, Lynn Valley Library hosted a performance from the North Van Community Band. Both performances show the Library being adapted for community use.



*Local resident Wayne Smith, with his Barbershop quartet.*

## FOSTERING COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

The NVDPL is always working to build a strong foundation of community with the help of local organizations, and we're proud to work in tandem with them to create opportunities for North Shore residents to enjoy. In May, we connected with local community partners to brainstorm and collaborate on an exciting event happening in October of 2015.

### Let's Talk About Edcamp Meeting

On May 13, Barbara Kelly, Manager of Community Engagement, and Susannah Howick, School District #44 representative and Principal at Canyon Heights Elementary, along with several other staff, held a meeting to talk about Edcamps. Edcamp's are an emerging style of conference which are unstructured—i.e., “not just another meeting.” More commonly referred to as “unconferences,” these public gatherings are meant to bring community members together—regardless of age, race, gender, religion, or income—and facilitate learning through non-conventional methods and tactics.

Many members of the local community were invited to a brainstorming session at the Lynn Valley Library to discuss options and ideas for the NVDPL's Community Unconference, which will be held in October 2015. In attendance were members of the North Vancouver Recreation and Cultural Commission, School District #44 representatives, North Vancouver City Library staff, North Vancouver District Public Library staff, members of the North Shore Multicultural Society, a youth representative from NVDPL's very own Teen Advisory Group, and more!

The presence of these prominent community members at the brainstorming session fosters a culture of community collaboration. More information on the Community Unconference, facilitated by the North Vancouver School District and the NVDPL, to come later in 2015.



*An attendee in the Community Room at the 2014 Edcamp hosted by the NVDPL and School District 44.*

## NURTURING AN ENGAGED, ADAPTIVE ORGANIZATION

As a strong supporter of lifelong learning, the NVDPL encourages staff to attend seminars and courses to help them expand their knowledge, learn new techniques and tactics, and increase workplace and Library effectiveness. Over the last month, NVDPL staff and trustees attended a DNV workshop, the 2015 BC Libraries Conference and the BC Library Trustees Conference, showcasing how the Library is active in nurturing an engaged, adaptive organization.

### The Professional Parliamentarian Workshop

The District of North Vancouver held a Committee Meeting Workshop on Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. Speaker John Noonan, Professional Parliamentarian, ran an informative and interactive session discussing parliamentary procedures and processes. Leanne Erickson, Executive Assistant to Jacqueline Van Dyk, as well as two board members, Lucy Cayuela and Mark Jefferson, attended the workshop.

### BCLA Conference

The 2015 British Columbia Library Conference took place May 20-22 at the Sheraton Vancouver Airport. This year's theme was Creative Communities—a topic centred around the importance and power of creativity in our communities, and more specifically creativity in the Library. The conference featured three days of seminars, workshops, and talks, a tradeshow, as well as social and networking events to help build strong connections between local libraries. Almost ten NVDPL staff took part in the conference, with many attending for more than one event.

### BCLTA Conference

British Columbia Library Trustees Association is an organization that supports trustees and boards members working to govern their local public libraries. The BCLTA Conference was held on May 22 and 23 in Richmond, and was attended by Library executives and trustees from across the province, including NVDPL's Sanford Osler, Linda Munro, and Jacqueline van Dyk, who attended on May 23. Sanford Osler also attended a workshop titled Chairing the Board, on May 22.

## SUMMARY OF STATISTICS – MONTH OF APRIL 2015

- **Adult Programs:** We held 28 adult programs with a total attendance of 1,031 people.
- **Newcomer/ELL Programs:** We held 6 newcomer and English Language Learning (ELL) programs with a total attendance of 41 people.
- **Teen Programs:** We held 2 programs with a total attendance of only 12 teens; this represents an increase of 20 per cent from April 2014.
- **Children's Programs:** We held 91 children's programs in April (up 15 per cent as compared to April 2014), with a total attendance of 2,363 children with their caregivers.
- **Traffic (measured by gate counts):** In 2014, April saw a gate count of 71,776. In 2015, this number decreased by 4 per cent, for a total count of 68,763. While our Q1 traffic statistics have slightly increased by 0.75 per cent overall from January-March, the decrease in the April gate count may be attributed to the increased use of digital materials this month. See below.

- **Circulation and Holds:** In April 2015, the Library saw 114,641 items checked out; however, print circulation statistics have decreased by almost 4 per cent in April 2015, compared to 119,274 in 2014. This trend might represent a shift in how people are using our local Library (see the statistics on digital circulation).
- **Digital Circulation:** Digital circulation in April 2015 saw 6,320 items borrowed, which represents an increase of 19 per cent when compared to 2014. This increase showcases an increased interest and usage of digital materials and resources.
- **Virtual Visits:** Overall virtual visits have decreased by 8 per cent in April 2015 as compared to April 2014, however, virtual visits throughout 2015 remain steady. After the launch of the new NVDPL website, our website traffic saw an initial decrease—which is common when re-launching a site as it takes time to rise in search results. Website “hits” have been gradually increasing since the new website launched. While website traffic has decreased in the past year, use of the Bibliocommons catalogue has increased by 15 per cent or more every month in Q1.