

# **Annual Report 2021**

**Prepared by Lac du Bonnet Library Staff  
2022 March**



## **Mission Statement**

***The Lac du Bonnet Regional Library is the focal point in our community for formal and informal association with information and ideas. Resources that inform, educate, develop, and enrich the lives of all are provided through services, programs, and access to information technology.***

## **Board Members**

### **Town of Lac du Bonnet**

Louise Fergusson	Secretary/Treasurer
Doreen Pym	Town Member-at-large
Brian Choptain	Town Council Representative

### **RM of Lac du Bonnet**

Joan Einarson	Chairperson
Karen David	Vice Chairperson
Rob Doyle (Alternate Darrell Scheirich)	R.M. Council Representative

## **Staff Members**

Head Librarian	Vickie Short
Public Services Coordinator	Laurie Kjartanson
Events Coordinator	Larissa Shabaga (January-August)
	Jennifer Hudson Stewart (August-December)
Library Clerk	Michele Sobering
Assistant Clerks	Lily Hodgson
	Miles Rosnow
	Colter Zirk
Janitor	Donna Kovari

**Visit [www.lacdubonnetlibrary.ca](http://www.lacdubonnetlibrary.ca) for information on Online Access, Services, Library Corner, Events, What's New, Staff, Careers, Policy, Board Minutes and Financial, and Annual Reports.**

**Fully-automated library services are offered to all residents of:**

Town of Lac du Bonnet	RM of Lac du Bonnet
Population: 1,089	Population: 3,121

(Population based on 2016 Revised Census)

## **Library Pandemic Response**

In order to comply with Provincial restrictions, the library was closed to the public from early May to Mid-July. Curbside services were provided during this time. Once the library was re-opened, we continued to offer curbside service, and we also provided masks and sanitization gels. In September, the restrictions were lifted (not including masks).

## Your Information Services Headquarters....

Fiction and Non-Fiction for all ages!

Magazines

Public Access Computers/Early Literacy Station

Large Print Books

Photocopying/Faxes

Good as New Book Sales

2<sup>nd</sup> Hand Sales (Books, Magazines, and Movies)

Special events

Compact disc Cleaning/Repair

Playaway Pre-loaded Digital Audio Books

Reference Material

Videos/DVDs

Internet and Wireless Access

Audio Books

Interlibrary Loans (fill)

Summer Reading Club

eLibraries Manitoba, EBSCOhost,

NNELS\*, RBDigital\*\*

and Global Road Warrior Travel Database Access

Library Catalogue Home Access for Catalogue searches, reserves and circulation renewals (as well as special features such as recommendations and wish list).

\* NNELS – National Network for Equitable Library Service.

\*\* RBDigital – eMagazines and eAudiobooks

### ***LIBRARY HOURS***

#### **Sunday and Monday – Closed**

Tuesday: 10:30 am – 7:00 pm

Wednesday: 10:30 am – 5:00 pm

Thursday: 10:30 am – 7:00 pm

Friday: 10:30 am – 5:00 pm

Saturday: 10:30 am – 2:30 pm

***Interlibrary Loans*** – Can't find a book you are looking for? We can often find it at another library. This service is free within Manitoba and occasionally we are charged a small fee by some out-of-province libraries. This charge is passed on to the patron. We also have many requests from other libraries for interlibrary loans.

## Training and Development...

- All staff have taken the opportunity to enrich their training through various webinars and Zoom meetings throughout the year
- The Eastman Library Group continues to meet three times a year. Participating libraries take turns hosting the meetings. The libraries include: Lac du Bonnet, Pinawa, Beausejour, Allard, Selkirk, Stonewall, Springfield and Steinbach.

