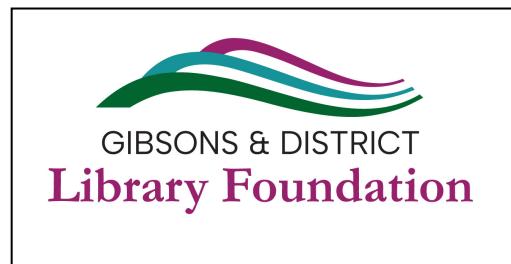


Gibsons & District Library Foundation

2023 Annual Report

Report from the Chair

This year your Board has been spending time developing ways to make the name of the Foundation more visible in our community. One project has been the creation of a website designed by Alison Taylor of Digital Dandelion company. During this collaborative process Alison suggested it might be time to refresh our current logo to make it a bit more dynamic including some font and colour changes which could then be incorporated creating the look of the web site. The logo was designed in 2004 by Roger Handling and echoes the appearance of pages of one side of an opened book and the sweeping curve of the library building's roof. With the refreshed colours it also speaks to the beautiful view that staff and patrons enjoy when visiting the Library, with the swooshes representing the grassy foreground in green, the blue waters of Howe Sound, and the more distant mountains coloured by summer sunsets.



We also developed a catch phrase (thank you to Tom Hayward for his ideas) and we will now be using the phrase “The Foundation for a better Library” in our advertising such as bookmarks, posters and it is incorporated into the new web site.

We are pleased with the new website and we are hoping that we can increase our visibility and make it easier for donors to donate. There is the ability to become a monthly donor and donors can specify if they would like their funds to go different areas such as General Operating Fund, Endowment Fund, In Memory Of or Library Expansion Fund.

We spent a couple of days at the Sunnycrest Mall Holiday Market in November promoting the Foundation and selling tea towels. It is a great way to meet members of our community while promoting our name.

We are in our second funding year of a 3-year agreement with the Library to provide funding for S.T.E.A.M. Kits and their upkeep. In 2023, the Library used some of the \$5,000 payment to purchase new kits like an Arduiono Explore Kit for advanced students to learn about online devices and online tools and how they communicate, a Nintendo Switch and 12 Nintendo games, a podcasting kit, an audio recording kit, an infrared camera kit and a sewing machine. Some of the funds were also used to replace worn or damaged pieces from existing kits. These kits cover a diverse range of interests that provide hands-on experience. They are very popular and often have a waitlist.

After surveys and consultations with the public, the Library felt it was time to create a designated space that was more attractive for teens and youth and they approached the GDLF for funding for a Youth Area Enhancement Project. To get the project started and supplies ordered, the GDLF provided \$30,000 to the Library in 2023 as an initial payment towards the project and have approved contributing approximately another \$22,000 in 2024 to facilitate the completion of the renovation.

We were very fortunate to have received a substantial bequest from Joe Peters in 2023 and part of his generous bequest will be used to finance the Youth Area Enhancement Project. We are so grateful to Mr. Peters for considering the GDLF as a recipient of these funds. His generous gift will help provide a space for youth to relax in a comfortable setting exploring what the library has to offer. The balance of Mr. Peters' bequest will be invested to keep on giving for projects, programs and services into the future that the Library requires funding for and will continue to enhance the Library and enrich the community.

Thank you to all the Board who volunteer their time and expertise and thank you to our members for continuing to support the GDLF in whatever way they can.

Elaine Jackson

Chair

Gibsons & District Library Foundation