

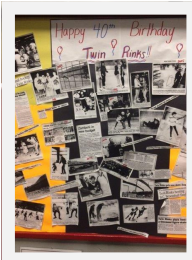
Recreation and Culture



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

Fourth Quarter Report, 2016

Recreation and Culture



Twin Rinks 40th Birthday Celebration

During the fourth quarter of 2016 Twin Rinks celebrated its 40th birthday. This venerable old building served as the first sporting opportunity to many residents and hosted some spectacular events in its tenure, including hockey, figure skating, lacrosse and ringette.

In 2004 Twin Rinks underwent a renovation to add more change room space and modify its entrance. This renovation was funded through collaboration from the City of Chilliwack, Chilliwack Minor Hockey and private donations. Although the building is entering into its twilight years, it is still one of the cleanest and brightest arenas in the lower mainland due to

the care and attention of staff and all the residents who access the building. To celebrate this milestone the public was treated to cake and refreshments throughout the day.



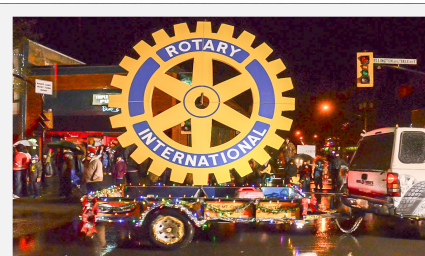
Twin Rinks Entrance in 2016



Twin Rinks Entrance in 1997

The City of Chilliwack Rotary Christmas Parade

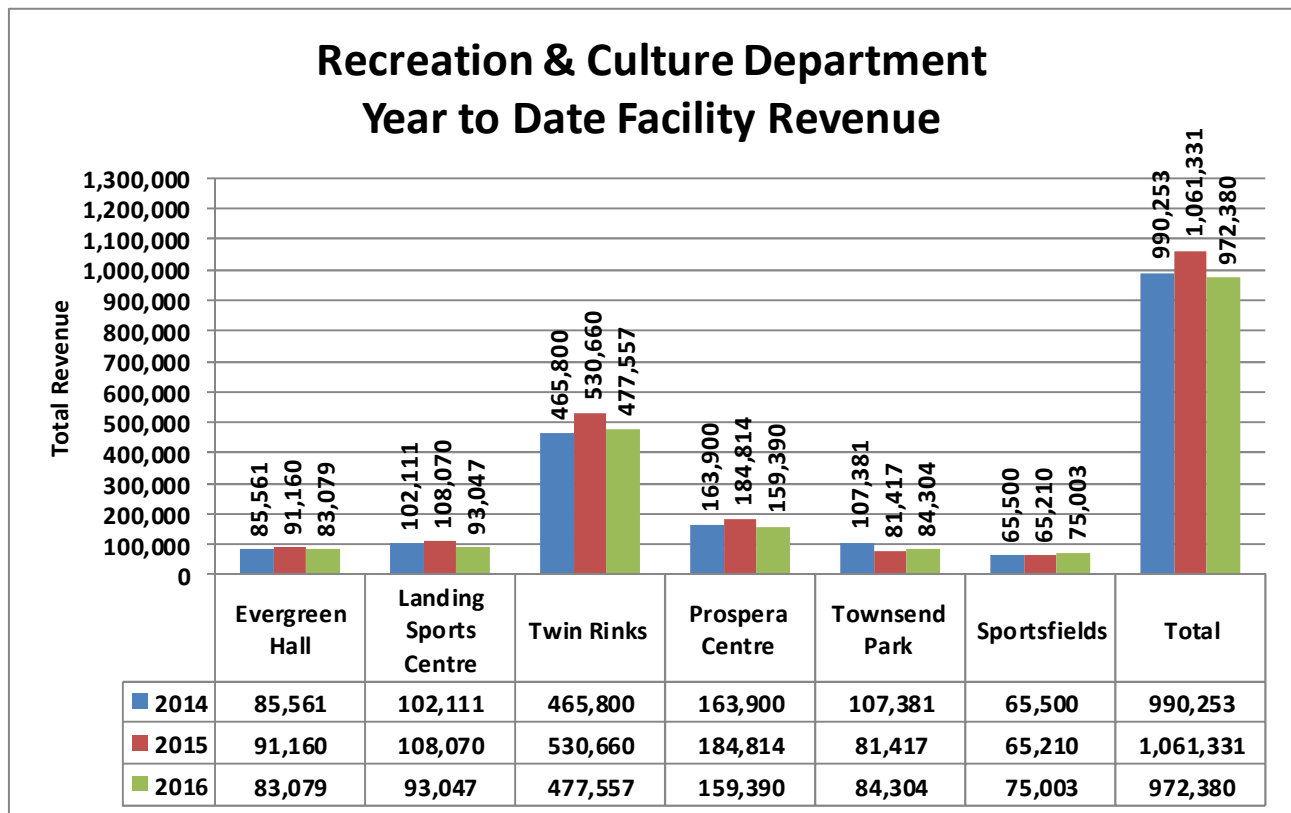
In spite of a torrential rainfall the, City of Chilliwack Rotary Christmas Parade went off without a hitch on December 3rd. The event, which once again wove its way through the streets of downtown Chilliwack, had over 67 entrants ranging from festively decorated floats, horses prancing along the route to those brave enough to walk along the route handing out candy and smiles to all those watching.



