

2009 Accomplishments

CHATHAM-KENT

PUBLIC LIBRARY

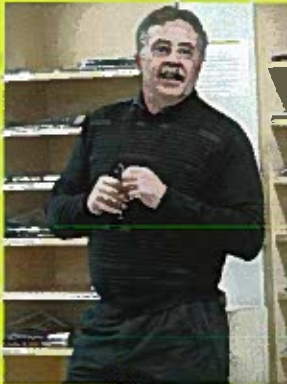
Highlights

Library Master Plan was approved by the Library Board and presented to Council on January 12. Staff began implementing recommendations immediately.

"Izzy Dolls and Boomer Caps" presented by Canadian War Museum at Chatham, Merlin, Ridgetown, & Wallaceburg.

CKPL assisting in tough economic times: created job searching resource brochure, developed job searching resource web page; partnered with Employment Resource Centre (ERC) to provide job searching seminar; with financial assistance from ERC, updated the job searching collection

Reptiles at Risk — a free program offered in partnership with Laurentian University, the Canadian Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Network, and Sciensational Ssnakes. This fantastic summer reading program was offered at Blenheim, Chatham, Dresden, Highgate, Merlin, Ridgetown, Tilbury and Wheatley branches.



CKPL supports local authors

- Ray Robertson *David*
- Bryan Prince *A Shadow on the Household* (pictured at right)
- Janet Forsyth *Use the Sunday Dishes*
- Marg Watson *Chronicles of Kent Now Chatham-Kent*
- Jane Anne Deighton *The Last Chapter(s) - end of life care guide*

Children's Services bookmark promoting Literacy and Summer Reading Club distributed to all grades 1-4 students at both the St. Clair District Catholic School Board and the Lambton-Kent District School Board

"Always wonderful and very nice. Great library [Dresden]. I'm from Toronto and this is amazing!" — Cathleen

Partnerships

Community Volunteer Income Tax Preparation in partnership with the Canadian Revenue Agency—provide income tax preparation for low income families in CK. Another example of CKPL meeting the needs of the community during tough economic times.

Chatham Branch hosted the 2nd Annual Colours Art Show. The installation showcased the creativity and talents of Community Living clients. Staff and public alike enjoyed seeing the colourful display.

CKPL partnered with Geranium House staff to update a grief and bereavement booklist "To Comfort You". This resource list is now made available on their website. Another example of CKPL reaching out the help CK residents in times of need.

The Employment Resource Centre donated \$3,000 to CKPL to purchase job searching resources primarily for the medium and small branches. The goal was to reach out to job seekers in smaller rural areas where residents may not always be able to travel into Chatham to seek resources.

Friends of the Dresden, Blenheim, and Ridgetown libraries continued to support public library services in their community through donations and volunteer service.

"Always helpful, I don't know what we'd do without this library."
— Angie

Programs

Library staff continue to offer creative programs: Chatham now offers a Mother Daughter book club, Thamesville offered teen scrapbooking, and Dresden offered a Family Halloween party.

Community Access Program (CAP) 780 one-on-one computer training session were completed along with 8 group programs. This program provides opportunities for residents to learn and develop computer literacy skills which can assist them in their personal and career goals.

Outreach

CKPL staff attended several fairs, workshops and events outside of the library to promote services: Health Fair, presentation to ECE students at St. Clair College, Healthy Living Makes Cents workshop, Halloween Fest, and the Blenheim Community Seniors Fair.



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2009

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Technological Innovations

- Wireless access in all eleven locations
- Downloadable audio books (CKPL's virtual branch offers residents access to 4,100 downloadable audio books)
- Introduction of a new suite of databases (ie Ancestry.com)

ancestry
library edition



"Everyone at this library [Chatham] is always so helpful and pleasant. I enjoy spending time here and do so often."
— Jeannine

2009 was a tough year for the residents of Chatham-Kent. For the Chatham-Kent Public Library, it meant a significant increase in usage. Whether it was borrowing materials vs. buying, attending free programs, preparing resumes or looking for jobs, 2009 was our busiest year yet!

Items circulated 2009 = 822,262 ↑ 3.5% over 2008

Holds filled 2009 = 61,578 ↑ 7% over 2008



Over 49,000 CK residents were a member of the library.
CKPL registered 4,412 new patrons in 2009.



Over 8,000 residents walked through the door each week.
On average, 950 reference questions were answered weekly.



Over 48,000 people attended the 1,660 programs offered at the library

There were over 298,000 items in the library collection:

245,000 books

7,732 DVDs

9,700 audio books

200 magazine & newspaper subscriptions



CKPL employed a total staff of 75 (46.84 FTEs)

Our Thanks...

A sincere thank you to the following individuals, service clubs and businesses who made donations over \$100 in 2009.

Blenheim & Community Seniors Group	Wheatley Lions Club Inc.
Blenheim Centennial Lions	
Blenheim Ladies Auxiliary Canadian Legion Branch 185	Paul & Gwen Beardsall
Blenheim Rotary Club	Rob, Heather & Brock Bradley
Chatham Bowlerama Staff	Mike & Janice Caron
Chatham-Kent Retired Teachers of Ontario	Margaret Chinnick
CUPE Local 12.2	George Cmelo
Dresden Co-op Nursery School	Morris & Shirley Cuthbertson
Dresden Rotary Club	Lillian Denomy
Friends of the Blenheim Library	Margaret Escott
Friends of the Dresden Library	Anne Gilbert
Friends of the Ridgetown Library	Ken & Shirley Green
IODE Dresden	Lawanna Huscroft
May Court Club of Chatham	Annette Isber
Optimist Club of Bothwell District Inc.	Karen Kennedy
Rotary Club of Chatham Sunrise	George & Barb Lyszak
Rotary Club of Dresden	Ruthven MacLean
Royal Canadian Legion Branch 18	Gloria Magee
Royal Canadian Legion Branch 324	Sharon McDonnell
Wheatley	Darcy & Joyce McKeough
TD Canada Trust	Tim Miller
Thamesville La Sertoma	Joseph O'Neill
Thamesville Sertoma Club	Lori Reville
Thamesville Tops	Ted, Brenda & Jenny Rumble
Tilbury Lioness Club	Chuck & Gail Scott
Tilbury Optimist Club Inc	Ted & Susanne Simpson
Wheatley District Optimist Club Inc.	

We would also like to thank the hundreds of others who contributed financially and/or provided volunteer assistance to the Chatham-Kent Public Library throughout the year. Receipts for income tax purposes are issued for donations of \$10 or more. For more information, please contact the Administration Office at:

519-354-2940 ext. 239

Chatham-Kent Public Library Board 2009

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