

Recreation and Culture



2014 Youth Provincial Soccer Tournament held at Exhibition Field

Recreation and Culture is responsible for facility maintenance, community events and sports field bookings.

Third Quarter Report, 2014



**CITY OF
CHILLIWACK**

CANADA DAY

The start of the third quarter of 2014 was kicked off with a very hot but exciting July 1st, 2014 Canada Day celebration. The Chilliwack Arts Council coordinated a fun filled day which started with the annual Kiwanis sponsored pancake breakfast. Over 300 people were treated to pancakes, sausages and coffee served by our local RCMP members dressed in their red surge.

Following the breakfast the crowds were treated to a number of bands who took to the main stage at the Chilliwack Landing site. While there people could take part in a number of activities coordinated by a variety of local organizations. Children had an even greater bonus of several giant bouncy castles, face painting and a mini sports day to participate in.

Other highlights of the event were; Fanboni rides, sponsored by the Chilliwack Chiefs, a dunk tank which raised funds for the Chilliwack Animal Safe Haven and the ever popular Rotary Train were also well received by the Canada Day participants.



Canada Day Chair Patti Lawn and Her Worship Mayor Sharon Gaetz.

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THE CHILLIWACK LANDING LEISURE CENTRE CELEBRATES FOUR MILLIONTH PATRON

To help celebrate the facility's 12th birthday City Councilor Ken Huttema, Manager of Leisure Development Carol Marleau and staff from the Chilliwack Landing Leisure Centre were on hand to welcome the facility's four millionth patron.

The lucky patron was Mr. Teemu Rautiala who was awarded a one year facility pass amongst a few other prizes. Mr. Rautiala stated that he has attended the Chilliwack Landing Leisure Centre every day for the past four years. Having won the facility pass will ensure he can visit for many more days to come.

Congratulations were given to Mr. Rautiala on his prize and for making being active and healthy a part of his everyday routine.



4 Millionth Winner Mr. Teemu Rautiala



Tiki, one of the four legged participants honouring Terry Fox.

TERRY FOX RUN

September 14th marked the 33rd year of the Terry Fox Run and here in Chilliwack it was hosted at the Landing Sports Centre. The weather was sunny and warm and the two hundred and seventy eight registrants and twenty-two dogs participated in the event this year and helped raise close to \$13,000.

For those who wanted to fuel up prior to the run/walk the MT. Cheam Lions Club prepared a delicious breakfast of pancakes and sausages and Decades complimented that offering with some delicious coffee. Other donations came from Hofstedes who provided oranges and The Water Store who supplied the water to all those involved.

CADREB SCULPTURE

On September 27, the president of the Chilliwack and District Real Estate Board unveiled their commissioned sculpture installed in front of the Chilliwack Cultural Centre. To celebrate CADREB's 50th anniversary Clayburn artist, Jim Unger, was commissioned to create a sculpture commemorating the event. This was the first project to be considered under the recently adopted Chilliwack Public Art Policy and the newly created Chilliwack Public Art Advisory Committee. The sculpture entitled "Visions" allows the viewer to imagine the past, present and future of the community. The 12 foot tall sculpture, engineered site and installation costs were all covered by CADREB and donated to the City.



Visions

Party in The Park

Each year Party in the Park to helps showcase downtown Chilliwack creating a positive experience for the community, which can be difficult when closing down roads and clearing out parking areas. This year's Party went through a number of changes right from the early planning stages. The most significant of which was reducing the number of dates to four from the regular eight. This change freed up resources that allowed for more children activity including an extra bouncy castle each night, additional balloon artists as well as the ability to extend the hours for most of the activities.

The capital improvements to Mill Street opened up the flow of people towards the food trucks on Wellington Ave, giving businesses along the route more exposure. This change encouraged more local shops to extend their shopping hours .

The 2014 Party in the Park season showed a renewed focus on local entertainment, including bringing back Trevor McDonald to act as host, line up all the entertainment acts and help with promotions.

The BIA is grateful every year for the support from the City of Chilliwack, who provides funding through the Community Development Initiative Funding program and through staff support the and downtown business community. Planning for the 2015 Party in the Park has already started and organizers expect to build on the successful changes made for 2014.