Celebration and Activity Funding Program

The cooler months of the year did not dampen the spirit of some residents who used the Christmas season to bring their neighbourhoods together. Between Promontory Lakes, Rotary Street and Alma Avenue celebrations, over 215 people were able to participate in good fellowship, food and festivities, bringing the close to a successful inaugural season of the Celebration and Activity funding program.

Recreation and Culture Facility Revenue Report



Chilliwack Museum & Archives



In the fourth quarter of 2016, the Chilliwack Museum and Archives and the City were successful recipients of two major grants from the Government of Canada.

In December, Canadian Heritage's Canada Cultural Spaces Fund awarded the Chilliwack Museum and Archives \$74,728 for renewal of their gallery space through the purchase of conservation-grade exhibit cases, as well as for security enhancements, including the installation of four ceiling-mounted cameras and roll-shutters to secure the gallery spaces. The other grant was from Parks Canada's Cost-Sharing for National Historic Sites of Canada and the City received \$15,000 for Chilliwack Museum upgrades.

Facility Attendance During This Quarterly Period

Total Museum Visitors – 1149 (excludes off-site exhibit locations)

Website Visitors – 4475

Archives visitors – 88; Archives phone / email inquiries – 29



Yarrow Community School Society

October saw the Tykes Soccer players battling some of the worst weather encountered in its eight seasons, yet there remained a dedicated bunch of families who in spite of the weather stayed committed in spite of the weather. The Yarrow Community School was happy to report that the Community School sponsored smoothie program continued into this fourth quarter and regularly served up tasty and healthy smoothies to all the students and staff. What makes this program unique is that the smoothies are prepared by the students who blend them by pedaling a Blender Bike! Yarrow Community School had two very well attended Family Movie Nights and a Family Gym Night, during which participants tried out Floor Curling and Pickleball.



In November, the Yarrow Community School hired a coach from Curling BC to come and introduce the intermediate students to the Rocks 'n Rings program. This was meant as a teaser for the after school program starting in the new year and it proved to be a huge hit. The community school hosted a well attended evening Community Christmas Craft Fair, featuring students, families and some local participants.

The Community School was also very fortunate to participate in a Hamper Program that benefitted several of the community members.

The school is busy every night of the week as well as every weekend where programs are fit in between the popular birthday and family party bookings.



Greendale Elementary Community School

Greendale's Fall Programming was well received. The school worked hard to bring in different programs for the community. The free ASSAI jewelry and wrestling were well received by the community! Connecting with Leonard and Naim Naimi, a team of two brothers out of Abbotsford, iLearning Canada, brought more science and technology into the community school programming and helped establish a great partnership.

Greendale Elementary Community School's regular weekly programming of Yoga, Little Kickers Soccer, Chilliwack Rhythm Reelers and Chilliwack Chito-Ryu Karate, remained popular within Greendale and many times had repeat families for those and other programs.

Chilliwack Central Elementary Community School Society

CCECSS had several exciting new programs start up this past Fall, some of which included Video Game Design, Lego Robotics, Positively Girls and Exploring Music in addition to the ongoing regular classes usually offered.

The Society hosted its annual Santa Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, December 3rd; canned food and donations were accepted for the Food Bank. This year was one of the biggest to date with more than 300 people attending. In all over four large boxes of canned food items and \$50 worth of donations were collected for the Salvation Army Food Bank. All the food supplies and decorations to host the breakfast were provided thanks to the financial support of the City of Chilliwack. The Dogwood Monarch Lions supported the event by making and helping serve the pancakes. During the event a free family or individual picture with Santa was provided. This was made possible with the support of the Chilliwack Senior Secondary photography department.

