

2010 Annual Report



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Discovering the possibilities

From the Library Board

2010 was the first full year of operation in our new facility at the Montrose Cultural Centre. Visits increased from 86,000 in 2008 to 273,000 last year - more than triple in just two years. We've expanded our team of dedicated staff to accommodate the demand.

Not only are we seeing more visits and borrowing but interlibrary loan activity has almost doubled. The Board has made it a priority to grow the size of our book collection 9% by 2012.

These dramatic increases in the use of the Library confirm that the vision and foresight demonstrated by our supporters was accurate. Our municipal representatives, government and regional partners, local supporters and volunteers can all look back and confirm that the decision to pursue a new Library in Grande Prairie was the correct one.



Over the last year our Board has overseen the development of the 2011-2014 Strategic Plan for the Library. This is a major undertaking and it has involved input from a Planning Committee comprised of community members, Board and Library staff.

Five service priorities emerged that will guide our activities for the next four years: *Celebrating Diversity: Cultural Awareness; Creating Young Readers: Early Literacy; Satisfying Curiosity: Lifelong Learning; Stimulating Imagination: Reading, Viewing and Listening for Pleasure; Understand How to Find, Evaluate and Use Information: Information Fluency.*

With goals and objectives and a shared vision in place, we are confident that we will achieve a successful outcome.

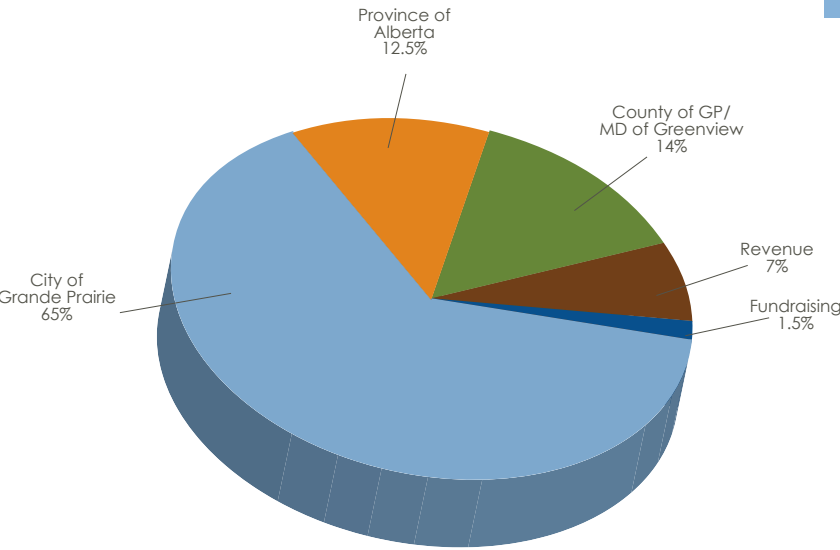
Also this year, long-time Board member and past Chair Dennis Young resigned. Dennis has been a strong and steady guiding force for the past 9 years and served his last four years as Board Chair. During his tenure, both the size and public awareness of the Grande Prairie Public Library increased dramatically. His experience and calm manner will be missed by his fellow Board members but we all wish him well in his future endeavours.

2010 was a year of phenomenal growth, intense challenges and rewarding results. I would like to thank Laurie Harrison and her staff for their continued commitment to excellence.