Estimated attendance for the 2014 Party in the Park season:

July 11th - 6,000-7,000

Aug 15th - 3,000-4,000

July 18th - 4,000-5,000

Aug 22nd - 8,000+

Chilliwack Track and Field Complex -Sardis Secondary

After 21 years the track received a full resurfacing. At the same time the long jump and pole vault areas were relocated from the “infield” and a new hammer and discus throw area was created in the adjacent grass field. Although most of the work is completed, there are some deficiencies that will have to wait till the spring of 2015 to be completed.

Renovations at **Twin Rinks** were made to the public washrooms at Rink 1 and 2, this included auto flush valves for urinals. New LED lights for rink 1 and 2 were ordered and installation will take place in October.

At the **Exhibition Field/Grandstand** a new LED scoreboard was installed and 2,000 linear feet of bleacher seating was replaced in the grandstand.



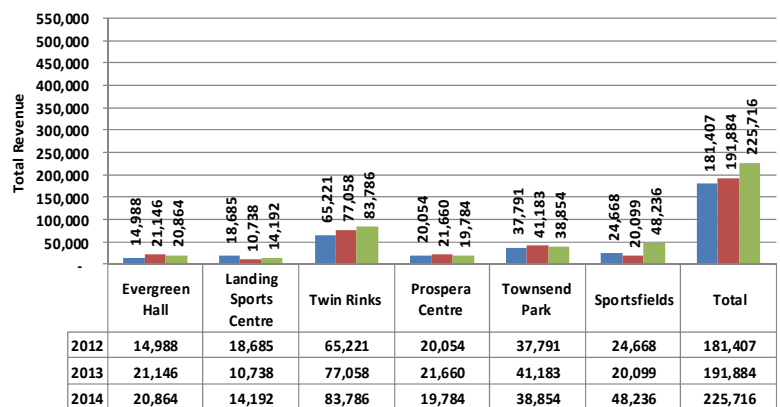
Long jump area Sardis Track



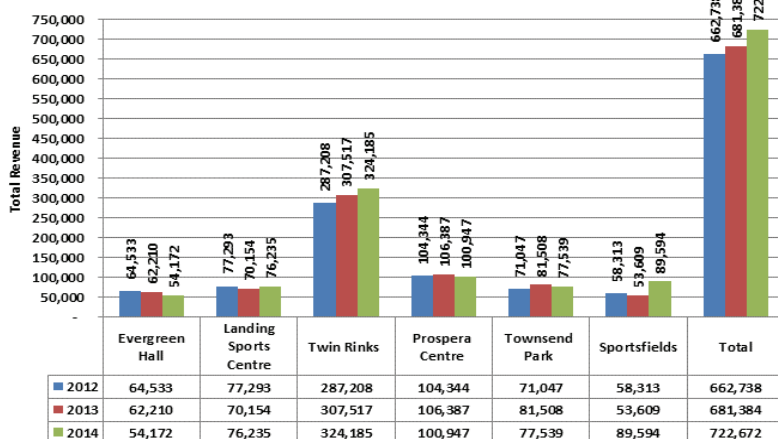
Hammer throw area-Rugby Field Sardis Track

Recreation and Culture Facility Revenue

Recreation & Culture Department 3rd Quarter Facility Revenue



Recreation & Culture Department Year to Date Facility Revenue

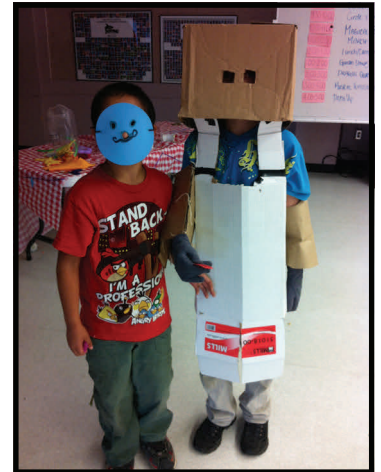




Several of **Chilliwack Central Elementary Community School's** half day activity programs had to be canceled in the first part of the summer due to low registration stemming from the teachers strike. The programs that did run were soccer, karate, zumba kids and home alone all of which were well attended.

