

Recreation and Culture



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

Fourth Quarter Report, 2018



**CITY OF
CHILLIWACK**

Recreation and Culture

Community Events



Some of the significant events that occurred this quarter included:

- ◆ Rosedale Harvest Festival
- ◆ Remembrance Day ceremonies
- ◆ Rotary Christmas Parade
- ◆ Light Up Downtown

These events continue to build on their successes in previous years. The Rosedale Harvest Festival is now in its fourth year and continues to be a popular community-driven event. This year's Remembrance Day ceremonies were particularly meaningful as they marked the 100 year anniversary of the end of World War I. The Rotary Christmas Parade had a second successful second year with their new route. Clear skies and some changes to the preparation of the route contributed to a significant increase in parade attendance. Finally, Light Up Downtown's second year drew larger crowds and succeeding in adding energy and holiday cheer to the area.



Special Skates

The 2018-2019 special skate season officially began in October and had six special skates from October to December 2018.

Date	Special Skate	Guests	
		2018	2017
8-Oct	Turkey Loonie Skate	158	120
29-Oct	Halloween Loonie Skate	98	78
24-Nov	Superhero Toonie Skate	118	133
15-Dec	Santa's Toonie Skating Party	234	167
24-Dec	Christmas Eve Loonie Skate	321	
31-Dec	New Year's Eve Toonie Skate	252	334



Recreation and Culture

Capital Projects

On November 30, Mayor Popove officially opened the new Chilliwack Curling and Community Centre with Councillors Klood, Lum, Mercer and Westeringh.

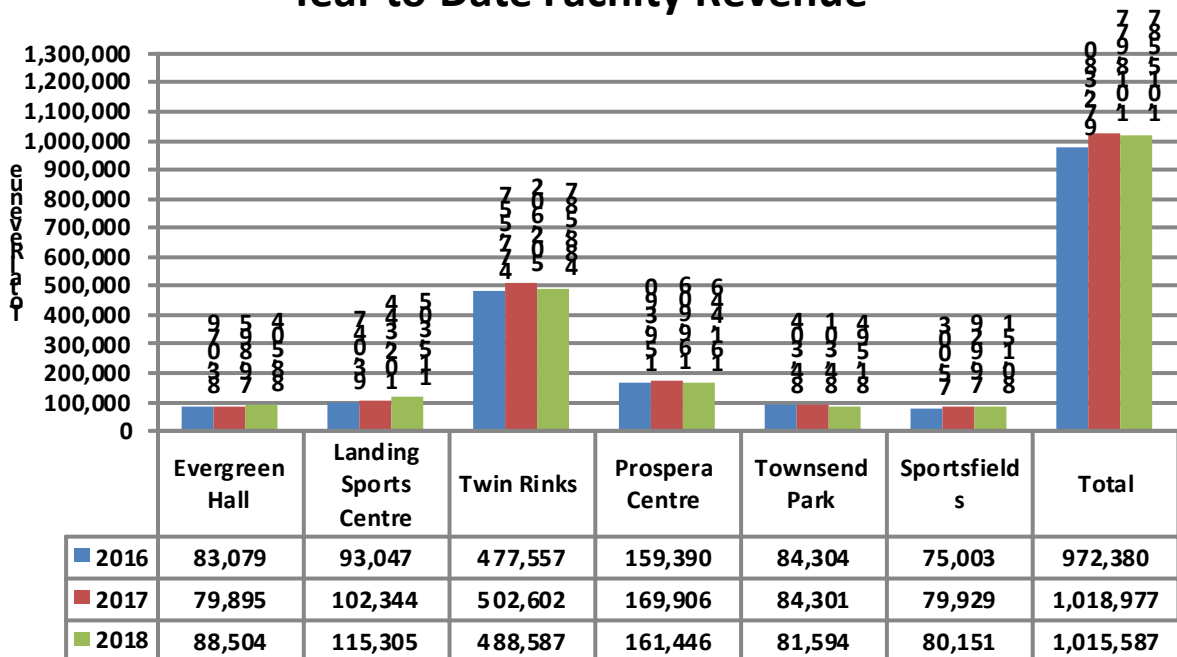


Grand opening of new curling rink



Upstairs at new curling rink

Recreation & Culture Department Year to Date Facility Revenue



Recreation and Culture

Celebration and Activity Grant



Through the fourth quarter, the Celebration and Activity Grant program supported 13 events with a total of \$2,750 of grant funding. The events were all considered block parties and totaled 884 guests. 13 events is a significant increase in program participation over the fourth quarter of 2017, which saw two block parties and a total of four events.

