

Annual Report 2023



hhpl
halton hills
public library

grow together

Thank you to our supporters!

Your impact is felt throughout the Library:

- Offering your organization's services to the residents of Halton Hills
- Delivering books to Home Library Service patrons
- Mentoring young readers through Reading Buddies
- Donating and packaging seeds for our Seed Library
- Supporting library events and programs
- Keeping our spaces inviting
- Providing financial support for enhanced programs that feature special guests



2023 Annual Report



Welcoming and Inclusive

Growing together with Halton Hills youth and young adults:

- Extended fine-free policy to patrons aged 18-24
- Extended Exam Cram hours until 10 p.m. during high school exams
- Teen Advisory Council organized youth programs
- Launched new programs for youth
- Led a teen-focused Instagram account

83

Youth volunteers

1,483

Youth volunteer hours



Welcoming and Inclusive

More Key Accomplishments

- Developed programming for the National Day for Truth & Reconciliation that encouraged reflection on the ongoing impacts of colonialism.
- Launched the Sensory Collection with tools to reduce anxiety and stimulate learning during library visits.
- Renovated the children's gaming area at the Georgetown Branch to create a more welcoming space for families.
- Introduced new equity, diversity, and inclusion training for our team to create a more welcoming space for all.
- Launched the Rainbow Resources Guide with information on 2SLGBTQIA* terminology and community resources and attended the first Halton PrideFest and Halton Pride Parade with other Halton Region libraries.



Community Connection

New community partnerships:

- Launched Tales on the Trail with Credit Valley Conservation Authority and Orangeville Public Library.
- Strengthened support for our Francophone community through partnerships with On y va and Coin Franco.
- Offered support to new parents through a new partnership with the Infant Food Bank.

75
Number of
community
organizations

100+
Outreach visits to
schools, youth centres,
senior centres



Community Connection

More Key Accomplishments

- Delivered 4,613 items to 85 Home Library Service patrons (an average of 54 items per person).
- Distributed 6,866 seed packages through our Seed Library, with 41% of seeds coming from community donations.
- Distributed 4,446 lbs of food (\$15,870 value) to those in need through our partnership with Food for Life.
- Launched Library Lockers at the Gellert Community Centre, providing more convenient access to Georgetown South residents.
- Shortlisted for the Angus Mowat Award of Excellence for our dedication to serving the local Francophone community.



Enriching Lives

Building literacy in the community:

- Championed diversity with the One Book, One Halton Hills 2023 title *Willie: The Game-Changing Story of the NHL's First Black Player*.
- Launched Reading Buddies to mentor young readers and provide meaningful volunteer opportunities for seniors.
- Supported literacy with the annual Summer Reading Challenge.
- Provided enriching and inclusive experiences for families by hosting Caitie in Concert and Fay & Fluffy.

422

Early literacy
programs offered

7,030

Attendees at early
literacy programs



Enriching Lives

More Key Accomplishments

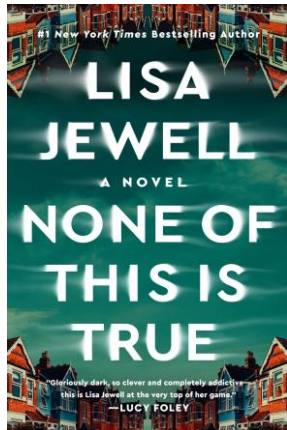
- Launched the Dementia-Friendly collection to support social engagement.
- Provided over 157 hours of one-on-one technology support for residents through our Book a Librarian service.
- Expanded the INC. Project to include an illustrated works category. Awards were given to nine young creatives.
- Exhibited 67 pieces of artwork by young artists during Art at the Library, held in collaboration with the Helson Gallery.
- Launched four new digital services, providing language learning support, arts and craft tutorials, and video streaming.
- Installed a 3D printer at the Acton Branch.



Your Favourites

Most Popular Titles

Fiction



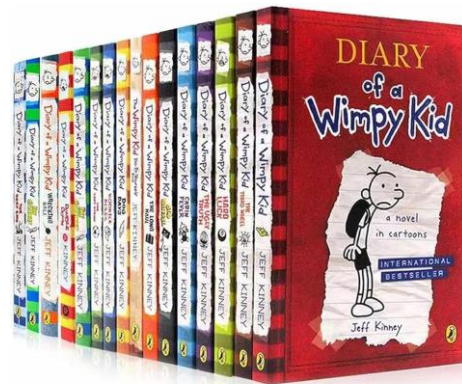
Non-Fiction



Young Adult



Children's Fiction



Busiest Days at the Library

1. School Breaks
2. PA Days
3. High School Exams
4. FANFEST
5. Cooling Centre

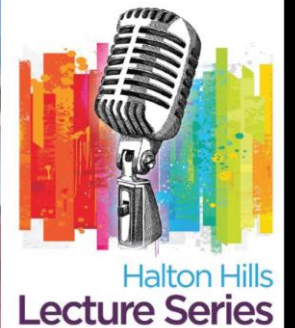
Most Checked Out Items

1. Study Rooms
2. Game Controllers
3. Laptops and Headphones
4. Skate, Swim and Park Passes
5. WiFi to Go

Most Popular Guest



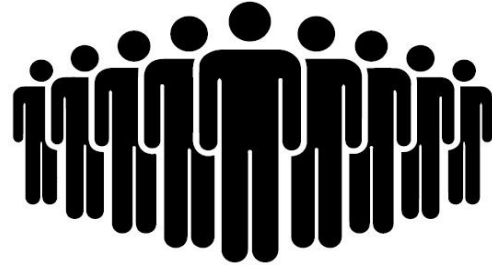
Most Popular Lecture



Year-at-a-Glance

218,493

Branch visits

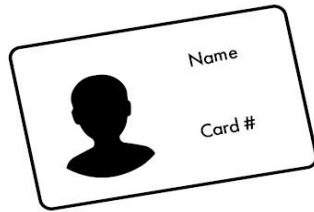


521,273

Website visits

18,366

Active
cardholders



3,174

New library cards issued



1,231

Total of programs

24,562

Total program attendees

501,620

Items borrowed

72

Total number of item formats
available to borrow

Public Libraries: Essential Community Hubs

Key Services

- Offer equitable access to collections that meet the community's information needs
- Deliver literacy-based programming for all ages
- Provide equitable access to the internet
- Make new technologies available to the community
- Partner with community service organizations
- Connect vulnerable populations with community resources
- Support access to digital government services



October is Canadian Library Month

Unlock Curiosity
One card. Endless opportunities.



www.hhpl.ca/LibraryCards

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The image shows three children of diverse backgrounds gathered around a large, yellow, ribbed barrel in a library setting. They are looking into the barrel with expressions of curiosity and interest. The background shows bookshelves filled with books.

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The Role of Public Libraries in Child Development

- **Foster** literacy skills through early exposure to reading and play-based learning
- **Promote** lifelong learning using diverse learning resources
- **Support** emotional development in safe spaces
- **Enhance** critical thinking through access to technology and interactive learning
- **Promote** health and well-being by providing access to information and programs for vulnerable populations
- **Build** community connections



By the Numbers: Summer Reading Club 2024

- **783** children registered
- **5,448** hours read during the summer
- **40,000** children's books borrowed
- **189** literacy and STEAM-based programs
- **3,553** program participants



2024 Summer Reading Club Video

TD
Summer
Reading
Club
2024

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Questions?