To add even more to the event, each child received a free Christmas book thanks to the partnership and support of the Chilliwack Learning Society. The Christmas tree that was donated by Minter Gardens was given to a family in need and each volunteer was given decorative poinsettias which were provided by Minter Gardens.

Fourth Quarter participation attendance = 300 for the Santa breakfast and 65+ for the community programs.



Rosedale Traditional Community School

The Rosedale Community School Society opened a Childcare Centre during the fourth quarter of 2016. The childcare centre is split into three age groups, the Chickadees-infant toddler program; the Sparrows-preschool aged children; and the Ravens-school aged children. The Chickadees have 14 children enrolled and are at capacity. The Chickadees have 32 children enrolled leaving a few single day spaces available. The Ravens have 17 children enrolled with nine spaces available for future growth. The facility continues to provide a warm, inviting place for families to host birthday parties, family reunions and holiday celebrations. Both gyms are full of activity each night of the week with Adult Sport Drop In programs, youth sport teams, Friday Fun Zone and Youth Night.



Facility Attendance During This Quarterly Period— 11,270

Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society

The Society's **2016-2017 Presentation Season** got off to a super start with the sold out show **Chilliwack** at the beginning of October. Other Society presentations in October included; **Beethoven & the Beatles**, **God is a Scottish Drag Queen**, **Supernatural**, **Sperm Wars**, **Baskerville**, **Ballet Rocks**, and the return of the fundraiser **Antiques in the Attic**. November saw **Dream Factory Circus**, **The Great Canadian Tire Money Caper** and **Blue Autumn** come to The Centre. December presentations were **A Celtic Christmas**, **Van Django's Cool Yule**, **A Christmas Carol**, **Sing along with Frozen** and **A Cowboy Christmas**.

Adult Arts classes were offered in **Pottery**, **Wirework**, **Flamework**, **Soap Making**, **Photography**, **Drawing**, **Painting**, as well as open studios for **Clay**, **Life Drawing** and **Glass work**. Kids Classes were offered in **Clay**, **Comic Book Illustration**, **Acting**, **Stopmotion** and **Anime**.

Rental presentations included: the Chilliwack Metropolitan Orchestra's **Romance**, Chilliwack Symphony Orchestra & Chorus's **Cirque & Nutcracker Suite**, **A Tribute to Elvis**, **Class of '59**, **Louisiana Hayride**, **Songs of Remembrance**, **Four by Four**, **Chilliwack Players Guild's Chapter Two**, **A Full House**, **Completely Creedence**, **Paint the Town**, **Rock 'n Roll Christmas**, **Ken Lavigne's Christmas Road Show** and the **Nutcracker Ballet**.



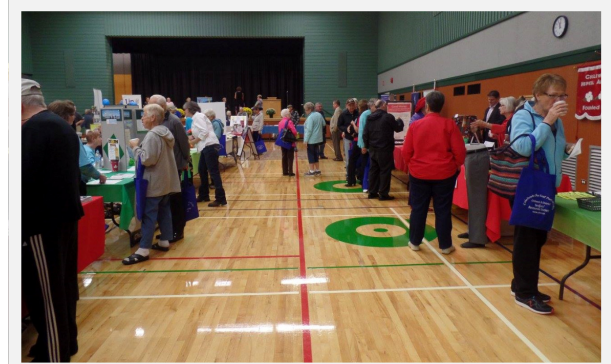
City of Chilliwack Canada 150 Celebration

The City of Chilliwack Canada 150 Celebration, coordinated by the Chilliwack Community Arts Council, is looking for some energetic people to help with the event. Volunteers will be a part of an amazing schedule of events and little time commitment is needed.

If you are interested in volunteering, contact the City of Chilliwack Recreation and Culture department at 604-793-2964.



Chilliwack and District Seniors' Resources Society



The Chilliwack and District Seniors experienced increased attendance at their new yoga class taking place in the Landing Sports Centre Loft. They also had growing attendance at the Seniors Dance class, taking place in the Landing Sports Centre Loft.

National Seniors Day event took place on October 1st, with the City of Chilliwack as venue sponsor. There was 450 attendees, 42 Exhibitors, 6 workshops. There were 100 seniors that attended Community Education sessions: October-Financial Literacy and November -Armchair Travel. This high interest in community education led to the monthly booking of Slesse Room in 2017 to offer ongoing sessions.

