

Library Partners

The Library is pleased to work together with all of our Partners.

- All of our valued volunteers and supporters
- 100+ Women Who Care Salt Spring
- ArtSpring (Island Arts Centre Society)
- Barb's Bakery & Bistro
- BC Libraries Cooperative
- Black Sheep Books
- Canada Council of Archives
- Canadian Federation of University Women
- Capital Regional District (CRD)
- Courthouse Libraries of BC
- Country Grocer Salt Spring
- Diverse and Inclusive Salt Spring Island
- First West Foundation
- Government of British Columbia
- Government of Canada
- Gulf Island Senior Secondary School
- IslandLink Library Federation
- Islands Trust
- League of Canadian Poets
- Linda Siegel Foundation
- Mouat's Trading Company
- Phillip and Muriel Berman Foundation
- Rotary Club of Salt Spring Island
- Sally and Glen Rycroft Endowment Fund
- SS Arts Council
- SS Books
- SS Forum
- SS Literacy Society
- SS Potters Guild
- SS Trail and Nature Club
- SS Toastmasters
- SSI Chamber of Commerce
- SSI Community Services Society
- SSI Emergency Program
- SSI Foundation & Foundation of Youth
- SSI Historical Society and Archives
- SSI Weavers & Spinners Guild
- Stqeeye' Learning Society
- The Writers Union of Canada
- Times Colonist Raise-a-Reader
- Transition Salt Spring Society
- Vancouver Foundation
- West of the Moon
- Windsor Plywood

Salt Spring Island Public Library



2021 Annual Report



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<http://saltspring.bc.libraries.coop/>



Chief Librarian 2021 Review

Throughout year two of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Library operated safely within the BC government protocols as an “essential service” for our community. The community’s trust and support, and the dedication of volunteers and staff, was expressed in numbers, with 105,474 patron visits, an increase of 26%, and 61,741 virtual visits. The Library added 649 new members, and patrons checked out 137,884 physical materials, and 40,199 digital items. Whether online or in person, patrons of all ages used the Library to read, learn, see local arts, research, connect, surf the internet, and study.

The Library had 156 in-person and online programs for 2,177 adults, and 151 programs for 1,894 teens and children. Programs included book launches, Tech Cafés, tech tutoring, monthly art exhibits, Reconciliation Reading Circles, weekend StoryWalks, and summer and spring break camps. Ninety-six committed volunteers contributed 9,904 hours to the Library’s core operations, even as the community contended with lockdowns and changing restrictions.

Support for the Library’s programs and services was shown by \$43,668 in Annual Appeal funding from the local community, and a generous bequest from James William Crawford for \$102,700.

With funding from the SSI Foundation and the Philip and Muriel Berman Foundation, Quw’utsun Artist Charlene Johnny created an Indigenous Mural featuring the rich ocean heritage of our island while mentoring ten young Indigenous artists. The Berman Foundation also granted \$2,500 for an Adult BIPOC collection and the SSI Foundation a \$4,000 COVID Recovery Grant.

A heartfelt thank you to all of our donors who contributed to a successful annual campaign as well as the Library’s volunteers, staff, members, and community partners for your part in making 2021 the best year possible and keeping our Library at the heart of our community—whether online or in real life.

Karen Hudson

Message from the Board Chair

I believe in the power of libraries. Our Board has spent the past year building a new strategic plan that brings world issues like climate change, inclusion, and inequality to the center of our activities on Salt Spring, where we will work with our partners to create positive change for the island community we all love.

This work has never been more urgent, or more challenging. In the past, our unique staff/volunteer model allowed the library to operate at a much lower cost than other CRD libraries: no longer. The two-year pandemic sharply accelerated a nationwide decline in volunteerism, and we are now at a crisis point, with only half the volunteers needed to keep the doors fully open. We don’t expect to reach the heady heights of 150 active volunteers again, and a new solution must be found.

Nevertheless, I am proud of what has been accomplished this year. The ‘Maker Space’ was launched, our Indigenous mural created, a small staff office added, and the teen space moved to better serve patrons’ needs, among many other victories, small and large.

It has been an honour to serve as the Chair of the Board of Trustees during this momentous year.