## Links Available from the Lac du Bonnet Library Website



Library patrons have access to search the Manitoba Public Libraries Network – fILL – a federated Search system of libraries in Manitoba. URL is: <https://fill.mb.libraries.coop>



Audio and electronic books can be downloaded by library patrons with online access (login with your username and password provided by the Library) from the eLibraries Manitoba (eLM) website at <http://elm.lib.overdrive.com>



Ebscohost is an online research database which can search thousands of e-journals. Visit the auto repair, small engine repair, home improvement reference centres, Novelist (for like-type authors and genre), or one of several student research sites (login with your username and password provided by the Library).



This website is an online public library of published books in accessible formats (using downloadable Apps for Daisy Players, Computers/Laptops, Phones, Tablets, etc.) for Canadians with perceptual disabilities. Visit the Library or <https://nnels.ca> to sign up for an account.



**Lac du Bonnet Library Patron use only.** Visit the library to learn more. This is for information purposes only. No offers/promotions/additional subscriptions or purchases are authorized.



The Ultimate Guide to the World

**Global Road Warrior** is a travel and geographic database that provides rich cultural reports that cover everything from rudimentary language terms, currency, health issues, customs, and cultural faux pas. This database features more than 8 million words of editorial content, over 6,500 color photos and 1,575 maps, all presented in a consistent 92-category framework for each country. Topics include society and culture, travel essentials, business culture, communications and more. Created by an international team of researchers, cartographers and writers, the database is continually updated.

Visit the Library and we will be happy to set you up for at home or mobile access.



Zinio for Libraries merged with RBDigital providing digital magazine and One-Click Audiobook access to participating Library patrons. Visit the Library website or <http://lacdubonnetmb.oneclickdigital.com> or <https://www.rbdigital.com/lacdubonnetmb/service/magazines/landing>

## Special Events

February was “I Love To Read” month at the library. The grade 3 & 4 students at Centennial school were provided a supply of library books to expose them to different authors, book series and genres from our circulation. The books were provided to each student based on their favorite topics and was well received by their teachers Heather Shabaga and Paula Nabe.

Storytime videos were provided by Colter Zirk







A Tim Horton's gift certificate (\$25.00) was won in February by Frank. We are grateful to all the patrons who used the library during the times we were providing curbside service.

Twenty-five children registered to 'Play On' at the Library's **2021 Summer Reading Club** from July 7<sup>th</sup> to August 19<sup>th</sup>. The excitement began in June at the launch of our super awesome Summer Reading Club commercial on the Library's YouTube page.  
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5k80JzbgBeo> )



With the easing of some Manitoba Public Health Orders, Summer Reading Club Coordinator Lily Hodgson and Events Coordinator Larissa Shabaga were thrilled to offer in-person meet-ups every Wednesday morning. During these meet-ups, registered children completed two crafts, played games, ate snacks, and enjoyed stories.



In order to make the Summer Reading Club accessible to everyone, all activities from the meet-ups were also available for pick up and detailed instructions and pictures for activities were posted on our website. Additionally, Lily hosted Zoom meetings every Thursday morning where she read stories and played games with the children virtually.

Like the previous year, *Weekly Reading Logs* were available on our website. Registered children kept track of how long they read every week for a chance to win one of six reading prizes. Children who handed in all their reading logs were dubbed "Super Readers" and were given a



certificate. For every 500 minutes the group read, a flower was added to the Summer Reading Club's display. In total the children read 20, 588 minutes, so there were a lot of flowers!



This year there was also a Grand Prize which children could earn entries for by attending the Summer Reading Club every week.

During the last week of Summer Reading Club, we tie dyed tee-shirts! On the last Wednesday of the program, kids chose one of two design techniques, bulls-eye or swirl, and then dyed their shirts. Each shirt featured a Lac du Bonnet Library Summer Reading Club logo.



The next day at the wind-up, the shirts were unraveled. Everyone's shirt turned out amazing!



For the wind-up, the Summer Reading Club met at Larissa's backyard. At the wind-up there were games, snacks, tie-dyed shirts were unraveled, and the winners for the prizes were announced. Best of all, in the end every kid got to go home with their very own book!