The Halloween Tea Dance brought many scary individuals to the Chilliwack and District Seniors' office! This popular monthly dance activity allows 60 or more seniors to socialize and practice their dance skills on a regular basis.

A membership meeting took place to discuss increased requests for programming and evening bookings at Evergreen Hall since many seniors still work during the day and are unable to participate in the daytime activities. Newer activities like Zumba, Yoga and Pickleball are growing, while older activities like Floor Curling and Carpet Bowling are seeing a decline. Discussed at the meeting was potential plans to increase fees in order to subsidize the activities having lower attendance rates and to cover the increased programming costs of the society. The Chilliwack and District Seniors' Resource Society continued to see an increase in the number of requests for resource information at Evergreen Hall from seniors who are new to Chilliwack.

Seniors Christmas Luncheon saw a significant increase in attendance with 153 at this year's event. What made the event even more fun was Mayor Sharon Gaetz leading the Electric Slide!





Cheam Leisure Centre and Chilliwack Landing Leisure Centre



Canadian Recreation Excellence Corporation was thrilled to celebrate their 1st anniversary of managing the Chilliwack facilities during this time. Recreation Excellence would like to thank the residents and the City for their support and patience as they worked through many challenging months of getting these two great facilities up and running to a high standard.

The Cheam Leisure Centre continued to be a busy place for swimming lessons and fitness classes, as well as the 1st annual Christmas Break Youth Camp's for kids age 5-12 (held at CLLC as well). The morning AquaFit classes continue to be a huge success, mainly due to the Instructor, Debbie Cameron, who is loved and cherished by her participants. Classes range from 65-90 participants per class!

The Chilliwack Landing Leisure Centre has seen many improvements over the past few months in many areas, including building improvements and cleanliness, customer satisfaction comments, youth toddler, youth and adult programs as well as community development. On the facility maintenance front, Recreation Excellence has worked diligently and in coordination with the City to improve the air handling system, boiler system, water quality and filtration processes as well as made repairs to the steam room, hot tub systems and the change room showers.

In September 2016, one of our main goals for each facility was to improve and grow the swim lesson and advance leadership program. The swim lessons continue to be very popular and classes are filling up each season. The advance leadership program is slowly taking off as we continue to offer courses in lifesaving, lifeguarding and first aid.

Christmas this year was a highlight for each facility as they each got a much deserved Christmas make-over in decorations, causing a real sense of Christmas cheer, which was highly regarded by the patrons.

The Fitness Department at each facility saw a much needed improvements and upgrades to their weight room equipment accessories, such as new medicine balls, mats, kettle bells, bosu balls, steps and much more. The patrons greatly appreciated the amount of equipment and the quality of the new equipment.

All Recreation Excellence staff have committed to increasing customer satisfaction and enjoyment through such aspects as upkeep of maintenance and facility cleanliness, overall staff training sessions, facility seasonal decorating and the entering of a float in the Rotary Christmas parade. We have received many positive verbal and written comments from the public, showing their appreciation!



Great Blue Heron Nature Reserve



The last three months of 2016 were busy at the Great Blue Heron Nature Reserve (GBHNR). The GBHNR fall homeschool program was fully booked and ran from the middle of September to the middle of November. There were 15 school programs booked in October and November and free community programs included a “spooky” plant walk that was well attended.

Almost 3,000 visitors came through the Interpretive Centre at the GBHNR in the last quarter, despite the very cold and wintery weather.



The inside of the Annex classroom was painted and a decent amount of trail maintenance was performed. Non slip grating was put on all of the bridges and boardwalks and the Salwein Loop Trail was regraded. Plans to extend the boardwalk on the Tower Trail and to install a salmon viewing boardwalk along the Salwein Creek are in the works thanks to a successful grant application to the Chilliwack Foundation. Gift shop volunteers participated in the Minter Country Gardens Country Christmas Craft Fair in November and did well with sales. The Christmas party in December was a lovely reminder of how many volunteers (over 90) work at the GBHNR to keep the Interpretive Centre Open, welcome visitors, conduct bird surveys, garden, and support the Executive Director in administering the society’s programs and services.

Chilliwack Heritage Park

October was such a busy month at Chilliwack Heritage Park! The return of the ever popular Mane Event Horse Expo, the Train and Hobby Show and the BMX competition finals, amongst others happened in the fourth quarter- all of which attract thousands of visitors to our community! November saw plenty of action as well and featured three Christmas events, in addition to indoor Arenacross. In the first part of December, Arenacross returned to Heritage Park and offered plenty of adrenalin pumping motorcycle action once again. Heritage Park closed off the year with the All About Christmas Expo. The attendance through all the events for this quarter was approximately 61,025.