The Society completed its second year of running an all day "Summer Fun" day camp that ran for 7 weeks, 5 days a week from 9am to 5pm. The camp was staffed by two students through the Service Canada Student Summer Employment program.

These leaders were well qualified and kept the children engaged with a variety of games, sports, crafts, walks, water fun and fieldtrips all revolving around a new theme each week of the summer. The program also had several kids with recognized special needs, who in school usually have an Education Assistant present. This attendance lead to a greater diversity awareness for all involved . This program was very well attended throughout the summer and had several kids signing up weekly as well as kids returning from last year . The activity camps had 32 people registered and when combined with the all day camps there were 105 people who participated in programs through the third quarter of 2014.



Yarrow Community School held many programs over the summer such as, Fun Day Camps, Summer Jelly Beans, Kelsey's Art Cams, Drama, Nerf Nerds, and Gymnastics. The International Students Support was held in the summer at three different Community Schools due to the teachers strike, and approximately 75-80 participated in this program.



Facility rentals finished with a record for the school year of over 190 rental contracts for a variety of user groups including; family parties, workshops/meetings, youth sports teams, music lessons.

It should be noted that the community school experienced some difficulties with facility use and programming during the Teacher's Job Action/Strike making it a bit more complicated to plan programs.

Rosedale Traditional Community School

felt the effects of the teacher job action this quarter. Due to the uncertainty of what to expect during this time, several bookings were denied. During the summer months the society did offer several kids activity camps, including cooking, gymnastics, cheer, soccer, and science. The society, with financial assistance from Service Canada, employed four summer students; three worked with children ages 6—12yrs in our Celebrate Summer Camp, and the fourth student worked as an office assistant. RTCSS welcomed back the Church of God for a four day convention, hosting over 500 people each day. The Spinners and Weavers returned for the third year for their annual 'Spin In' in September. Everyone in the community continues to enjoy and appreciate the facility. Approximately attendance for this quarter was 5000 patrons.



Greendale Elementary Community School Society's

ability to operate fully during the summer was seriously impacted by the teacher's strike. There may have been a misunderstanding among parents and the community that the school was closed, as the other schools were. This led to the cancellation of the first week-long program due to lack of numbers. Later programs ran successfully, as the community school advertised in all media available that it was operating and programs were running. The Kindergym, program combining an hour of gymnastics with an hour of stories and songs, proved very popular the third

quarter.

Rentals have been very slow all summer and this has continued into the early fall. There were cancellations due to the uncertainty that surrounded crossing picket-lines or not.

Since school started again they have introduced some new programs to their weekly agenda including square dancing for the community and Community Choir for younger children. Both are proving popular and will continue at least for the time being. Other programs have re-started now that school is back in session. Valley Christian Ministries continue to use the facilities every Sunday.



40+ participants attended regular evening weekly programs including Yoga and Little Kickers Pre-School soccer.

The school hosted Movies in the Park for the local MB church.

34 children in total attended two week-long programs in the summer and one Babysitting course.

Promontory Heights Elementary Community School Association enjoyed a wonderful summer of programs and activities. Our popular daycamp program “Sun n Fun” was a near full capacity for the entire seven weeks of summer programming. The popular summer preschool, sports, fine arts, and activity camps were well attended also this summer, with a total of 38 programs being offered. Program offerings included the preschool camps featuring ‘Let’s go Camping, Tiny Chefs, Bugs & Butterflies, How does your Garden Grow, Children around the World, & Music in the Sun’. Fine arts and activity camps included an Introduction to Water-colors, Pastel portraiture, Drawing, Summer Crafts and ‘Music in the Sun’. The sports camps were well-attended with everything from building your ‘Basket Ball Basics’, Soccer & Rhythmic Gymnastics, to Karate, & Pacific Sport camps. Activity camps for ages 7 – 12 years included: ‘What’s cook’n Kids’, ‘Baking up a Storm’, ‘3D Animation’, ‘Video Game Design’ and Lego camps. The popular drop-in program ‘Tween Night’ was offered two times per week on Tuesdays & Thursdays to provide the kids (grades 5- 7) a chance to socialize with their peers in a safe and fun environment.