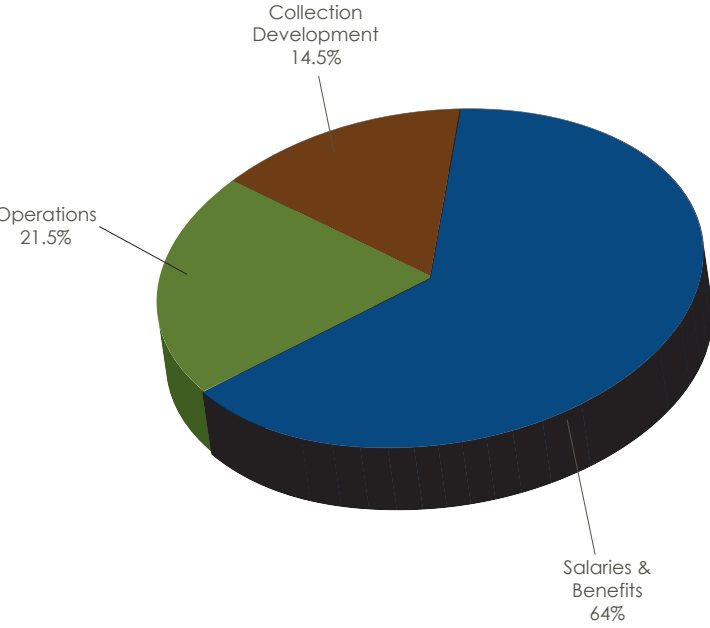
Gary Wood
Board Chairperson

Financial Report

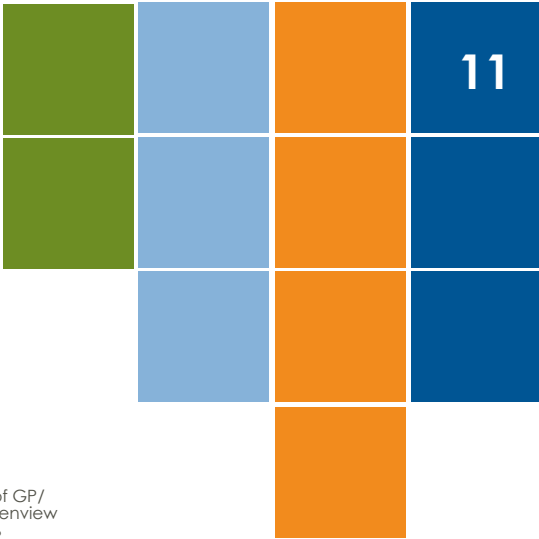
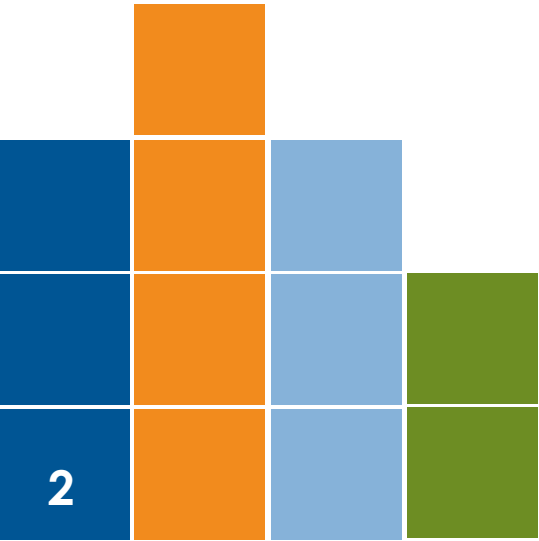
2010 FUNDING SOURCES



2009 EXPENDITURES



A copy of the 2010 audited financial statement is available upon request.



Caught You Reading

During Canadian Library Month, our staff and Board went out into the community to catch people reading. Regardless of what they were reading, they would receive a bookmark and a ballot to enter to win prizes at the Library.

During the week of October 4-8, approximately 2400 ballots were distributed throughout the community.



From our media sponsors (Q99 and the Daily Herald Tribune) who helped us to create a buzz in the community to those donating the lucrative prizes that had people returning to enter their ballots (Sears Canada, City of Grande Prairie), the support of our sponsors was paramount to the success of this promotion. Thank you!

CAUGHT
YOU
READING!



From the Library Director



The community continued to embrace the new Library and its services in 2010. The reasons people visit are as numerous, wide ranging and unique as every one of the 270,000 individuals who came through the doors last year. That variety is what we enjoy as library staff and that is also the challenge – meeting the diverse and changing needs of the community.

Our dynamic, dedicated and hardworking staff continued to enhance and improve our collections, programs and services this past year. In response to the need for more children's programs, additional after school and weekend programs were added. More programs in support of lifelong learning were offered as well ranging from nutrition to conflict resolution to financial planning.