The **Thornton Creek Halloween Potluck** was a returning event in Promontory. The neighbours at Thornton Creek were one of the first to access the Neighbourhood Grants Program when it began in 2016. As new neighbours joined their community, they returned to put on a simple and successful event to introduce new and old residents. The event was highlighted by the assortment of costumes worn by kids and adults alike as they prepared to go trick-or-treating following the conclusion of the event.

Diamond Crescent's Christmas Light Display Neighbourhood Kick Off kicked off the month-long Christmas light display on Diamond Crescent. This year the event used the grant funding to add assorted hot foods for neighbours to enjoy while catching up with each other and enjoying the dancing lights.

The **Chinook Street Christmas Party** was hosted by neighbours new to the street as a way to get to know their community. Due to weather, the party was brought inside, creating a warm and cozy atmosphere – perfect for a winter block party.



Yarrow Community School Society

The fall soccer program wrapped up just in time to avoid the worst of the fall weather. The Bee Fun course finished in October but will recommence in the spring, when participants will be make homemade willow/ivy baskets. Family Movie Night was well attended. 14 kids participated in six weeks of Wooly Wednesdays, dyeing and experimenting with fabric and wool felt projects.

Since hosting a Youth Gym Night for 34 12-15 year olds, there has been renewed interest from parents and community members



in steering the youth to community school activities. The very affordable Sew Fun classes have become a fixture with four very productive classes hosted by a retired teacher. This quarter the kids sewed gym/lunch bags, toques and a Christmas craft. The Community School was pleased to support eight local families through a local Christmas Hamper program. The facility is busy each day with ongoing rentals for choir, fitness classes, pickleball, men's hockey, three separate volleyball groups, church and lots of family and birthday parties.

Rosedale Traditional Community School Society



In the fourth quarter, the society ran a 10-week yoga program for adults. Offered in the fall, winter and spring, approximately 16 adults attend classes once a week. New participants came out for bread making and women's self-defense classes! Targeting all age groups, 40 youth per week attended gymnastics and hip hop dance classes. The music program, with guitar and piano lessons four days per week, is at capacity. Private, 30 minute instructional classes for 28 students were held in the fourth quarter, ending the fall session with a recital, inviting family and friends to enjoy seasonal music.



Chilliwack Central Elementary Community School Society



The programs CCECSS offered this fall included yoga for back care, adult hula-hoop, hoop play for kids, robotics level one and two, karate, home alone, drop-in soccer, Minecraft, cheer, gymnastics, expressive art, origami, young woodworkers, piano lessons, rustic sign painting and the babysitter's course.

CCECSS hosted the family gathering and flu clinic in partnership with Central Elementary on November 20. Family activities such as floor hockey, cedar brushing, rock painting, yoga and drumming were offered, spread throughout the school, in representation of the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual aspects of the medicine wheel. 250+ people gathered in the gym to end the event with dinner together. The Society hosted its Annual Santa Pancake Breakfast on December 1. More than 325 people attended the breakfast. Canned food items were collected for the Salvation Army Food Bank. The Dogwood Monarch Lions supported the event by making and helping serve all the pancakes. Each child received a free Christmas book thanks to the partnership and support of the Chilliwack Learning Society. As each child or family went to get their free picture with Santa, they received a Christmas orange and advent calendar. Six homemade blankets were donated for the event and raffled off to the families. The Christmas tree and poinsettias were donated by Minter Gardens then at the end of the event the poinsettias were given to the volunteers.

