

Message from the Board

We've always believed that libraries are much more than buildings and books. Libraries are a gathering place; a place that spans both generational and socio-economic boundaries. They are a place where people from all backgrounds come together to participate in life-long learning and leisure activities. When reviewing our list of many successes from the past year, it's apparent that many of you share this belief as well.

Our goal is to provide a library system that is second to none. That's why we've spent a significant amount of time over the past year examining how to renovate and expand the Main Library. We'll be seeking your input and Council's approval of these plans in 2008.

Our desire for a strong public library system will also drive the KPL Board's efforts as we develop a new strategic plan for 2009-2012. During this process, we look forward to hearing your ideas about the library's future and how we can serve you better.

Library staff, Board, volunteers, and partners are central to the success of Kitchener Public Library. Equally important is the funding support from the City of Kitchener and the KPL Foundation. Together we enhance the quality of life for Kitchener residents of all ages.



Dan Carli, 2007 Chair, Kitchener Public Library Board

KPL Quick Facts

Did you know . . .

- 3,400 people visit a KPL location every single day, making our library system one of the city's busiest resources
- Computer bookings and database usage have risen a staggering 240% in the past five years
- KPL makes available over 100 computer workstations, 80 of which offer free Internet access
- KPL provides access to over 80 online information databases, many of which are available remotely 24/7
- KPL card holders have access to thousands of e-books that can be downloaded and enjoyed on a variety of electronic devices
- One-half of all Kitchener residents have a KPL membership



2007 Financial Statement

Revenues

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| City of Kitchener | |
| Operating | \$8,059,335 |
| Capital | \$ 366,595 |
| Province of Ontario | \$ 286,755 |
| Special Grants | \$ 77,423 |
| Fines, Fees & Misc. | \$ 466,001 |
| 2006 Surplus | \$ 20 |
| Total Revenues | \$9,256,129 |

Expenditures

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Salaries & Benefits | \$6,637,018 |
| Library Materials & Processing | \$1,360,810 |
| Public Programs | \$ 40,480 |
| Buildings & Equipment | \$ 587,200 |
| Administrative | \$ 186,364 |
| Capital Projects | \$ 366,595 |
| Special Grant Projects | \$ 77,423 |
| Total Expenditures | \$9,255,890 |
| 2007 Surplus | \$ 239 |

2007 Highlights

- Our first annual photo contest, in partnership with the Waterloo Region Record, resulted in nearly 1,500 entries; far exceeding all expectations
- Celebrated the 40th anniversary of our popular Dorothy Shoemaker Literary Awards Contest
- Offered more than a dozen new e-Newsletters to keep our patrons better informed about library services, programs and collections
- Some 1,400 students and their teachers travelled free to KPL branches through a unique partnership with Grand River Transit
- Over 1,500 children participated in KPL's 2007 summer reading program
- 900 children participated in *Dive into Reading*, a partnership of KPL, city pools, and both school boards to promote literacy and fitness
- Persons with vision loss enjoyed improved access to talking books thanks to a generous donation from the KPL Foundation
- The library made 3,700 in-home visits to shut-in library users in 2007
- Introduced a new "Book Club In A Bag" service to better meet the needs of this popular group reading pastime
- Our first Wii gaming tournament for teens was a tremendous success, resulting in many calls from our teens for more



Looking Ahead

To better serve our growing community KPL will:


- Continue refining our plans for a renovated and expanded Central Library on Queen Street
- Continue working with our neighbouring partners on the Civic District vision
- Consult with our community to establish priorities for our 2009 - 2012 Strategic Plan
- Conduct additional focus groups and engage citizens throughout Kitchener about our plans for expanded library service
- Launch a redesigned website to better meet the needs of our growing online users
- Redesign our library catalogue to make it easier to use and take advantage of additional features
- Begin planning process for new community library branch in southwest Kitchener
- Begin planning for celebrations to recognize Kitchener Public Library's 125th anniversary (2009)
- Develop new family literacy strategies
- Implement Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) and self-checkout technology


Your 2007 Library Board


Mr. Dan Carli, *Chair*
Mr. Bruce MacNeil, *1st Vice Chair*
Ms. Elizabeth Esenbergs, *2nd Vice Chair*
Ms. Lynn Gazzola, *Finance Committee Chair*
Mr. Brian Burnley
Mr. Mike Farwell
Mr. Leszek Jankowski
Ms. Sue Morgan
Mr. Peter Sweeney
Councillor Kelly Galloway
Councillor Berry Vrbanovic


www.kpl.org

KPL
KITCHENER
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

Main Library
85 Queen Street North
519-743-0271 

Country Hills Library
1500 Block Line Road
519-743-3558 

Pioneer Park Library
150 Pioneer Drive
519-748-2740 

**Grand River
Stanley Park Library**
175 Indian Road
519-896-1736 

Forest Heights Library
251 Fischer-Hallman Road
519-743-0644 