



CONNECTING COMMUNITY. SHARING KNOWLEDGE. INSPIRING STORIES.

LIBRARY REPORT—Highlights of Library happenings, programs, and more!

June 15—September 14

The Library had a tremendous summer filled with lots of great programs, summer movie nights, storytimes, and more. Here are some highlights:

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

Book a Trip! Children’s Summer Reading Club

It was a great summer of reading for our community and for the Library. Summer Reading Programs started in June, but outreach in our local schools and community began in advance of that. By getting children excited about summer reading and establishing routines, we aim to help with summer “learning loss” and to stick with their school-year habits. We registered over 4,000 children (that’s 36 percent of the local elementary school population!) and are continuing to see finishers file in to receive their brand new books, provided by the Friends of the Library. We’re also celebrating with a fantastic Medal Ceremony, set to take place on Saturday, September 17. Stay tuned for final statistics on registrations and finishers in the October Library Report!



Some “Book a Trip” artwork up at Lynn Valley Library.

Adult Summer Reading Club BINGO

NVDPL created the wildly popular Adult Summer Reading Club, which took place throughout the summer. We received 109 entries—which nearly doubled the participation in 2015! We’re excited for this initiative to continue building traction in our community, and we’re happy to encourage adults to read as much as possible in the summer.

Teen Summer Reading Club

This is the first year that the Teen Summer Reading Club was created and run in-house—by our very own Teen Advisory Group! The group developed the structure of a teen Bingo card, designed the cover, and wrote content for the brochure. As we hosted this new NVDPL program, we registered 107 teens throughout the summer—that’s more than double the number of participants that we registered in previous years through the BC-run online program.

Ready 2 Read Kits

As introductory “reader” books are some of the heaviest used books from the NVDPL children’s collection, staff took initiative to develop a pilot program called “Ready 2 Read.” We created themed reading kits by placing five books of a similar topic (dogs, oceans, dinosaurs, super-heroes, etc.) inside a convenient take-home kit. These kits are an easy and fun way to pick out books that are appropriate for new readers and we look forward to see how well they are being received throughout the year.



An ocean-themed Ready 2 Read kit!

Drop In Book Clubs

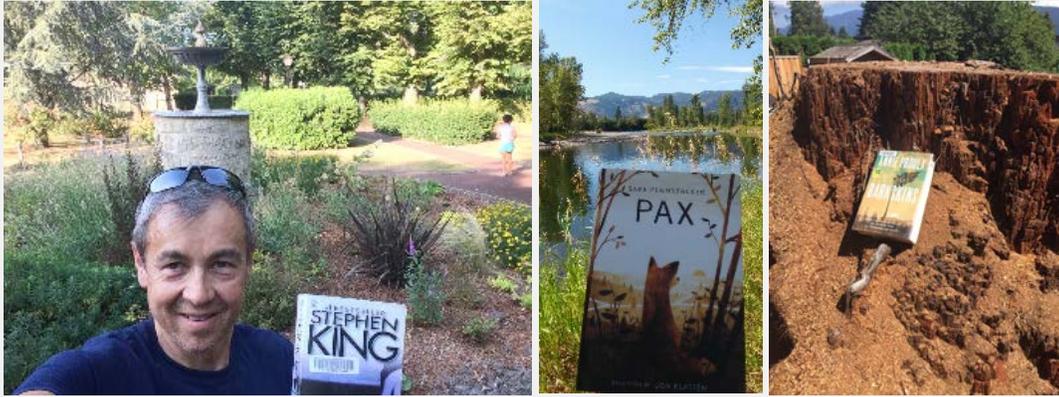
NVDPL Book Clubs have been an extremely popular staple program for over 20 years and would fill to capacity within a day of registration opening. As a result of the limited capacities, the previous model for running book clubs at NVDPL only allowed a small percentage of the local population to join and did not really allow for growth without tremendous budget and staff time impacts. NVDPL staff engaged in a community consultation session to receive input from patrons and book club participants about what the future of Book Clubs could look like at NVDPL, and created a model that would make use of our existing Book Club collection, invite and encourage more participants, and reach new demographics, all while preserving the community connections established over the last several years in our traditional Book Club.

