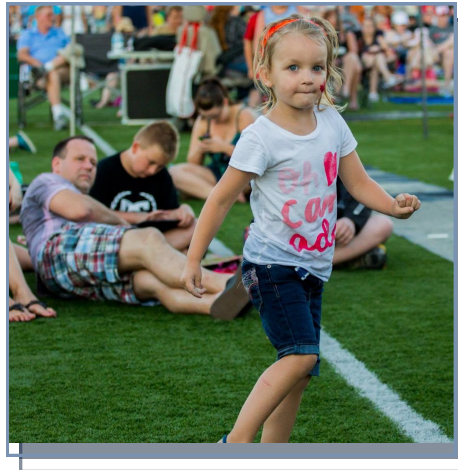


# Recreation and Culture



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

## Third Quarter Report, 2015



**CITY OF  
CHILLIWACK**

## Recreation and Culture



### Canada Day

The third Quarter began with a bang...literally. Canada Day celebrations in Chilliwack started with the traditional Kiwanis pancake breakfast at 8:00 am at Evergreen Hall, featuring the Chilliwack Community Band and local dignitaries.

This year the gates opened at 5:00 pm at Townsend Park. It included a great assortment of food vendors and picnic tables in the main parking lot, making sure everyone had an opportunity to indulge in the delectable offerings. The party also included the YMCA Kids Zone, featuring face painting, crafts and games, as well as the Chartwell Senior Zone with special bleacher seating. A great mix of live music and aerial performances warmed up the crowds for the finale of an amazing fireworks display at 10:00 pm!

Local entertainer and Canada Day event organizer Trevor McDonald, the City of Chilliwack and a host of volunteers succeeded in putting on a first rate show for the over 6,000 people who attended.

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### Chilliwack Walks 2015

In spite of the heat the 8 Walks in 8 Weeks proved to be very successful, with 480 people and 23 dogs taking part in walks located in areas such as Greendale, Island 22, the Great Blue Heron Nature Reserve and the ever popular Vedder Rotary Trail.

The program again was free to the public, and ran every Tuesday night starting the first week of July and ending the second Tuesday in August. As in the past, it was offered through the Chilliwack Active For Life program and was sponsored through the partnership between the City of Chilliwack, the Chilliwack Times, the Leisure Recreation Group. Each week the walks were led by volunteers and staff coordinated through the Chilliwack Family YMCA.





### Chilliwack Landing Spray Park

On July 28<sup>th</sup>, Member of Parliament Honorable Mark Strahl announced a \$225,000 Western Economic Diversification Canada Grant for renovation of the Chilliwack Landing Spray Park. Mayor Sharon Gaetz announced the City will provide \$250,000 for a project total of \$475,000, with construction set to begin April 1, 2016, and completion by March 31, 2017.

### Chehalis Little Free Library

Readers young and old gathered in grand celebration on September 16, huddled around what appeared to be the house of a well-read doll. Rather, it was the opening of the Gore Brothers Book House in Garrison Crossing.

The Book House is part of the Little Free Library (LFL) community. The premise is simple: take a book, return a book. These compact, handcrafted structures are a great way to encourage a love of reading and sharing in a community, and a unique avenue to meet your neighbours.

The City of Chilliwack Recreation and Culture as well as the Operations Department worked with local resident Daris Lapointe, from the Garrison neighbourhood, as well as the Gore Brothers, to install a unique structure in Chehalis Park that would be representative of the surrounding area. The Little Free Library is a replica of the last house the developers built in Garrison thereby closing their development project there.