Overall, it was a fantastic summer filled with plenty of fun games, cool crafts, and great stories. *Family Literacy Day* takes place every January 27<sup>th</sup> to raise awareness about the importance of reading and engaging in literacy activities as a family. To celebrate Family Literacy Day and inspire families to read together, the Library held our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual **Family Fort Night!** Held on January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 26 children joined us at the Library, along with their parents and grandparents. The children took over the library and had a great time reading books in the blanket forts they built with their family and friends!

Then the children had fun with shadows and played a variety of games, including Flashlight Pictureka, with Colter, Lily, Sophie and Auriane. Then, to finish off the evening, the children enjoyed a story time with Janice.

A special thank you to our wonderful volunteers, Janice Halliday, Colter Zirk, Sophie Hodgson and Auriane Zirk, who helped make Family Fort Night a great success!



The fall brought out a few creative decorations like the examples above. The turkey and pumpkin were on display thanks to Jennifer for the great ideas!

November 25<sup>th</sup> was Family Fun Night – online bingo attracted 3 participants. Levi & Michah Schwab each won a game and received a book.





The library was ready for the season with many decorations and this unique Christmas tree. A special thank you to Jennifer and Lily for the creative and festive idea!

We are remarkably fortunate to have Library friends and local business sponsors that continue to support magazine subscriptions for patron enjoyment. These generous sponsors are proudly displayed on each magazine cover.





We hold 594 copies in our magazine collection and 162 copies in our Back-Issue magazine collection. 913 items were withdrawn in 2021.

### Volumes and Resources Held

Books	17,322
DVDs	1,184
Magazine Subscriptions	35
Back-Issue Magazine Categories	10
Sound Recordings	260
Vertical File	12
New Acquisitions	298
(Approximately 132 of these were donated items)	

## Fundraising Report

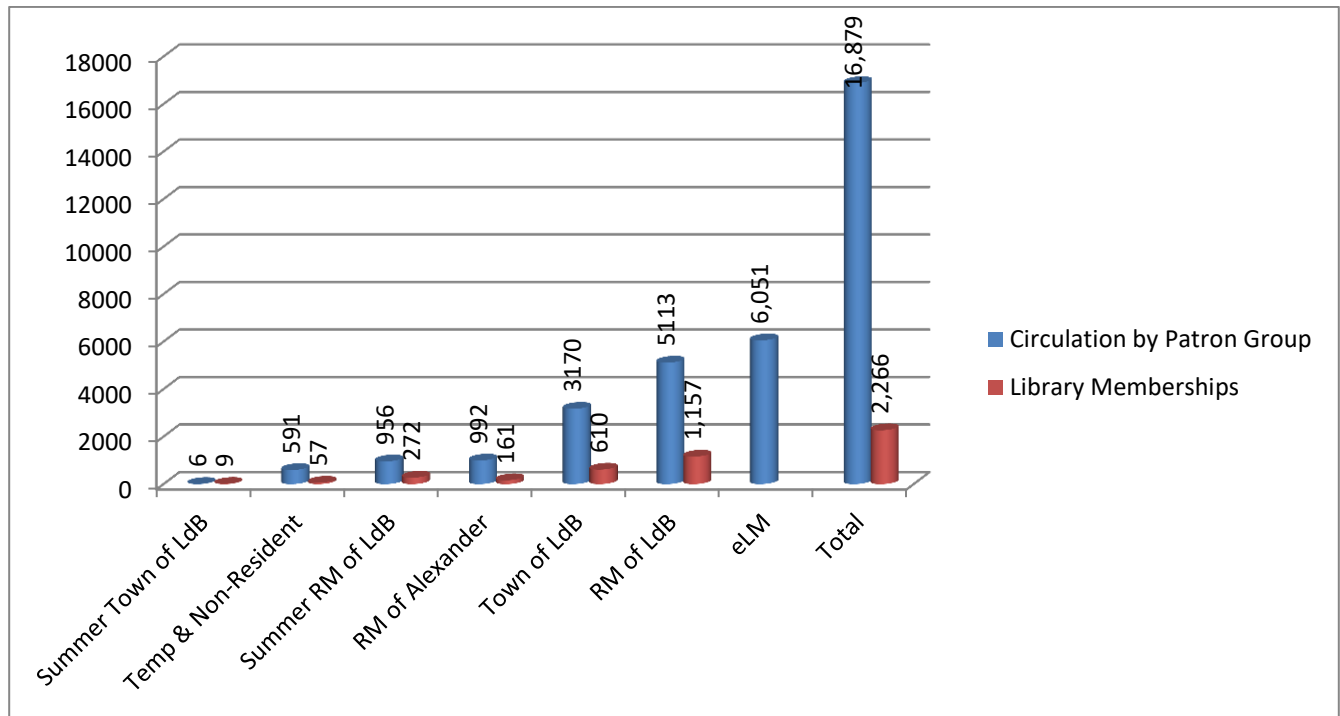
This is a joint effort by Board, Staff and Volunteers! A breakdown of these receipts is as follows:

Book Sales	1,560
Penny Jar	216
Patron Services	130
Misc.	54
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,960</b>

## Circulation Statistics

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
Adult Fiction	8,080	7,573	6,549
Adult Non-Fiction	1,107	1,199	578
Young Adult Fiction	318	276	265
Junior Fiction	1,057	1,087	1,205
Junior Non-Fiction	404	297	260
Children's	1,461	1,015	1,041
Magazines	1,211	939	913
Vertical File	2	0	5
ILL Incoming	454	249	527
ILL Outgoing	305	179	162
Sound Recordings	173	145	54
PLS Large Print	277	168	194
MLDB Large Print	299	269	263
Videos/DVDs	1,735	1,356	591
eLM (eBooks/eAudiobooks)	7,435	6,664	6,051
RBDigital (eMagazines/eAudiobooks)		N/A	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,616</b>	<b>21,416</b>	<b>18,678</b>

## Membership and Circulation Statistics (January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021)



*eLM = eLibraries Manitoba and RBDigital are electronic resources for all patron groups.*

*Rural Municipality of Alexander = Bird River area only*

A visit to the Library does not always result in a check-out of material – some patrons come to browse or read magazines, and others find the information they need in our reference section or on the Internet. This is not reflected in our circulation statistics. Total sign-ins for the Public Access Computers for 2021 was 156 (WiFi users not included). The Early Literacy Station has been restricted for young children this year. The Library website received ??? visits in 2021. ***Point of Interest:*** Despite all efforts made by staff over the years to collect, as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021, this Library is owed **\$6,583** in unpaid fines.



# **APPENDIX**

Library-Related Newspaper Articles  
Published in the Lac du Bonnet Clipper

2021

# LdB Library cancels fundraising supper

By Arlene Davidson

Vickie Short, head librarian at the Lac du Bonnet Regional Library, said their annual fall supper fundraiser has been cancelled for the second consecutive year.

"The library board made the difficult decision at their July board meeting to cancel their 2021 fall supper. The uncertainty of the crowd sizes allowed indoors, and if the Legion would be open left them no choice but to cancel the dinner," explained Short.

Despite the fact all restrictions were lifted Aug. 7 the cancellation remains intact due to the amount of time required to plan this event.

"We have to plan for this months in advance, with work bees for food prep and items like the turkeys are ordered in the early summer," explained Short.

Short said the past 17 months have proven to be a strange and yet uplifting time for the library staff.

"As of May 11, we were once again only able to allow curb side service for our patrons, and are fortunate to have many embrace this service," said Short.

She noted this was the third time the library had to close its doors since March 2020.

