

2022

REPORT TO OUR COMMUNITY



**SASKATOON
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Located on Treaty 6
territory and the homeland
of the Métis.

Board Message

Following two challenging years, it was heartening to welcome patrons back to the library full time in 2022. Most locations were open for in-person visits throughout the year and we resumed in-person programs in May.

While the Board is proud of how the library adapted to continue providing essential public library services throughout the pandemic, 2022 reminded us that there's no substitute for gathering and learning together as a community. At storytimes, English-learning programs, one-on-one tech help sessions, and everything in between, it has been so gratifying to see our spaces full of activity again.

This past year was also significant for Saskatoon Public Library (SPL) in many other respects. We began operating within our Community-Inspired Service Philosophy, which provides a roadmap to ensure we provide programs, services, collections and employment practices that reflect the community. Recognizing that the library cannot be all things to all people, this service model helps us prioritize initiatives that fit within the library's mandate and strategic objectives.

The new service philosophy will help us advance the initiatives outlined in our new Strategic Plan (2022–2027). This plan focuses on increasing inclusion and making the library more representative of the community. It places a significant emphasis on

modernizing our facilities and enhancing technology in libraries across the city—adding value to the diverse neighbourhoods and demographics that we serve.

And the Strategic Plan will also guide us towards opening our new central library. The library's final design was released in October—a design that was shaped, in large part, by the feedback we received from residents over the past few years. Thank you to everyone who participated in online surveys, completed a kitchen table kit, attended our information sessions, or sat on a resident advisory committee. Your time and efforts have helped ensure this facility will be a model of sustainability, accessibility and reconciliation in our community for decades.

To be sure, the future is bright and we can't wait to learn more about how SPL can best meet the needs of you and your family in the coming months and years. Thank you for reading this report and learning more about public library services in our vibrant community.

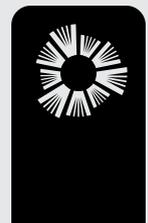
Sincerely,



Jim Siemens
Board Chair

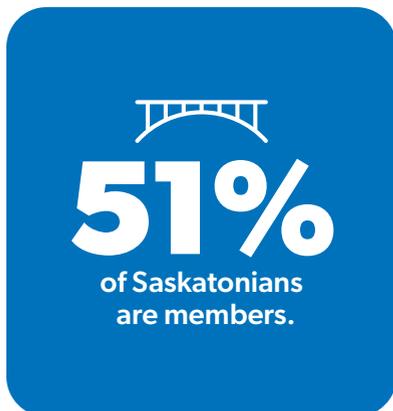


Carol Cooley
CEO



By the Numbers

Following the challenges of 2020 and 2021, we gradually returned to normalcy at the library in 2022. Whether patrons were using a computer, browsing bestsellers or attending a program, it was great seeing our libraries busy and bustling again!



Patrons saved just under
\$34 million
by checking out physical library
materials in 2022!

Thank you for using
Saskatoon Public Library.

Check how much you have saved at
the bottom of your receipt.



saskatoonlibrary.ca/library-cards

We opened the Library Shop in November and were overwhelmed with demand for SPL-branded merchandise.