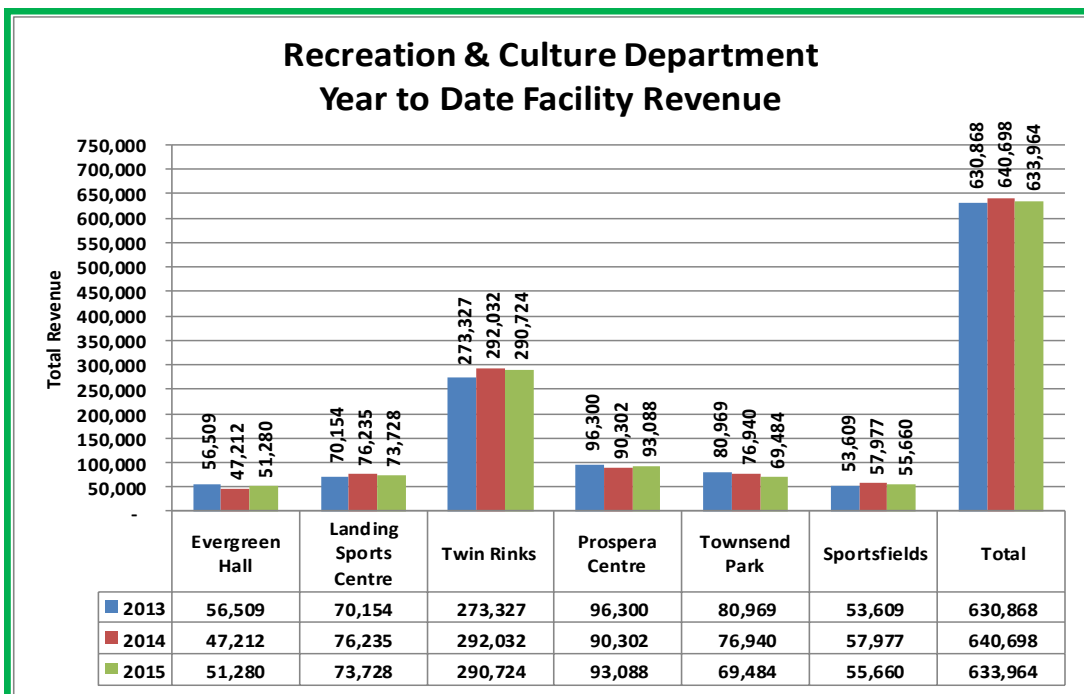
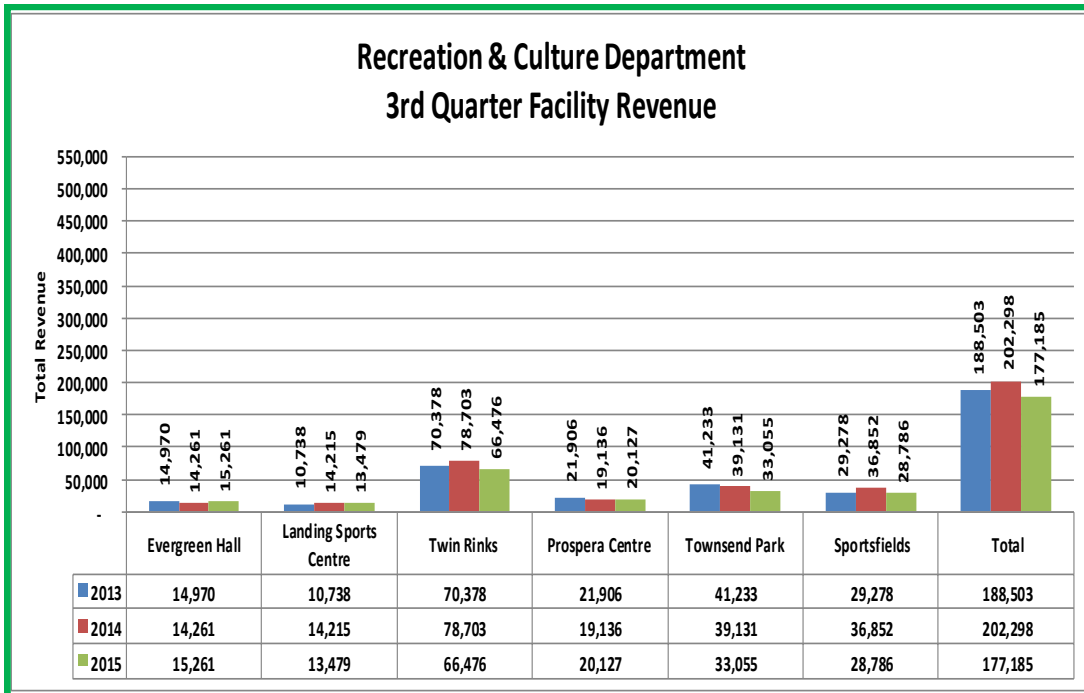
### Terry Fox Run