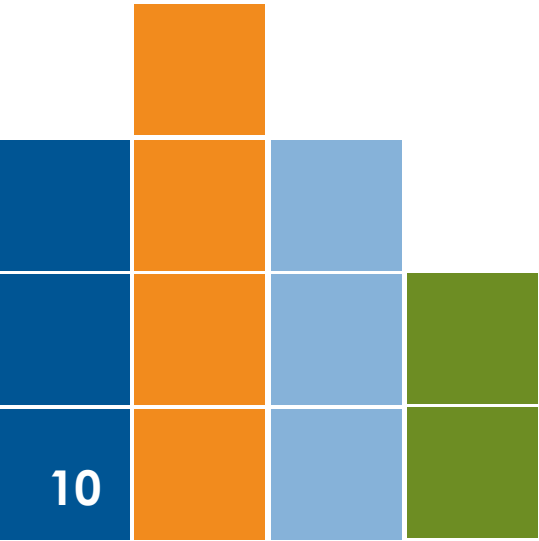
Staff also assisted people in developing the skills to find, evaluate and effectively use information to meet their needs through classes on using the Library catalogue, navigating the internet, searching our online research tools or downloading materials.

We continued to provide many ways to enhance people's leisure time, stimulate imagination and nourish creativity whether through World Movie Nights, Wii for Women, Music to Munch By or through writing groups for teens, adults and songwriters.

There's a saying that "if you don't like change, you will like irrelevance even less". To remain relevant, the Library must meet community needs. Our latest strategic planning process included a committee of 17 committed and dedicated community members working with Board and staff toward the common goal of strengthening Library services over the next 4 years.

We are excited about our new strategic plan and believe the direction it provides builds on the successes of the past two years and helps ensure that the library remains relevant and an essential service to the community.

Laurie Harrison
Library Director



Vision

The Library is a highly valued, welcoming and well-used community gathering place and a stepping stone for learning, personal enrichment and engagement.



GPCHS Girls Choir
performs at
Music to Munch By

Mission

To enrich, inform and engage the community by providing resources that promote discovery, lifelong learning and leisure pursuits.



2010 Summer Reading Game

Working With the Community

During our annual Food for Fines campaign, 1382 items were donated and \$2583.87 in fines were waived. This was a huge increase from last year - three times as many items were donated and double the fines were waived. Items were donated to the Salvation Army Food Bank.



left: Author Ted
Bishop presents
at Alberta Arts
Days

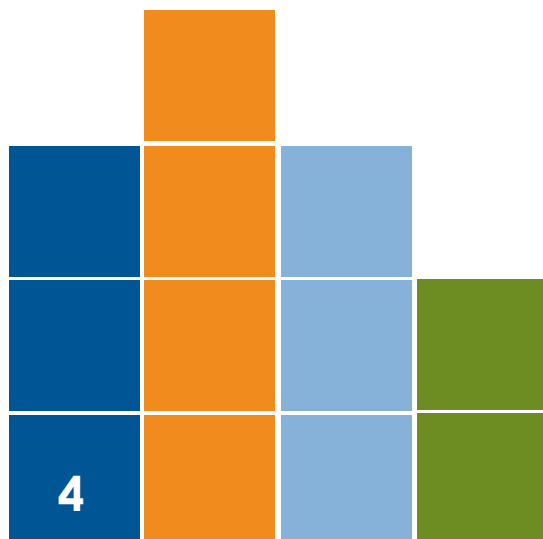
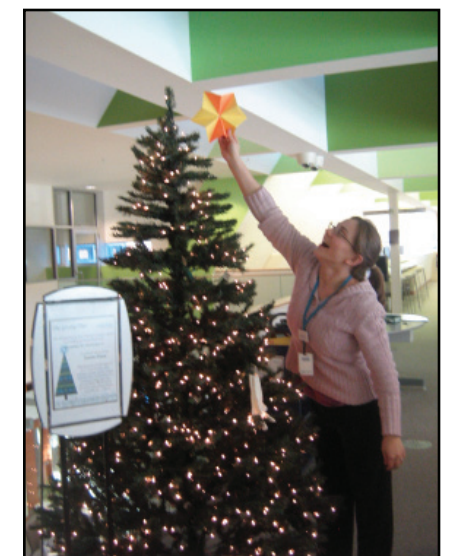
right: The Grande
Prairie Public
Library at the
2010 Community
Connections
Event