Judy Nurse

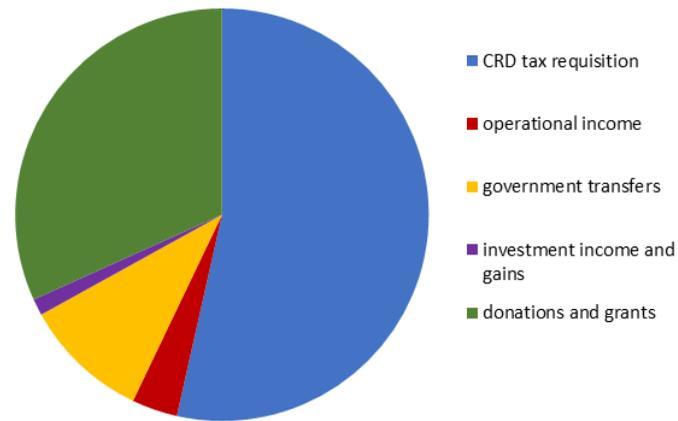
2021 A Summary

- Over 100,000 library visits
- Over 60,000 virtual visits
- Nearly 5,900 cardholders
- Over 40,000 e-circulations (audiobooks/ebooks/movies/tv/music)
- 156 adult programs
- 151 youth and children's programs
- Reconciliation projects and programs including the new Library mural
- New Strategic Plan developed

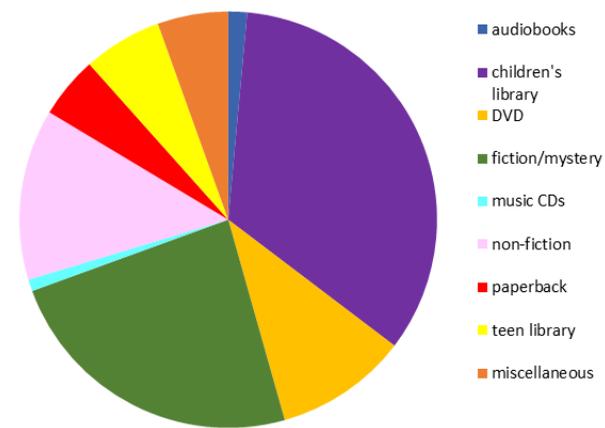


Quw'utsun Artist Charlene Johnny created an Indigenous Mural while mentoring ten young Indigenous artists

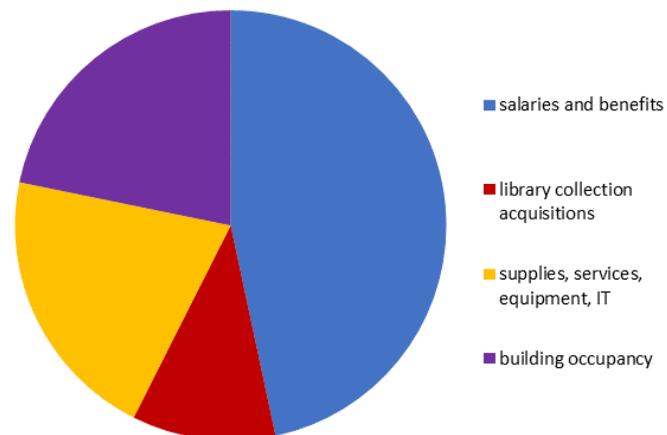
Revenue \$795,781 Including \$102,700 bequest



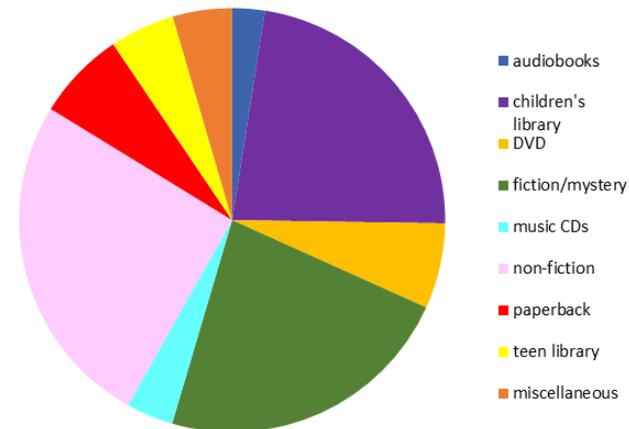
Lending and Circulation The Library lent out nearly 138,000 physical items in 2021



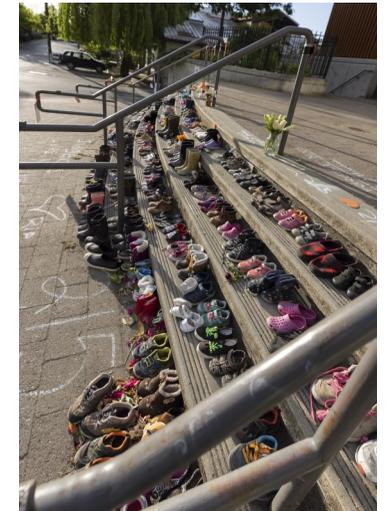
Expenses and Capital Acquisitions \$ 708,578 (not including amortization)



Library Collection Our current collection has nearly 62,000 physical items.



On April 7, Indigenous author Eden Robinson spoke about her new book Return of the Trickster
© Red Works Photography



215 pairs of children's shoes in support of the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc people



Library Technician Amy Trepanier (centre back) with teen volunteers (left to right) Maia Cassie, Matilda Colvin and Max Wild