The City of Chilliwack proudly supported the organizers of the 35th Anniversary Terry Fox Run on Sunday, September 20, 2015. Starting and finishing at the Landing Sports Centre, runners and walkers were offered 2km, 5km, and 10km options which included sidewalks and scenic paths along the Hope River Rotary Trail and Fairfield Island Park. Despite poor weather conditions, 213 participants and 33 volunteers raised over \$15, 739 for the Terry Fox Foundation. Many local businesses and service clubs contributed to the success of the event. As with every year the Mt. Cheam Lions Club started and ended the event with their delicious pancakes and the Sardis Running Club who made sure the 2km, 5km and 10km routes were safe for all those participated.

Tarzan, who like Terry had his leg amputated, was excited to represent the over 30 dogs that participated. Not only was he raring to go he also made it all the way around the 5km route without having to be carried, the first time in his three years of involvement.



## Recreation and Culture Facility Revenue Report



## Greendale Elementary Community School

During the last quarter, attendance at programs remained strong.

The summer programming proved to be the most successful so far, with four full weeks of programming taking place. The weekly library sessions where stories were shared and books loaned proved a highlight as did Gymnastics and stories with younger children and Gymnastics and computer games with older ones. It was great to see students of all ages come together in a week long drama class and two visits by PacificSportz Fraser Valley improved the physical literacy of elementary and middle-schoolers. Valley Christian Ministries continue to use the facilities every Sunday.



A Tabata Boot Camp will start at Greendale next month that takes programming to a new dimension as each session starts at 6am!

### Greendale Elementary Community School

Facility Attendance During This Quarterly Period - 120+ children aged preschool and above, attending regular weekly programs. This includes karate, Acting Outright, music and sports programming, Little Kickers Soccer, and skipping. 80+ adults attending regular weekly programs; including Seniors Pop-In, karate and fitness programs. 150+ attended special programs and events our

## Promontory Heights Elementary Community School Association

Promontory Heights Elementary Community School Association has enjoyed a wonderful summer of programs and activities. The popular daycamp program "Sun n Fun" was near full capacity for the entire seven weeks of summer programming. The popular summer preschool, sports, and activity camps were well attended also this summer, with a total of 24 programs being offered. Some offerings included the preschool camps which featured: 'the Circus is coming to Town!', Pre School Summer Fun, How do gardens grow, It's a bird, It's a plane. It's SUPERHERO week, Princess Tea Party, Super Sences Experience. The sports camps were well-attended with everything from building your 'Basket Ball Basics', Ninja Gym & Rhythmic Gymnastics to PreSchool Multi sport introductions. The popular drop-in program 'Tween Night' was offered 2 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. Attendance has almost trippled for this event.

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, Exteme Air Park, Bridal Falls Water Park, Aldor Acres Dairy Center, Science World, Wild Play elements Park, Greater Vancouver Zoo, and the H.R. MacMillan Space Center! Sun n Fun themes sought to include learning and fun in each daily agenda.

To end the summer off on a fun note – PHECSA hosted a Movie in the Park night where a crowd of 140 enjoyed the outdoor movie.

To start the school year PHECSA held a Welcome back to the teachers BBQ which had over 400 people attend.

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.

