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to our financial contributors!**

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**Thank You
to our many partners who generously share
resources, ideas, and enthusiasm!**

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Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy
Elkford SYS.tem Youth Network
BC Association of Community Response Networks
Parent Tot Funtimes

**Thank You
to our wonderful volunteers!**

Your contributions are invaluable. Thank you so much for supporting the library.

**And last, but not least,
Thank You
to all of our patrons!**

Please let us know how we can help you!



Elkford Public Library

Elkford Public Library

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**Elkford Public Library
2022 Annual Report**



Elkford Public Library Director and staff, winter 2022. Back (left to right): Hannah Newbury, Jeanette Fairbairn, Vera Rees. Front: Alex Faucher.

Board of Directors

Dallys Kmiecik, Chair
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Staff

Alexandra Faucher, Library Director
Jeanette Fairbairn, Library Clerk
Hannah Newbury, Library Clerk
Colleen Welter-Gavey, Casual Clerk

Elkford Public Library

Our Mission: To serve and empower the community by providing library resources, information, ideas, and learning opportunities.



Final day of Summer Reading Club.



Stop motion animation workshop.

Fostering Connected Communities

Online Resources: Demand for electronic books remains high, and purchasing electronic books and audiobooks exclusively for Elkford Public Library patrons continues through funding from the COVID-19 Relief & Recovery grant. Ninety titles were purchased with the grant for our OverDrive Advantage collection based on demand from our patrons. Kermode was added to our online resources, a service which helps guide the critical examination of online content. Professional development courses through Gale Courses and LinkedIn Learning continue to be offered through our website.

Hardware Upgrades: Our employees now have up-to-date desktop computers running Microsoft Windows 11 Pro.

Loanable Technology: New items have been added to our loanable technology collection, including a light therapy lamp and a Bat Pack, the latter which includes technology and instructional materials for local bat watching.

Working Together

Story Walks & Take 'n' Make Crafts: Back by popular demand, in 2022 we offered story walks and craft kits to library patrons throughout the spring and summer. This program was funded through the COVID-19 Relief and Recovery grant. Grant funding will be used to continue this program in 2023.

No More Overdue Fines: The Elkford Public Library Board has voted to go fine-free, permanently. Patrons are no longer responsible for overdue fines on any borrowed materials.

Building Capacity

Resources for Jobseekers: One-on-one assistance from Kootenay Employment Services continues to be available monthly at the library. Library employees also assist jobseekers during regular library hours.

Drop-In Tax Help: In 2022 we had a tax expert available at the library during tax season, providing one-on-one help to patrons on a drop-in basis. Patrons could get answers to their tax questions and learn how to do things like set up My Account at the CRA.

Emergency Preparedness: The library now has an emergency preparedness book collection as well as take-home materials for individuals emergency planning for their home or business. Thank you to the RDEK for funding this collection.



Winners of our draw for a 72 hour emergency kit.

Legal Collection: Our legal collection is kept up-to-date with an annual grant from Courthouse Libraries BC through the LawMatters program. This year we added several new titles, including books on civil law, child support guidelines, employment law, and copyright legislation. We also have legal resources available online through our webpage.

Sustaining Our Success

New Strategic Plan: In 2022, the Board developed our 2023-2027 strategic plan, which was approved in January 2023. Several new initiatives which will be rolled out over the next five years are covered by the new strategic plan, including the development of a five-year financial plan, marketing plan, collection maintenance policy, and privacy management program.

Collection & Inventory Maintenance: Employees at the library have focused on collection & inventory maintenance in 2022. The goal of weeding is to increase engagement with the collection by keeping the collection relevant to patrons' needs and interests, to address the need for physical space in the library, and to make the collection more visually appealing and titles easier to find. Over 1,000 outdated volumes were weeded from our collection in 2022. Having enough physical space is an issue for a small space like our library, and employees also put considerable effort into organizing our storage area and uncatalogued inventory items.

Temporary Clerk Position: With funding from the COVID-19 Relief & Recovery grant the library was able to hire a Clerk on a fixed-term contract to assist with inventory maintenance and to cover employee absences. This position rolled into a permanent, part-time position when we said goodbye to our Library Clerk, Vera Rees.