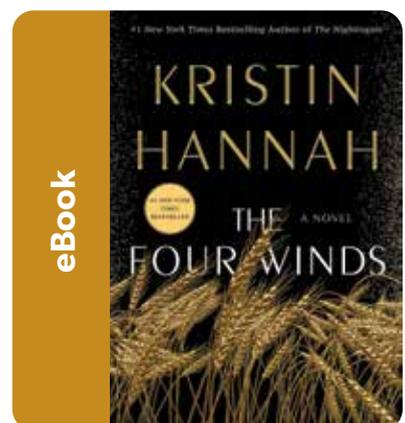
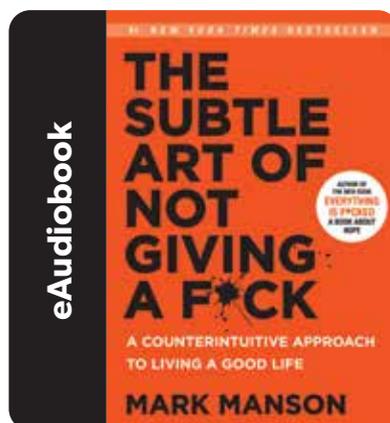
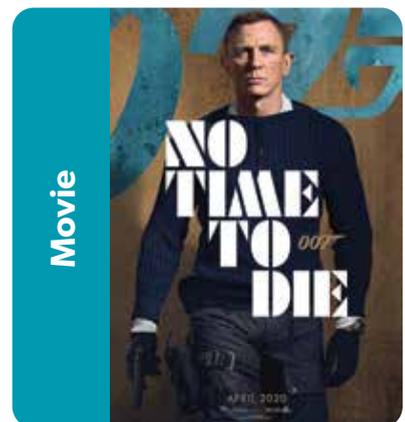
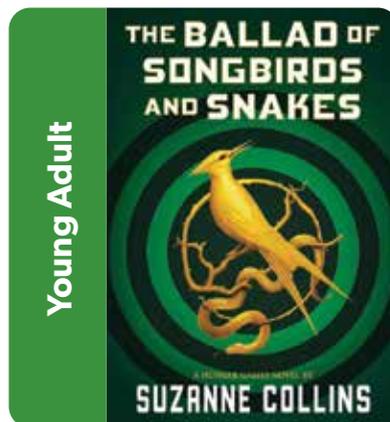
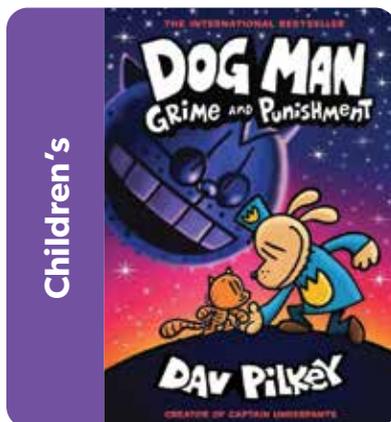
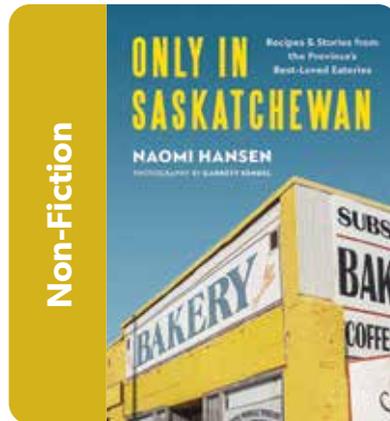
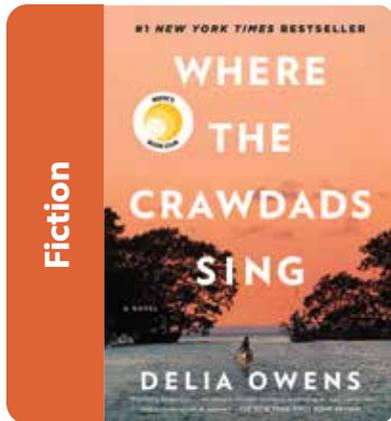
All proceeds support learning and discovery at the library.

Thanks for your support!
saskatoonlibrary.ca/shop



Most Popular

Your love for blockbusters and bestsellers shone through in 2022! Here are the most popular titles in various categories.



TD Summer Reading Club

1,768 kids took part in the TD Summer Reading program, including **1,296** new participants.

saskatoonlibrary.ca/td-club



tpl toronto public library



THE READY COMMITMENT



Library and Archives Canada

Bibliothèque et Archives Canada



Local History

In 2022, **1,538** people visited the room in person and thousands more browsed the archives online.

Located on the second floor of the central library, the Local History department is home to a vast archive of photographs, pamphlets, maps, books, scrapbooks, periodicals, newspaper clippings and materials on microfilm.

saskatoonlibrary.ca/localhistory

Photos: LH-5168, Hillyard, Leonard A. 20th Street West, facing west, showing Roxy Theatre (top). QC-4406-1, CFQC staff. Bessborough Hotel and downtown (bottom).
Saskatoon Public Library – Local History

Programs & Events

In-person programs resumed May 2 and we couldn't have been more excited to welcome patrons back into our spaces for storytimes, craft programs, writing workshops and much more!

7,203

people attended
159 online programs.



411

kids took part in
STEAM Club.

17,444

children attended
storytime programs.



4,327

residents met with
us at **40** community-
based events.



23,857

viewed online programs
on YouTube.

9,924

kids attended the library
during **184** school visits.



23,625

people attended
1,601 in-person programs.
(May 2 onwards)



272

people learned English at
Conversation Circles.

1,164

people attended vaccine
clinics at the library.

