

2019 Year in Review



Open 3,650 Hours



284,940

Total Circulation

234,752 Physical

50,188 Virtual

(up from 267,010 in 2018)



11,711

Active Cardholders

(up from 9,623 in 2018)



14,403 Items Added
to the Collection



2,349 Items
Loaned to &
1,206 Items
Borrowed from
other Libraries

2019 marked the first year of Wood Buffalo Regional Library's new five year Plan of Service! After extensive community consultation, we identified four goals that will best serve our region over the coming years.

We're pleased to share the highlights from our year and the progress we've made towards reaching our Plan of Service goals, along with our statistics from 2019.

We have exciting plans on the horizon and look forward to supporting our community through the challenges of 2020 and into the future.

Promote creative expression and foster an engaged community.

- Through a grant we received from the Government of Canada, we developed the Seniors Leading Seniors program for seniors to share their talents, including Genealogy, Moccasin Making, and Brownies/Cookies in a Jar.

- Through a grant from the Red Cross, we offered eight workshops in Fort McMurray and rural communities for 126 participants to reflect on the Horse River Fire and create a calligraphy keepsake box. 90% of respondents felt the program helped create community strengthening post-wildfire.

Reduce barriers for teens and adults to access information and learning opportunities.

- WBRL cards no longer expire as long as they are active, reducing barriers for community members to access library resources.

- Continued to expand our online resources collection, including digital books, audiobooks, magazines, comics, music, and video. Digital circulation rose from 42,254 in 2018 to 50,188 in 2019, as more Wood Buffalo residents discover WBRL's growing collection!

- Partnered with Keyano College to offer the Keyano Lecture Series, beginning in September 2019. The Lecture Series covers a variety of interesting topics for adult learners presented by local experts.

- Offered Exam Cram in January and June. 2,155 students used the CNRL Teen Area and supplies to prepare for exams.

- Began Exam Proctoring in June, with 125 exams proctored in 2019.

- Implemented online program and event registration.



62,607 Reference
Transactions



270,900
In Person Visits
(up from 250,339 in 2018)



122,282 Virtual Visits



1,237 Programs
Offered
36,665 Program
Participants



21,936 Computer
Works Sessions
18,546 Computer
Works Hours

Nurture an inclusive and informed community.

- Expanded program offerings for children, youth, and adults with exceptionalities.
- Partnered with RACIDE for I See You: Sawubona exhibit.
- Offered monthly Story Time at the End of the Rainbow programs with local drag queen, Simma Downe, to nurture understanding and acceptance of the LGBTQ+ community.
- Welcomed Phyllis Webstad, author of The Orange Shirt Story, in November for events in Fort McMurray and Fort Chipewyan. Phyllis shared her experience in residential school with 472 program participants.
- Partnered with local elder, Hazel Deranger, for programming celebrating Indigenous culture and traditions; Hazel shared her knowledge through a variety of programs, including Elder Story Time and Mocassin Making.
- Created an accessible collection of DAISY audiobook discs available for print-disabled patrons.

Expand beyond the physical space to connect with the entire Wood Buffalo Region.

- Rural item delivery services are now available in Conklin, Anzac, and Janvier. Cardholders can have any item from WBRL's collection delivered to lockers in these communities.
- Expanded outreach services to include programs in the Fort McMurray Recovery Centre and the long term care and mental health units at the Northern Lights Regional Health Centre.
- The Words on Wheels mobile library continued to visit locations in rural communities and Fort McMurray in the warmer months, signing community members up for WBRL cards and offering resources to borrow in our mobile collection.

Wood Buffalo Regional Library
1 C.A. Knight Way
Fort McMurray, AB
T9H 5C5
780-743-7800

wbrl.ca

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