### Promontory Heights Elementary Community School Association

Facility Attendance during this quarterly report: 290 participants/Sun n Fun: (week#1 – 95 campers) (week#2 – 104 campers) (week#3- 95 campers) (week#4 – 99 campers) (week#5– 86 campers) (week#6 – 95 campers) (week#7 – 95 campers) (week# 8– 102 campers) = Total of 771 campers

## Rosedale Traditional Community School Society

RTCSS had an exciting summer welcoming kids from ages 3-12 years old to take part in the many programs planned. The society hosted 8 weeks of 'Celebrate Summer'. Participants ages 6-11 years old were welcomed Monday-Friday 9am -5pm to join in the fun! Camp leaders worked hard to provide a high quality program showcasing weekly themes. Activities included crafts, games, physical exertion and a field trip to exciting destinations visiting Science World, The Vancouver Zoo, Extreme Air, The Great Escape, Bridal Falls Waterslides, Vancouver Aquarium, Castle fun Park and Wild Play. Campers were safely transported in School Buses with experienced school district drivers behind the wheel. For kids who were looking for limited activity, RTCSS staff led two hour daily activity camps each week. The facility has certainly become a safe neighbourhood hub for all ages to gather. Doors were open two evenings a week for the very popular adult Badminton program, still going strong celebrating four years of play! Late September the Rhythm Reelers club expanded, meeting at the facility Thursday evenings, welcoming over 60 square dancers the very first night! Attendance this quarter was 3,650.



Square Dance Club



Celebrate Summer Camp-making volcanos

## Chilliwack Central Elementary Community School Society

CCECSS completed its third year of running the "Summer Fun" all day camp that ran for seven weeks, five days a week from 9am to 5pm. It was run by two staff through the Service Canada student summer employment program. The leaders were qualified university students who kept the children engaged throughout the week providing to them games, sports, crafts, nature walks, community garden maintenance, water fun and fieldtrips. All activities revolved around a new theme each week of the summer which included such themes as Wacky Science, Movin 'n' Grovin and Animal Kingdom. Several kids with recognized special needs categories were also able to participate in the all day "Summer Fun" program whereas in school, they are usually have an Education Assistant present. This program was very well attended throughout the summer and had many kids signing up weekly as well as kids returned from previous years.

CCECSS ran half day, activity programs throughout the summer including, but not limited to: Soccer, Karate, Babysitter Training, Kids in the Kitchen, Two Dance classes, Xploresports multi sport camp and Home Alone, all of which proved to quite popular. Attendance for the Summer Fun All Day camp was at 115 participants.





Chilliwack Landing  
Leisure Centre



Summer 2015 was busy in the pools with kids being on summer vacation as well as the great weather driving everyone to find a way to cool down, whether it was in the pool or in the spray park.

The learn-to swim program was busy with 619 swimming lesson participants.

The third quarter reports 672 Leisure Access Program passes approved and distributed to citizens showing an interest and a need.

Daily Average attendance saw 664 citizens served for a total of 61,132 citizens served for this quarter.

At the Cheam Centre The learn-to swim program was busy with 897 program participants and 186 camp participants.

The third quarter reports 271 Leisure Access Program passes approved and distributed to citizens showing an interest and a need.

September 30, 2015 marked the last day of operations by the Leisure Recreation Group in Chilliwack. The Leisure Recreation Group has been proud to serve the residents of and visitors to the City over the last 18 years.

Daily Average attendance saw 761 citizens served for a total of 70,101 citizens served for this quarter.

**The Leisure Recreation Group is committed to the development of programs and facilities that encourage a fun, safe learning environment and foster a sense of caring and achievement.**



## Chilliwack Cultural Centre

### Classes and Summer Camps:

The Centre's *Summer Art Classes* and *Kids' Summer Art Camps* were prevalent throughout this quarter, with a variety of workshops and classes allowing patrons to explore their creativity at the Centre. Some of the workshops included: Embossed Copper and Antiqued Bracelets: July 7; Intro to Improv: July 18/19; Wire Weaving: July 29; Stamped Washer Bracelet: August 5; Glass Bead Making: August 22; Enamelled Pendant: August 26. Continuing Open Studios classes include : Life Drawing, and Clay Flamework.