The Sun n Fun day camps offered an exciting variety of themed weeks included a special field trip once per week. Kids enjoyed attending the Project Climbing Center, Historic Yale, Bridal Falls Water Park, Great Escape Lazer Tag, Vancouver Aquarium, Wild Play elements Park, and the H.R. MacMillan Space Center! Sun n Fun themes sought to include learning and fun in each daily agenda. Kids learned about the secret life of sharks, what it would be like to live on the moon, and interesting wildlife conservation facts. Week #7 was especially fun with a theme called “Intergalactic Explorations”. Here kids had the opportunity to attend the H.R. MacMillan space Center and explore all the exhibits and programs offered there! There was a total of 755 campers enrolled in the summer programs.

To end the summer on a fun note PEHCCS hosted a Movie in the Park night where a crowd of 200 got to enjoy a movie under the stars compliments of the great weather we experienced. The community of Promontory Heights is greatly enriched by the variety of programs offered throughout the summer, and wishes to thank the City of Chilliwack for the continued support of the programs and special events.



WHERE ART COMES TO LIFE!

Although the third quarter is always the slow time for the Chilliwack Cultural Centre, this year was our busiest one yet. Highlights of the summer season include seven weeks of Arts and Crafts classes for kids, and a trio of fantastic concerts featuring Valdy, Lisa Brokop, and the gang from The Louisiana Hayride. The theatres we also filled with three great local productions, Secondary Characters *Into the Woods*, *For Whom the Groom Tolls*, and the Chilliwack Opera Group's *The Magic Flute*.

The quarter also welcomed Melissa Ratcliff as the new Principal of the Chilliwack Academy of Music.



Chilliwack Museum

Exhibitions

Spectrum (June 21 – August 4)
Photographers Jutta and Michael Schulz present an exploration in colour and light with images printed on aluminum.

Horses from the Mist of Time (August 9 to September 26) The exhibit explores the evolution of horses in North America from 50 million years ago.

New Exhibits

Two exhibits have been booked in the Chambers Gallery for 2015. An exhibit about Stó:lō basketry with a focus on baskets traded or sold in the 1920s and 1930s and the social and economic implications of these transactions (Feb., March 2015) and an exhibit called the Skowlitz

Community History Project will present information about recent archaeological work carried on the gravel reach section of the Fraser River (September, October, 2015). Staff will begin working on a larger exhibit, the History of Sports in Chilliwack, for the Museum's main exhibit gallery. It is anticipated that this exhibit will be open in late 2015 or early 2016.

Education Program

Homer Thompson (new program): Homer Thompson, raised in Rosedale, became one of the world's most recognized archaeologists after spearheading the uncovering of the secrets of ancient Greece while excavating the Agora in Athens. This program is being developed for Grade 7 classes. The program will be

introduced in 2015.

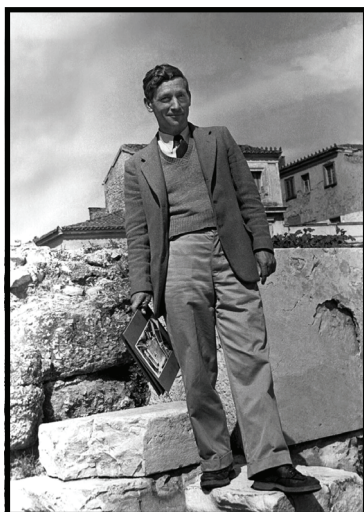
With the school year now officially started brochures have gone to schools advertising the programs. Bookings are starting to be made.

New Director

Advertisements for the Director's position were forwarded to numerous sites. The competition closes September 27.

Web site

The web site is continually being upgraded and the recent addition of a searchable database for the Chilliwack Progress covering the years 1891 to 1983 is now available for viewing or research. The years, 1984 to 1988, are scheduled to be added this fall.



Homer Thompson, who grew up in Rosedale, was made a Freeman of Athens in honour of his ground breaking work as an archaeologist at the Agora in Athens. (Chilliwack Archives P2000.50.2)



A visit to the Chilliwack Archives website will lead visitors to digitized versions of the Chilliwack Progress. This powerful new research tool resulted in a 25% increase in web traffic to the Museum and Archives web site immediately after it was posted.