What’s the result? There are six Drop-In Fiction Book Clubs which are run in a similar style to previous years in which discussions are run and facilitated by NVDPL staff. In addition, there are four new book clubs which will encourage more patron-led discussions: the Morning Coffee Book Club, the Afternoon Tea Book Club, the Armchair Detective Society: a Book Club for Mystery Lovers, and Cooking the Books: A Library Cookbook Club. All are drop-in so there are no registrations and no fees.

We hope these new clubs will reach a large audience and facilitate social connection among residents while they read, learn, and discuss books together.

Summer Photo Contest

As this year's summer book clubs were themed around booking a trip, we asked our social media followers: "Where does your book take you"? We received some fantastic entries to our Book Selfie contest where people showed us how far and wide their books travelled with them throughout the summer—one came from Paris!



3 entries into the Summer Photo Contest.

PROVIDE ENGAGING SPADES TO CREATE KNOWLEDGE AND SHARE STORIES

Open Reception for the Donation of Clancy Dennehy Art

On Friday, June 15 the Library put on a wonderful Art Donation Reception at the Lynn Valley Library to celebrate the vibrant new art coming to all three Library locations from local donor, Dave Perfitt. Two of the three donated pieces have been installed already; the third will soon be located in the Parkgate library. Here are a few photos from the event:



"New Town" and "The Golden Spruce"



Attendees at the Art Reception.



Artist Clancy Dennehy poses with Jacqueline van Dyk, donor Dave Perfitt, and "Buntzen Powerhouse on Indian Arm."



Some additional pieces of Clancy Dennehy's artwork on display at Lynn Valley Library.

Book Launch: Where Mountains Meet the Sea

The North Vancouver District Public Library partnered with the District of North Vancouver and the North Vancouver Museum and Archives to organize and host two book launch events, celebrating the District of North Vancouver’s 125th Anniversary.

On Wednesday, June 22, the Library hosted a public Book Launch with author Daniel Francis, to celebrate the launch of *Where Mountains Meet the Sea: An Illustrated History of the District of North Vancouver*. The book, which was commissioned by the North Vancouver Museum and Archives, attracted a lofty crowd of over 100 people to the public launch.

On Saturday, June 25, the Library also hosted an exclusive Champagne and Chocolate Book, which was collaboratively planned with Heather Baker, event planner for the District’s 125th anniversary celebrations. Approximately 100 people joined us for an after-hours event in the Lynn Valley Library. Attendees enjoyed light refreshments and appetizers, and heard a “behind-the-book” talk from author Daniel Francis. Locals, including Mayor Richard Walton, also enjoyed a photo booth, a trivia game, and many dressed up as characters from bygone eras—prizes were handed out for best costumes. Here are a few photos from the fantastic event:



L to R: Daniel Francis, Mayor Richard Walton, and former MC Alan Nixon.



Attendees in costume pose in front of the photo booth green screen



Mayor Richard Walton and author Daniel Francis cutting the 125 cake.

“The Race that Eats Its Young”: A Talk with Barkley Marathon Runner Gary Robbins

The Library hosted a fantastic, sold-out program featuring awe-inspiring Barkley Marathons runner and local Gary Robbins, husband of NVDPL staff member Linda Barton-Robbins! Gary made it the farthest a Canadian has ever finished in the gruelling Barkley Race.

The race is extremely unique and is not open to everyone. It involves a secret application process and only 40 runners selected each year. It's a 60-hour foot race in an obscure Tennessee forest which involves 133,000 ft. of elevation change. With the North Vancouver population being so active, this was an extremely relevant, appealing, and informative talk for residents. As a result of the popularity a repeat of this program will take place in October.