Attendance

250+ participants - Family Gathering

325+ participants - Santa Breakfast

107 participants—Community classes

Great Blue Heron Nature Reserve



The GBHNRS had eight days of school programs in October, 12 days of school programs in November, and one day of school programs in December. The fall homeschool program was fully booked and ran for 10 weeks, from September 25 to November 27. A guided autumn walk was well attended on October 17, and almost 5,000 people came through the Interpretive Centre at the GBHNR this quarter.

A restoration project to create habitat for the red listed Oregon Forestsnail was successfully completed and is being monitored by Dillon Consulting with support from Tzeachten First Nation, who will be relocating several Oregon Forestsnails to the GBHNR from a site they are developing.

Several new volunteers were recruited in the last quarter to assist in the Rotary Interpretive Centre welcoming the community and to support the programs and services offered by the GBHNRS.



**CHILLIWACK
HERITAGE PARK**

Events Happen Here

Chilliwack Heritage Park

October was a very busy month at Chilliwack Heritage Park. The popular Mane Event Horse Expo delighted its audience. The Train and Hobby Show showcased some new innovations in the hobby world and the BMX competition finals attracted thousands of visitors to our community. November featured several 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, before the year closed off with the All About Christmas Expo. Attendance for this quarter was 65,250.



**CITY OF
CHILLIWACK**



Chilliwack Landing Leisure Centre & Cheam Leisure Centre



Chilliwack Landing Leisure Centre

A Thankful Tree was the main focus for October. Patrons were encouraged to write out what they are most thankful for and post it in the lobby for others to see. Other events within this period included the “Hollywood” Pro-D Camp, Halloween Dress Up for patrons and staff and hosting one of the stops for the Canadian Winter Games Torch relay.

Recreation Excellence offered advanced courses including Red Cross Standard First Aid and the Red Cross Babysitting course, both continuing on a monthly basis. The Water Safety Instructor course offered this fall added 10 new swim instructors to the team. Further advanced courses included Bronze Medallion, Bronze Cross and Life Saving Instructor. Recreation Excellence ran Canadian Swim Patrol, a newly offered program for the youth in our community, with 12 registrants.



Thankful Tree

CLLC

October – 35, 882
November – 37, 841
December – 29, 349
Total – 103, 072

CHEAM

October – 26,956
November – 41, 922
December – 22, 158
Total – 91, 036

Cheam Leisure Centre

The planning for all special events and camps happens at the Cheam Leisure Centre location. This quarter has seen an increase in seniors visiting the centre with the growth in the Garrison community. Recreation Excellence is pleased to be a supporter of the senior soccer program, pickleball and other activities run through the fitness department. The facility sees an average of 40 individuals attending group fitness classes which help establish the health and fitness of our community. Recreation Excellence provided camps for the school district and families in our community for both professional days and over the winter break, with an average of 18 children per camp in each facility.



Canadian Winter Games Torch”



Staff at Halloween



Hollywood” Pro-D Camp



Chilliwack Museum

Administration

In late October Shawna Maurice was hired as the new Executive Director of the Chilliwack Museum and Archives. Shawna will begin her new position January 14, 2019.

Projects

The English to French translations, coordinated by Curator Anna Irwin, of the Chilliwack's Chinatown online exhibit, were completed in late November. The exhibit, sponsored by the Canadian Museum of History and the Chilliwack Museum & Archives, will be available to the public through virtualmuseum.ca in January 2019.

Funding

The Museum's popular Classroom-in-Residence program received funding through the Young Canada Works-Building Careers in Heritage program; however, a coordinator for the program was not found, due in part to a teacher shortage in the province. An application for summer student funding for 2019 has also been made through Young Canada Works for student positions to assist with the education/outreach programs and with the archives. In addition, the museum applied for funding through the Chilliwack Foundation to pay for the purchase of six new computers.

Exhibits

Mountaineers: A History of Community Experience in Chilliwack's Mountains, will be extended until March 23, 2019. Plans to change the 'permanent' exhibit in the museum are also underway and the planning will continue into 2019.



Total Museum Visitors – 1,481;
Website Visitors – 2,383;
Archives visitors – 106;
Archives phone / email inquiries – 108.

Photograph of unnamed Chinese domestic worker from the household of Lister Smith holding Lister's son, William Smith, c. 1896. Chilliwack Museum and Archives, P. Coll. 120, file 46.