Five weeks of *Kids' Summer Art Camps* also took place throughout July and August, as well as *the RAWK Camp*, led by Yukon-based band Speed Control. Both of these events provided children a broad variety of opportunities to engage in arts and culture activities.



**Craft Beer  
Festival**



### Working with Partners:

The Chilliwack Players Guild had a successful quarter, with their annual presentation of *British Pub Nights* reaching record audience attendance levels in THE CENTRE'S Rotary Hall Studio Theatre. The Chilliwack Visual Artists Association also curated three exhibitions throughout this quarter, featuring work by local artists from the Chilliwack Society for Community Living (*The Open Door*), The Golden Palette Art Group (*Seasons*), and the CVAA themselves (*Ephemeral*).

### Rental Companies:

Chilliwack's own theatre group Secondary Characters presented two shows in this quarter, with presentations of the well-loved **Rodgers Hammerstein** musical *Oklahoma* as well as the newer work **The Last Five Years** taking place in The Centre. The Centre also received internationally-recognized names, with Juno-award winning Canadian singer-songwriter *Jesse Cook* closing off the rental presentations for this quarter.

### Fundraising:

The Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society's season was kicked into gear by the third annual *Fraser Valley Culture & Craft Beer Festival*, which sold out six weeks in advance and proved an enormous success, generating funds that will go towards supporting THE CENTRE'S range of arts and crafts classes.

## Chilliwack Museum & Archives

Stephanie Clinton joined the Museum and Archives Team as Education and Engagement Coordinator in September. Stephanie joins us from the Peel Art Gallery Museum & Archives Ontario, and previously coordinated School Programs for the Harbourfront Centre and the TIFF Bell Lightbox.



### Exhibits

*Game On: The History of Sports in Chilliwack*, opens October 22, with a grand opening reception October 29, 7:00pm. The public is invited to attend.

### Publications

*The Chilliwack Story*, out of print and highly sought-after, is being reprinted in a second edition. Pre-orders are being accepted.

### Public and School Programming

Significant public programming partnerships were developed in this quarter. The Museum is collaborating with the Royal BC Museum's *Species at Risk Travelling Exhibition*, which will visit Chilliwack July 6<sup>th</sup>. Staff is very excited to announce that the Chilliwack Museum was selected as the venue for TEDxChilliwack, to be held in February 2016, and they have launched a new blog and Speakers Series, focusing on "The Place of the Museum in the City."



*Stephanie Clinton, new Education and Engagement Coordinator at the Chilliwack Museum & Archives.*

Facility Attendance During This Quarterly Period    Total Museum Visitors – 1117 (excludes off-site exhibit locations);  
Website Visitors – 6345; Archives visitors – 77; Archives phone / email inquiries – 74

## Chilliwack Heritage Park



**CHILLIWACK  
HERITAGE PARK**  
*Events Happen Here*



At Chilliwack Heritage Park, the months of July thru September are quite exciting – it's busy and the events are diverse! Things kicked off with the Pro Truck Show n' Shine, an event that has expanded in the last couple of years and one that is popular with 'big rig' enthusiasts. When the big rigs left, the horses arrived. The Reining show attracted participants from throughout western Canada and the US. This year, we had the Treasure Hunters in and then quickly got ready for the annual Chilliwack Fair. This was followed by the Mud Drags, the Vintage Motorcycle Cycle Show and the Dressage Show. The quarter ended with more horses and dogs. All in all, thousands flocked to the Park to be a part of the wide variety of events that summer had to offer! Attendance: 61,200

## Great Blue Heron Nature Reserve

The GBHNRS had a very busy quarter. Visitors took part in free public walks including a Family Pond Prowl, Twilight Walk and Preschool Explorers. The GBHNRS also hosted the Royal BC Museum's traveling exhibit: Species at Risk. This high quality display attracted many visitors. Three summer students were hired to work in administration, programming and events. Summer camps for children were well attended including a new program, Afternoon Adventures, offered once a week throughout the summer. The GBHNRS participated in several community events with the GBHNR Society's education and interactive Outreach Booth. Volunteers and staff attended the Music & More, Harrison Festival of the Arts, Garrison Village Festival, Chilliwack Art Council Children's Festival & River's Day Clean Up. A Community Planting event was held in September and sixty people came out in the pouring rain to plant trees along the new Discovery Trail and on bare spots around the site. A \$5,000 grant from BC Hydro funded the purchase of trees and shrubs.