The Great Blue Heron Nature Reserve visitor programs this summer included an open house which was attended by over 300 guests. Over the summer a number of free visitor events such as pond study, wetlands, nightlife and flying squirrels, were also well attended. The Reserve was fortunate to have two summer students coordinate the summer programs, camps, community outreach and special events allowing participation in Music & More, Chilliwack Walks, Canada Day, Harrison Festival of the Arts and the Chilliwack Fair. September was busy with many visitors from out of town and local families out enjoying time together however there were no schools booked for educational programs due to the teacher's strike. The Rotary Interpretive Centre underwent a few interior renovations this quarter and marks the start of a project to create more space for public programs and administration. Forty one volunteers worked close to nine hundred hours this quarter to host over six thousand visitors at the Rotary Interpretive Centre.



At **Chilliwack Heritage Park** summer is always a busy time of the year because for the most part, its horse show season! Things kicked things off with the Pro Trucker Show n' Shine, an event which is always a hit for 'big rig' enthusiasts. Then, the horses arrived – the Andalusian Show, the Dressage Show, the Peruvian Horse Show, the Reining Horse Show event and the Canadian Barrel Racing finals. The FV Food Truck Festival that was held in April at Heritage Park returned with more trucks, more food and classic entertainment. The Mt. Cheam Dog Show was also part of the event mix. We also can't forget the annual Chilliwack Fair, an event that agricultural enthusiasts have marked on their calendars each year.





Tablet Winners

The Third Quarter at the Cheam Leisure Centre was very busy with learn-to-swim lessons and other children's programs. In total, 995 children were registered into programs over the period. 263 children participated in the Day Camps that were offered during the BCTF job action to assist parents of school-aged children.

Jessica Hinbest was hired on as the new Services & Membership Coordinator and her first project was to promote the annual passes. These passes were sold for 15% off to new members and loyal members were rewarded with a higher discount level of 20%. Members also had the chance to win a tablet by purchasing a 12 month pass during the month of September. This promotion resulted in 176 memberships sold and 58 memberships activated. There was a daily average of 734 attendance for the facility and a total of 67,568 for the quarter.



**Chilliwack Landing
Leisure Centre**

The Third Quarter at the Chilliwack Landing Leisure Centre is typically busier in the pools and spray park and quieter in the weight room. This year showed typical attendance in these areas of the facility.

Summer was launched with Canada Day festivities on Tuesday, July 1st.

The Chilliwack Landing Leisure Centre staff members were considerably focused on training over the quarter. The aquatics team attended inservice sessions over July 2nd & 3rd. Topics covered were first aid, aquatic rescue, teaching learn-to-swim with a focus on preschool-aged children, safe work procedures, as well as

team-building. Senior staff attended a specialized training session on July 24th with a guest speaker focusing on work and personal goal-setting. Three fitness staff members attended the British Columbia Recreation and Parks Association Fitness Conference on September 5th. Nine candidates were trained as lifeguards over the week of August 11th – 16th.

The annual pass promotion resulted in 171 memberships sold and 244 memberships activated in this facility.

The Chilliwack Landing Leisure Centre has had an agreement with the University of the Fraser Valley Student Union Society over the last five years which allows UFV students to use the facility free of charge. This contract was due to expire August 31, 2014, but an agreement was negotiated to allow UFV continued use of the facility.

The Chilliwack Landing Leisure Centre celebrated its birthday on Monday, August 25th, as well as its 4 Millionth Customer.



Hawaiian Days



The Chilliwack Library's Summer Reading Club was a great success once again! Over 2,300 participants signed up at the Chilliwack Libraries and many also enjoyed our fantastic performers. Andrew the Magician, Chilliwack Library's own former Page, wowed audience members with his tricks along with his trusty sidekick, Rocky Raccoon in July, and the Purple Pirate delighted audience members with his "treasure box full of laughs." Music and More has also long been a summer tradition in at the Chilliwack Library. Every Wednesday during the

months of July and August, outside under the setting summer sun, the community has enjoyed a children's activity followed by local processional musicians showcasing their talents. Library staff has always participated in the planning, and this year the libraries played a more active role in the event. Music and More is a prime example of how the Chilliwack Libraries make every effort to be not just IN the community, but be a part of it. Because of its success at the two libraries, staff will look into the feasibility of expanding this event to

the Yarrow community in 2015.