On July 17 the Province of Manitoba lifted the restrictions from public libraries and Short said she fully expected their digital eBook statistics to increase, but was surprised this was not the case.

"People still want to hold a book in their hands, and this was evident by the pure joy on people's faces when we re-opened. The library continues to be a crucial service for our community," said Short.

Library programming has taken on a new twist with their Summer Reading Club that meets twice a week. Short said the Wednesday sessions have been held outside and Thursday sessions were conducted via Zoom.

"We unfortunately had to cap our outdoor day at 24, but anyone is able to join us virtually on Thursdays. The kids are piling up the hours on their reading logs and are excited to enter in for our summer reading prizes," said Short.

The annual fall supper is the main fund-

raiser for the library and although the Town and RM continue to support the facility, the Province of Manitoba continues to hold its per capita levy at \$8.50.

"This level was set in place in 2004," said Short. "Seventeen years is quite a drought without an increase, thus the library is forced to fundraise to balance their budget."

In 2019, the annual fall supper netted \$5,900. Despite last year's cancellation, Short said they were fortunate community members and friends of the library stepped up with just over \$7,600 in donations.

Short hopes the donations for 2021 will be as generous and reminds the public charitable tax receipts will be issued for

contributions by cash, cheques, e-transfers, debit or credit cards.

Donations can be mailed to the Lac du Bonnet Regional Library, Box 216 Lac du Bonnet, MB R0E 1A0 or emailed to [mldb@mymts.net](mailto:mldb@mymts.net). For more information on how to support your local library please call 204-345-2653 or drop by for a visit.



## Fire Flyers

Photo by Arlene Davidson

Air attack officer Yogi Heron (left) and Gerry Honigman, group captain from the Northwest Territories, with an Air Boss at the Eastern Manitoba Fire Control Centre in Lac du Bonnet. The two are part of a contingent of support services deployed through the Canadian InterAgency Firefighting Centre to fight forest fires in eastern Manitoba. Read their story and the work being done on pages 8&9.

# Searching for great young Canadian writers

By Arlene Davidson

Staff members of the Lac du Bonnet Regional Library are encouraging local students to tell their stories in a search for the next great young Canadian writer.

First launched in 2012 by the Ripple Foundation, the purpose of the Kids Write 4 Kids creative writing contest is to empower the next generation of leaders by cultivating a passion for reading and writing in youth while fostering their creativity.

The contest is open to children in Grades 4 to 8 across Canada who submit their literary masterpiece online by March 31, 2022. The winning stories will be published in paperback and eBook editions available for sale. The proceeds of the book sales will be disbursed to charities selected by the winning student writers to foster a sense of philanthropy.

During the program's nine years the Ripple Foundation has published 19 books written by contest winners.

Laurie Kjartanson, public services coordinator at the Lac du Bonnet Library, expects some good submissions.

"With all the restrictions, adjustments and changes children are experiencing right now, I'm sure they have lots of stories to tell," said Kjartanson.

Lily Hodgson, assistant clerk at the Lac du Bonnet Library, is no stranger to creative ability and was herself a second place winner of another national writing competition called Polar Express. Hodgson had her story published when she was a Grade 6 student at Centennial School in Lac du Bonnet.

"Entering writing competitions is a good opportunity and is a fun and exciting experience. It can be really cool to see your name in a published book, especially for a young person," said Hodgson.

There is no entry fee or purchase required to enter the Kids Write 4 Kids creative writing contest. Stories must be original and written entirely by a single author, and can be fact or fiction, prose or poetry. Young writers can submit their entries online at [www.ripplefoundation.ca/kids-write-4-kids/contest/](http://www.ripplefoundation.ca/kids-write-4-kids/contest/)



Photo by Arlene Davidson

**Laurie Kjartanson (left) and Lily Hodgson from the Lac du Bonnet Regional Library encourage children to submit stories to the Kids Write 4 Kids creative writing contest.**