Family Dance Party

On July 9, the Library held a Family Dance Party on Lynn Valley Plaza to celebrate Summer Reading Club, which was co-sponsored with North Vancouver Recreation and Culture Commission (NVRC). Hannah Shira Naiman, a local musician, taught an enthusiastic group some fun dances out on the Lynn Valley Plaza—and afterwards a patron sought out the CD to borrow from the Library, as she enjoyed the day so much she wanted to teach the songs and dances at seniors dance classes. It was a great community connection.



Families having a blast on the Lynn Valley Village plaza.

A Celebration of Pride

All branches hosted celebrations of Pride on Friday, July 29 and throughout the week. We played music (in the Library!) and handed out refreshments to engage with the public and promote an inclusive atmosphere. Staff promoted resources, booklists, and materials to patrons at all branches to encourage community learning and understanding.



Pride Celebrations at Lynn Valley (left) and a colourful resource display at Capilano (right)

FOSTERING COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

Lynn Valley Day

It was a soggy day on June 18 when NVDPL staff took to the streets to celebrate Lynn Valley Day. Staff, alongside Juniper the Dog and the NVDPL Van, dressed up in travel gear to promote the “Book a Trip” Summer Reading Club in the Lynn Valley Day parade. We heard lots of positive comments “WE LOVE THE LIBRARY!” and “We’re signing up right after the parade!”—and it was great to see so many smiling faces on a dark and gloomy day.



R: Library staff preparing for the parade

L: People enjoying the NVDPL tent!

Storytime on the Trails

Throughout the summer Parkgate Library hosted TWO brand-new storytime events, developed in collaboration with the North Shore Mountain Bike Association (NSMBA). Despite some rain at the inaugural event, we had a happy group of participants join us for Storytime on the Trails. NSMA chatted with the kids after storytime about trails in B.C., good trail etiquette, and sustainability in the forests!



Storytime on the Trails at Old Buck Trail Head.

Peace Bus

The North Vancouver District Public Library was very happy to host a group of Canadian Youth at all three Library locations on Thursday, June 30. The teens were a collective of 13 Canadian delegates aged 14-18, along with two adult leaders, who travelled the country on a 39 day journey. They volunteered in communities, engaged in educational projects, participated in team building experiences, and learned about Canada.

We were lucky to have a personal connection to one of the participants—Abbey Firkins—who is the daughter of Director of Library Services Jacqueline van Dyk.

The Peace Bus kids helped out at each branch for the day, making buttons, chatting and playing with kids, and learning about the Library. They then volunteered at the NVDPL tent on Canada Day at Waterfront Park.



CISV Peace Bus delegates pose with their bus (left) and Jacqueline van Dyk (right).

Canada Day

In conjunction with the North Vancouver City Library, NVDPL hosted a library tent at the Canada Day activities at Waterfront Park down by Lonsdale Quay. We had a wonderful display and promoted Summer Reading Club to attendees, and even signed up kids for the “Book a Trip!” club at both NVCL and NVDPL. We had a fantastic prize wheel which was made in-house—it attracted over 1,000 people to our booth! Peace Bus delegates helped with engaging with people, handing out prizes, blowing bubbles, and signing up children for Summer Reading Club. It was a fantastic and fun outreach opportunity which we look forward to participating in again in 2017.



The NVDPL tent at Waterfront Park.

NUTURING AN ENGAGED, ADAPTIVE ORGANIZATION

Lynn Valley Youth Survey

In collaboration with the North Shore Neighbourhood House, the Library ran a Youth Survey during the summer to find out how local youth aged 10-24 see the Lynn Valley area and the Library serving teens, now and in the future. As responses are analyzed, we look forward to sharing the data!

Library Experience Survey

Patrons have the ability to influence and inform future decisions made about Library spaces and services—and we want to hear from them! We promoted the survey online, in our newsletter, e-newsletter, and distributed physical copies in all branches. The Library Experience Survey is currently open to North Shore residents and will end on September 18, and we look forward to seeing the results.