Education programs in September included 120 grade 7 students studying pond ecology, 280 students doing a Terry Fox run who visited the displays one class at a time, and 24 home school children participating in an eight week series of programs on Tuesday mornings. Eight school groups are booked for October to view the salmon.

GBHNRS's seventy-five volunteers have been very busy. The Gardening Team has been hard at work doing a major clean up on the gardens & landscaping around the building. The Bird Survey Team completed nine site surveys and installed a board outside to post survey results for the public. Over thirty volunteers on the Reception Team have been active in hosting the Rotary Interpretive Centre seven days a week. The GBHNR Admin Team, which includes the Board of Directors and office volunteers, took a summer break but dived back into work in September.

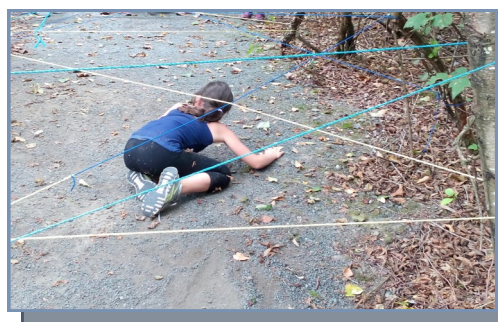
Facility attendance during this quarterly period was 5,500 at Rotary Interpretive Centre and 1,200 at Outreach events.



*Community Planting*



*Volunteer with GBHNR Outreach Booth*



*Navigating the spider web*

## Chilliwack Library

The Chilliwack Library kicked off its annual Summer Reading Club in July with a “Stuffie Pet Parade”. The event turned out to be wildly popular, attracting an interactive audience of 214. The Summer Reading Club continued to thrive throughout the summer, with a noted increase in both children and adult participation. Family programs including a magician, ventriloquist and musician, were all well attended.



Floral Arts



Stuffie Pet Parade

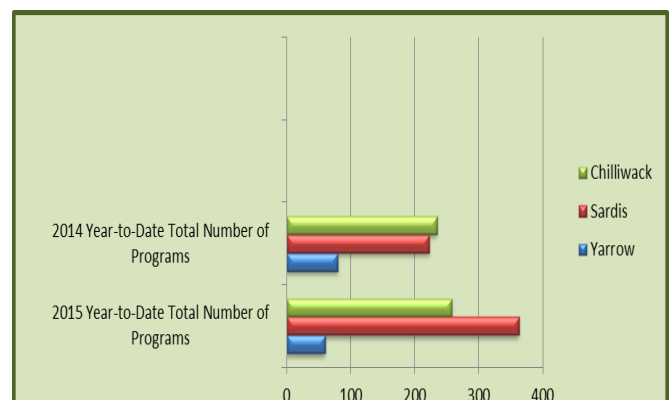
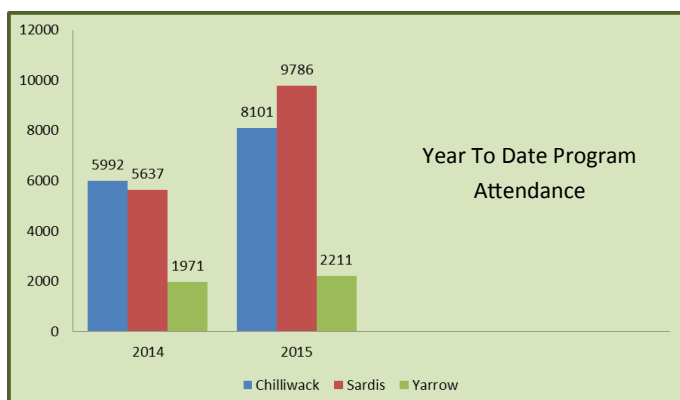
Also during the summer, the Chilliwack and District Senior Resources Society was actively seeking out community connections. The Chilliwack Library offered to help form a robust partnership that would benefit both organizations. A high percentage of customers of the Chilliwack Library are seniors, and in the past year a number of service improvements have been made with seniors in mind, such as:

- ◆ Large print books were moved closer to the library entrance
- ◆ Complimentary walker and wheelchair are now available for in-library use
- ◆ Reading glasses are loaned to the public if they forgot theirs at home
- ◆ Increased outreach to local senior centres and residences
- ◆ Programs specifically directed toward seniors are offered

Now, in partnership with the Senior Resources Society, the library is able to further extend its reach. Some highlights of the new partnership include:

- ◆ Coordinated senior programming
- ◆ Cross pollination of staff and promotion
- ◆ Sharing of in-kind resources

The library will continue to develop this partnership and look into other ways of getting the services offered by the library to the seniors in the community

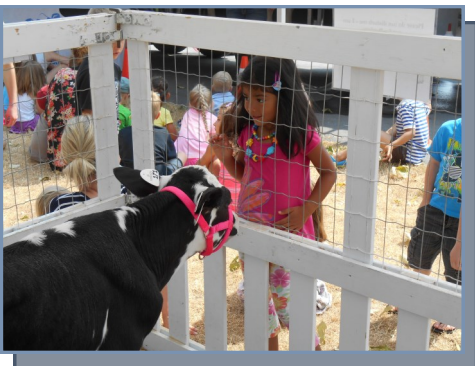


## Sardis Library



Summer is a popular time of the year for trips to the Library and 2015 was no exception in Sardis. In addition to local families, the Sardis Library welcomed tourists from near and far as well as seasonal residents living at Cultus Lake. The many campers that flock to the area appreciate the internet access and being able to take advantage of the facility when the weather is less than perfect.

The annual Summer Reading Club was well attended by all ages, from Pre-schoolers to Adults. Reading Club events included Science World on the Road, the B. C. Dairy Mobile Experience, the Blue Heron Reserve's Wildlife Fun and performances by Norden the Magician, Kellie Haines and Music with Marnie. One of Sardis Library's teens won the system wide prize of a mini iPad.



On days when the community experienced air quality advisories, the library opened its doors to the multi-purpose room and set up activity stations where visitors could enjoy board games, LEGO, puzzles, and create art in air-conditioned comfort. Parents began spreading the word through Facebook and soon grandparents started bringing their grandkids as well. Day camps and daycares began to take advantage of the activities offered. Homeschoolers met and networked with other kids during their library visits. Over 1,600 visits were generated by this program. By popular request, the Sardis Library will continue to offer this program at various times throughout the year, e.g. during Spring Break, giving the community a chance to network and build friendships in the library.

## Yarrow Library

The Yarrow Library Staff were kept busy during Summer Reading Club delivering programs, updating Reading Records, organizing book prizes, and helping lots of visitors. This year the number of Summer Reading Club medals awarded to children at the Medal Ceremony increased by 38%, and 70% of school-aged participants who registered in the Summer Reading Club at the beginning of the summer reached their five weeks of reading goal.

Magicians, science demonstrations, cows, musicians and ventriloquists were among the great programs for families to enjoy. The Yarrow Library also presented its second "Storytime in the Park", and featured a storytime with puppet show, face painting, and games in Pioneer Park. This program was made possible with the support of Yarrow Envision Financial, the community sponsor that provided tents, a popcorn machine, and cheerful staff to help with the program. The Chilliwack Learning Society also donated funds raised by "Raise a Reader" day.