below: Our Annual Giving Tree
supported Sunrise House
in 2010



above: The Centre for Family Literacy
sponsored C.O.W. (Classroom on
Wheels) Bus



Volunteers at the Library



Congratulations to our 2010 Volunteer of the Year - Gary Wood!

I have had the pleasure of working with Gary since starting work here in 2005. He is a firm believer in the importance of having a strong, well-funded library as evidenced by all of his work during the building project and in advocating for the Library to our stakeholders.

In his work with the Board, he is pragmatic and solution focused. He has a positive, "can-do" attitude and as Board Chair provides outstanding guidance and leadership. Our staff appreciate the support and encouragement he provides to us in our efforts to provide excellent library service to the community.

*Laurie Harrison
Library Director*

**Thank you to our 76 volunteers
who donated over 1,600 hours
of their time!**

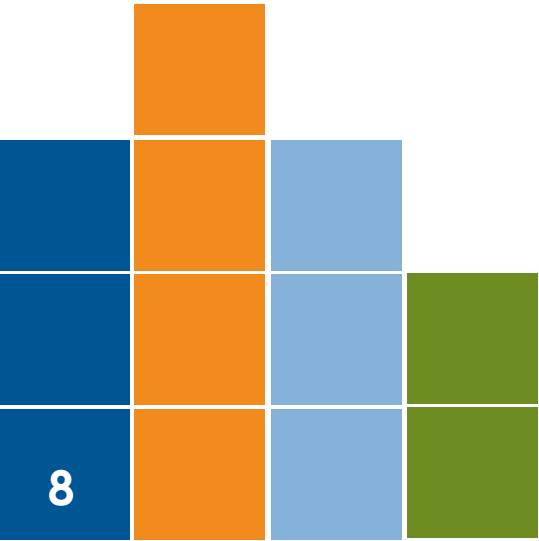


2010 Library Fast Facts



Winners and
judges of the
2010 Clem &
Muriel Collins
Writing Contest

	2010	Increase since 2008
Library memberships	12,444	58%
Circulation	478,468	25%
Visits to the Library	272,864	218%
Interlibrary Loan borrowing	62,234	79%
Interlibrary Loan lending	51,597	31%
Public Internet usage	72,366	58%
Staff hours	57,600	42%
Collection size	135,986	13%
Program attendance	10,023	71%



Library Programs

Adult Programs

1430 adults participated in programs at the Library.

Programs included *Grande Knitters*, *Grande Readers Book Club*, *Wii Women*, *Picture it with Diane Schuller*, *Design Ideas for Your Home*, *Adult Summer Reading Program*, *World Movies*, *An Introduction to Digital Scrapbooking*, *Grande Readers Book Club* and technology training on e-Books, Facebook and *Internet for Seniors*.



left: Design Ideas for Your Home



right: Adult Summer Reading Program



left: Seniors' Day

below: Picture It with Diane Schuller



Children's & Teen Programs



left: Bertie the Beaver visits

below: Illustrator Lorna Bennett



above: Artist Adrian Stimson discusses his work

below: Halloween Crafts with Chris Jammer



8,593 children from pre-school to teens took part in scheduled programs in the Children's Library.

Programs included: *the 2010 Summer Reading Game*, *author visits*, *encana Presents: Science in a Suitcase*, *Russian Storytime*, *Schoolhouse Songs Live*, *Teen Summer Book Club*, *Books to Big Screens*, *Future Readers*, *Baby Rhyme Time*, *Night Owls* and Library tours.