Chilliwack Cultural Centre

This quarter began with the morning concert *Oktoberfest with Jen Lindemann*, and the Centre's anniversary the next day had Juno Award winner Kenny "Blues Boss" Wayne deliver the vivacious concert - *A Rendezvous with the Blues*. *The Centre Rocks XIII* showcased local young musicians, *A Streetcar Named Desire* saw the return of Ballet Kelowna, *The Official Blues Brothers Revue* had the HUB International Theatre rocking, and the *Greatish Show on Earth with Wes Barker* dazzled audience members. Cultural Collaboration took place on October 6 showcasing local arts organizations and celebrating the Chilliwack Cultural Centre's eighth anniversary. The *Antiques in the Attic* fundraiser took place on October 11. The Society presented an *All-Candidates Forum* on October 10 in the HUB International Theatre.



A Rendezvous with the Blues

November started with *The Piano Teacher*, and the return of CircusWest with their latest production *Illusive – A Circus of Possibilities*. Pete Seeger's *The Incomplete Folksinger* with Mark Hellman paid tribute to the legendary folk singer in Rotary Hall Studio Theatre, and *The Centre Rocks XIV* showcased local talent. Award-winning comedian Mike Delamont returned with his sequel *God is a Scottish Drag Queen: the Second Coming* and Warren Miller Entertainment provided their latest film *Face of Winter*. The month wrapped up with a concert by the Vancouver Men's Chorus in *Making Spirits Bright*, and the *Concerto Invierno* with Daniel Bolshoy. Holiday presentations continued into December with the North Shore Celtic Ensemble in *A Celtic Christmas*, the return of *Winter Harp*, *Sing Along with Beauty and the Beast* and Duffle Bag Theatre's holiday show *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*.

Rock.It.Boy Entertainment brought in *Jesse Cook* in October, the Chamber of Commerce held an *All-Candidates Forum* and a *Mayoral Forum* in the HUB International Theatre. *Expedia Cruiseship Centres* held a sales presentation and the Chilliwack Symphony Orchestra had their *Piano Extravaganza* concert, and the first Fraser Valley Comedy Festival held their *Closing Night Gala* at the end of October. November saw Rocklands Entertainment bring *Hank Williams: The Lonesome Tour*, Jaguar Music brought in *Buddy Holly and his Million Dollar Friends*, CSOPA presented their *Destination Broadway* fundraiser, and the Chilliwack Players Guild presented *Murder on the Nile*. December saw James & Jamesy's *O Christmas Tea* and Jaguar Music's *Rock N' Soul Christmas* and Ballet Victoria and Creative Outlet's *The Nutcracker*.



The Chilliwack Visual Artists Association exhibits in the O'Connor Group Art Gallery included: *Enduring Spirits – Ron Huebner exhibit*; *Journey* – featuring artists from the CVAA; and *Hear and See: Poetry and Art*. Arts classes for adults were offered in pottery, painting, drawing, photography, performance, soap making, wirework, flamework, jewellery making, and glass fusion. Open studios for clay, glass work and life drawing were active. Art classes for kids were offered in magic, theatre, performance, photography, knitting, anime and clay. The second student art sale *Art from the Heart* was held on November 30 and December 1.



