

Lethbridge Public Library

Rapid Facts ...

- **VISITS:** 405,307 people visited Lethbridge Public Library
- **ITEMS LOANED:** 802,134 – the equivalent of 11 items for every man, woman and child in the city
- **REFERENCE questions** answered: 195,530
- **PUBLIC ACCESS INTERNET USES:** 53,387
- **IN-HOUSE USE** of materials: 215,535
- **COLLECTION SIZE:** 438,601 including books, subscriptions, cassettes, cd's, microfiche, microfilm, videos, DVD's, CD-ROM's, toys
- **VOLUNTEERS:** 316 volunteers, including the *Friends of the Lethbridge Public Library*, dedicated 5,595 hours to Library programs and projects

Programs ...

- 346 program sessions were offered attracting 25,945 people. Partnership programs continued with *Lethbridge Horticultural Society*, *Lethbridge Historical Society*, *Bonsai Society of Southern Alberta*, *LCC Public Legal Education*, *Children's Literature Roundtable* and the string quartet, *Musaeus*
- *Ask a Question*, the provincial virtual reference service, was launched in April
- *Saturday Matinee* a new program for children was introduced
 - 97% of students in *Read-On*, the Library's adult literacy program, rated the program 'excellent'
 - Children's summer reading programs appealed to over 1,900 readers



The Library's North Wing - paperbacks, audiovisual materials and fiction

Improvements ...

- Public use computers replaced with new flat screen monitors, CPU's and peripherals
- Lighting intensity in the children's area doubled
- Phase one renovations to the lower level of the north wing completed. The addition of automatic doors provides improved public access to the Theatre Gallery and Community Meeting Room as well as enhanced security



Improved public access has increased the popularity of the Theatre Gallery for programs and meetings.

Outreach ...

- The *Books for Babies* program presented over 800 new parents with kits containing books, information and 'baby's first library card'
- *Storytellers-at-Large* brought the library to 11,050 children at over 35 Lethbridge schools and daycares
- An *Aboriginal Fair* was held at the Library in partnership with Sun Country Child and Family Services. This event helped better acquaint the public with aboriginal resources in the Lethbridge area
- The *Lethbridge Regional Science Fair*, a week long event in which Lethbridge Public Library was an active participant, took place in October
- Volunteers in the *Homebound Reader*, *Talking Book* and *Books on the Move* programs continued their service to Lethbridge citizens

Achievements ...

In 2003, close to half a million people visited Lethbridge Public Library facilities, enjoying access to books, magazines, videos, DVD's, Books-on-Tape, CD's, music cassettes, electronic on-line databases, the Internet, educational and entertainment programs, meeting rooms and much more. Through the dedication of its knowledgeable and customer-service oriented staff, the Library continued to be recognized as the premiere public source for current, accurate information and entertainment services for people of all ages in Southern Alberta.

In October the Library proudly opened the community's first Information Literacy Centre to assist citizens in Lethbridge and Southern Alberta to develop and maintain a competitive edge in this information age. The Centre, housed in the Library's north wing, is a place where people of all ages may learn the latest techniques in accessing information on the Internet and other electronic sources, free-of-charge.

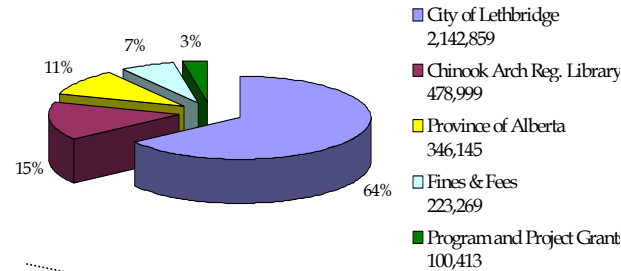
Generous funding from the City of Lethbridge enabled replacement of the Library's aging public access computers with over forty (40) state-of-the-art computer workstations housed throughout the facility. These workstations are used by the public to access the Library's catalogue, the Internet and various other electronic resources.

To facilitate greater public access to resources and services, the Library launched its new website www.lethbridgelibrary.ab.ca allowing direct 24 hour/day, 7 day/week accessibility to a variety of information services from your computer desktop at home, in the office or at school.

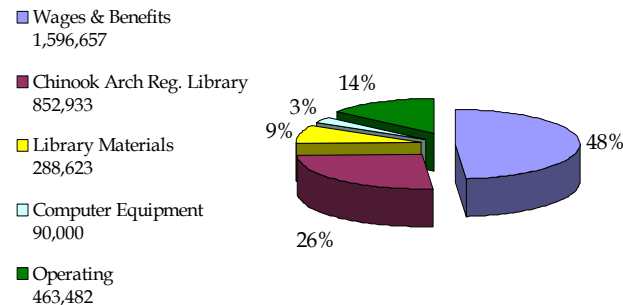


Financial Report 2003 Operating

Revenue



Expenditures

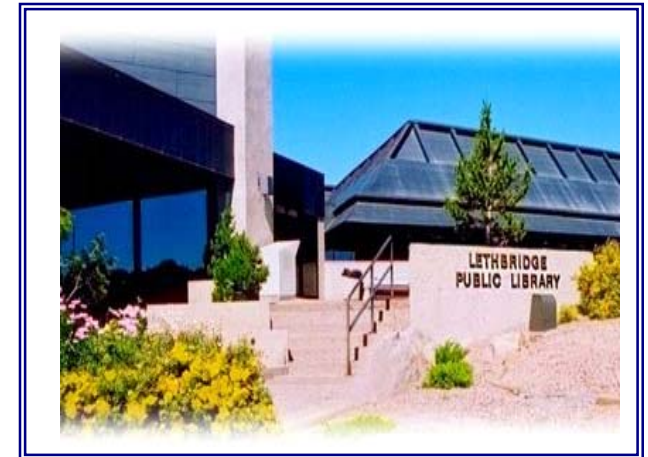


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Annual Report



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