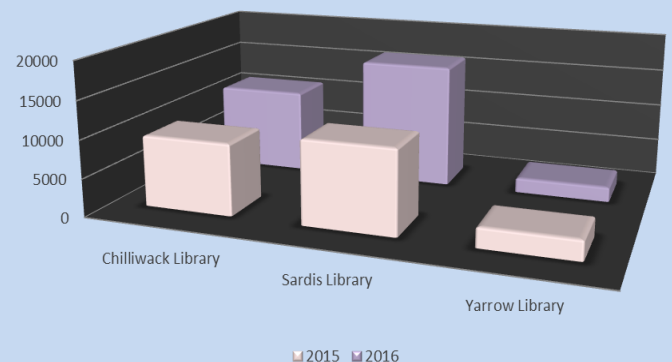
Chilliwack Library

Fraser Valley Regional Library began an exciting initiative in October of lending ukuleles through its Uke 'n Play collection and the Chilliwack library was one of the selected launch party locations. These events encourage musical literacy, social inclusion and the emotional rewards that come from creating music together. By adding ukuleles to its collection, FVRL is taking its first step towards the "Library of Things," a trend that sees public libraries offering musical instruments, tools, games and other objects for loan. Feedback from the public has been overwhelmingly positive, with many customers patiently waiting their turn to borrow a kit.

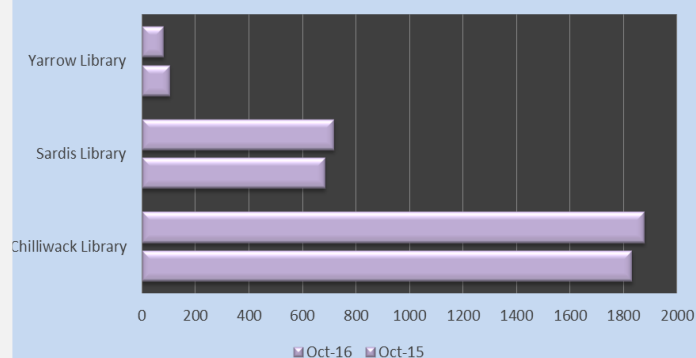
Uke 'n Play was born of a community partnership between FVRL and the Coquitlam Ukulele Tiny Instruments Enthusiasts Circle, or "Cutie Circle." It began when Cutie Circle founder Jen Chang approached staff at FVRL's Terry Fox Library with an idea for lending instruments through the library. Chang has seen the life-transforming magic of the ukulele first-hand and believes wholeheartedly that "Where there's a uke, there's a way." As a result, the Cutie Circle has donated a gift of 50 ukuleles to FVRL and will assist with instrument maintenance. This generous gift was made possible with the support of sponsors Empire Music, King's Music, Ohana Music and Linda Thiessen.



Program Attendance to Date (October 2016)



Reference Questions Answered





Read. Learn. Play. | www.fvrl.bc.ca

Sardis Library



In October the Sardis library celebrated Customer Appreciation day. Fraser Valley Regional Library does its part to acknowledge the wonderful customers, as they are what make all of the libraries successful cornerstones of the community. Cake and coffee was served by the Friends of the Chilliwack Libraries Society to an eager crowd.

November included programming that focused on physical and financial well being. “How to Kick the Sugar Habit” was a well received program led by a Holistic Health Coach. “Let’s talk Credit” was timely, as November is also financial literacy month.

Yarrow Library

The Yarrow Library has been full of animal fun over the last quarter. The Urban Safari Rescue Society entertained and educated a huge crowd in the Yarrow Community Hall, hosted by the Yarrow Library. Children and adults alike enjoyed an up close and personal experience with several creatures, including snakes, lizards, ferrets, tortoises, tarantulas and many more. This fun and popular program was sponsored by the Friends of the Chilliwack Libraries Society.

Paws 4 Stories, a program in partnership with the St John’s Ambulance Service Dogs program, was a successful initiative at the Yarrow library this quarter. This program encourages nervous and reluctant readers to pair up with Taylah, a trained service dog, and her handler Sue to practice reading with the relaxing benefit of a patient canine companion by their side. The popularity of this innovative program has piqued the interest of other local libraries that hope to feature it at their locations in the near future.