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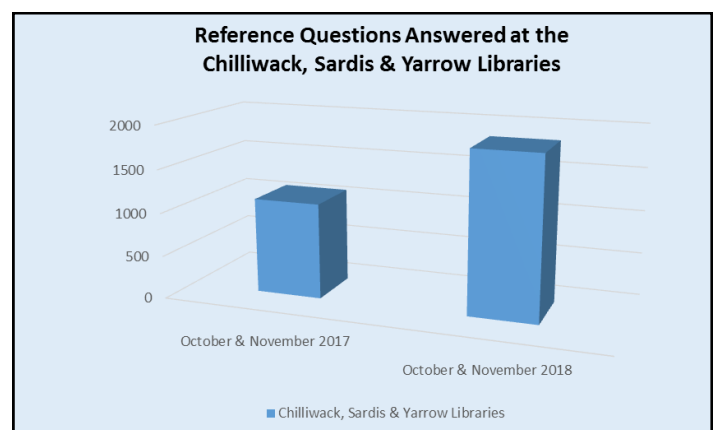
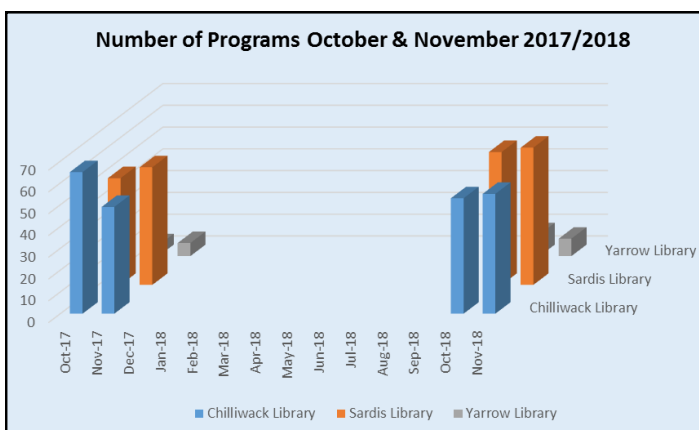
Chilliwack Library

The Friends of the Chilliwack Libraries Society is a volunteer organization that supports the library through advocacy, fundraising and assistance with various projects and programs. Every October, the Friends host their popular annual Quiz Night, an after-hours event where teams compete for the coveted “Smarty Pants” award while enjoying refreshments and purchasing raffle tickets to win prizes generously donated by local businesses. This year’s Quiz Night was again a resounding success, attracting new customers and raising library awareness.

Traditionally, it can be challenging to find programs that appeal to the pre-teen and young adult demographic. In keeping with FVRL’s goal of offering public education, the Chilliwack Library, with partial funding from the Friends of the Chilliwack Libraries Society, hosted two pilot programs for tweens and teens. The “Home Alone” and “Babysitter’s Course” offered through the Canadian Red Cross offer valuable life skills, and the public response was very enthusiastic. Registration for both courses was full.

The Library also hosted canine guests during the “Pro-D Day Pet & Play” program featuring St. John Ambulance therapy dogs. This event was another wonderful opportunity to engage the pre-teen and young adult demographic, while building awareness of such a valuable organization within our community.

The Christmas Cheer program was a success. Amid the harp music and refreshments, all patrons showed huge appreciation for the event. A busy craft table had kids and families creating wonderful Christmas decorations to decorate the library tree with or to take home.





Sardis Library



On October 4, Sardis Library welcomed author Polly Horvath, world-renowned writer of books for young people. In addition to introducing students to some of her favourite characters, Polly engaged them in an interactive presentation explaining the different elements of story building. Another author visit included Rachelle Delaney on October 22, hosted at the Mount Slesse Middle School. There were over 600 kids in attendance. This coincided with the school's "Drop Everything and Read Day".

The Sardis Library also hosted UFV Political Science Professor Dr. Hamish Telford, who took time to explain and answer questions about the referendum, what each option means to the future of British Columbia, and why voting matters. This program drew a large number of interested, passionate customers eager to learn more about how their government works.

The Sardis Library hosted "Christmas Cheer with the Chilliwack Harmony Chorus". On December 7, the members of the Chilliwack Harmony Chorus helped celebrate the season – barbershop style! Everyone was welcome to join as the Friends of the Chilliwack Libraries Society served holiday refreshments during an enjoyable hour of Christmas music.



Yarrow Library

Halloween and story time fell on the same day at the Yarrow Library this year, thrilling many of the library's youngest patrons. This special session included seasonal books, songs and rhymes, and everyone was encouraged to show up in costume. Following story time was a Halloween themed craft.

The library played host to several holiday events to appeal to all ages. Families with young children were invited to a special Christmas Storytime. The enjoyed festive stories, songs and treats.

On December 18, the Yarrow Library hosted its annual Christmas Open House. Later in the afternoon, a Christmas Craft Meetup was organized, encouraging children to "drop into the library after school and make like an elf!" Delighted attendees were able to make an assortment of crafts, perfect to hang on their tree or to give as gifts.