September started off with a bang, with many parents and students looking to the library during the ongoing teacher's strike. Fifty two people were waiting to walk through the doors as soon as they opened September 2nd, and more than 1,400 people followed throughout the day. The library was prepared, providing self directed crafts, board games, puzzles, and of course...books! This month was consistently busy, proving once again how valued the Chilliwack Library is to its community.

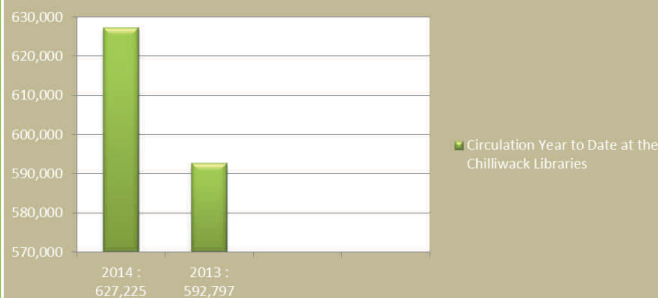


Andrew the Magician

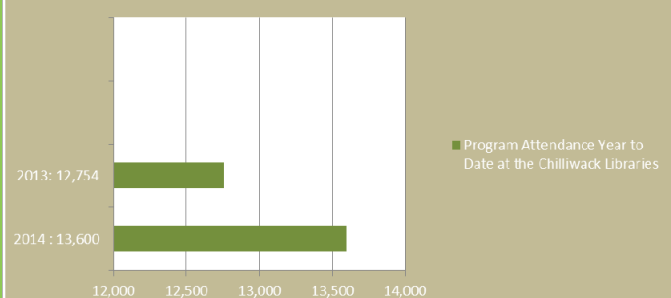


The Purple Pirate

Circulation Year to Date at the Chilliwack Libraries



Program Attendance Year to Date at the Chilliwack Libraries



Sardis Library

During July and August Sardis Library was full of laughter as kids, teens and adults participated in Summer Reading Club. This year's theme was "Funny Business". In all, over 1,200 participants signed up for Summer Reading Club at Sardis Library, including over 400 adults. A wide variety of programs were offered as a part of Summer Reading Club, including a local magician that was previously employed as a Page at the Chilliwack Library. The magician drew over 200 audience members, and in all the programs reached over 1,000 customers.

For the first time, during July and August Sardis Library hosted Music and More, a program that has been running at Chilliwack Library for many years. This year Music and More rotated

between the two libraries over eight weeks. Each week, the program consisted of a children's activity facilitated by a community partner followed by a drum circle or ukulele club and then the main act. The three dates at Sardis welcomed over 500 attendees. Feedback from customers included "Just wanted to say thanks for the music nights. They were awesome! So much fun, especially the drum circle."

Based on customer feedback, Sardis library has added a water fountain and a second catalogue station for customers to enjoy. Both are welcome additions and heavily utilized by our clientele. Sardis Library continues to meet and exceed the expectations of it's growing community.



Drum Circle Club



Music and More

Yarrow Library

Summer at the Yarrow Library got off to an early start due to the school strike at the end of June. Families were especially eager to register their kids for the Summer Reading Club. Staff were able to meet the demand by preparing plenty of Grab and Go bags, which enabled customers to quickly take home several books carefully pre-selected by staff and packaged to go.

Storytime in the Park took place in Yarrow's Pioneer Park on a beautiful July afternoon. Families enjoyed an outdoor storytime, face painting, and a craft. Yarrow's Envision Financial kindly supplied each family member with a bag lunch to enjoy a picnic in the sunshine, and "Monster the Puppet" bouncing on a parachute was a definite highlight for many happy children. This event was made possible with support from Chilliwack Learning Society and Envision Financial, helping to build literacy in the Yarrow community.

Yarrow Library received some improvements in September in anticipation of some display changes coming in the fall. The library was painted and additional shelving in the children's area was added to display and store magazines. Slat wall was also added in the adult fiction area to create another display feature. September was also the introduction month of two new programs that will be held regularly. "Knit One, Knit All" welcomes knitters of all abilities to drop in, and The LEGO® Club is a popular addition for school aged children to enjoy.