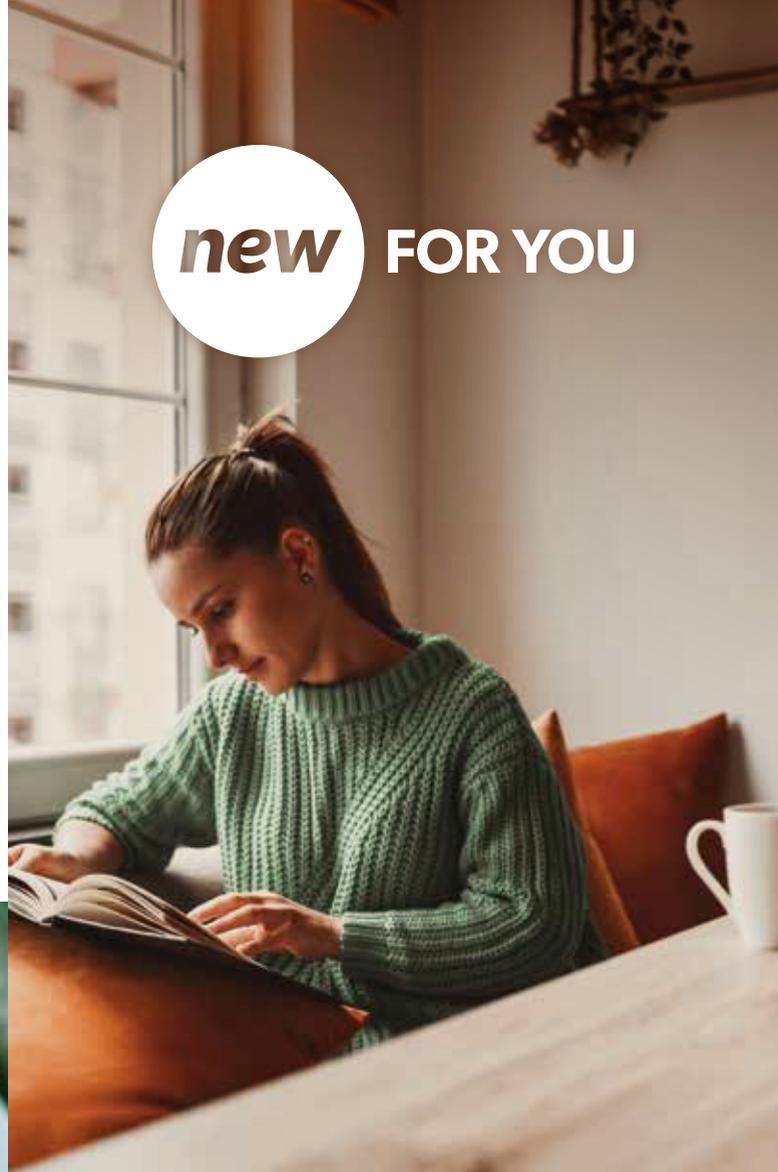


CHECK IN

Check out CheckIn, our monthly newsletter featuring the latest news, tech tips and coming soon materials.

To subscribe and get the newsletter by email every month, simply fill out the form at the bottom of any page on our website, saskatoonlibrary.ca.

new FOR YOU



Sign up to receive a monthly email of new and popular titles based on your reading preferences.

Select as many genres as you'd like to never miss out on new releases.

saskatoonlibrary.ca/readers-advisory

Outreach & Accessibility

Many of the challenges facing our community today disproportionately affect vulnerable individuals. The library provides many services in support of our vision to change lives through community connections, engagement and inclusivity.



1,191

deliveries

made to people who are unable to physically visit the library.

89

consultations were booked with SPL's **Writer in Residence.**



Accessibility Services
technology at the central library used

561

times.

1,683

patrons were assisted by SPL's **Outreach Workers.**



1,011

pieces of **winter gear**
handed out.

135

appointments for **One-on-One Tech Help.**



New Central Library



We envision a barrier-free new central library infused with the spirit of this community, Treaty 6 territory and the homeland of the Métis. It will be a source of inspiration and pride for everyone who calls Saskatoon home.

Following years of planning and community consultations, the final design for Saskatoon's new central library was released in the fall of 2022.

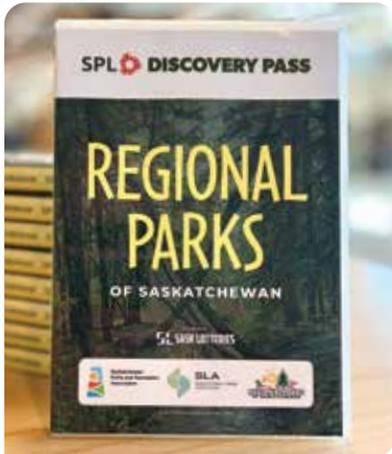
Thank you to everyone who provided feedback and helped ensure the new downtown library will reflect the traditions and aspirations of our incredible city.

Read the report today!
saskatooncentrallibrary.ca

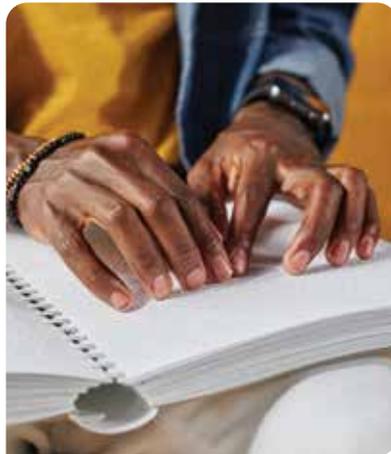


New Items

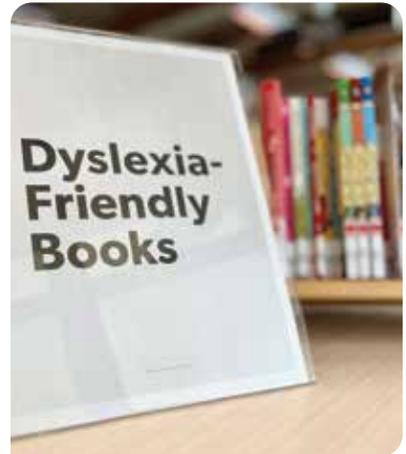
We're always assessing community needs and ensuring our resources are allocated to best meet those needs. Here are some of the many new items we added in 2022.



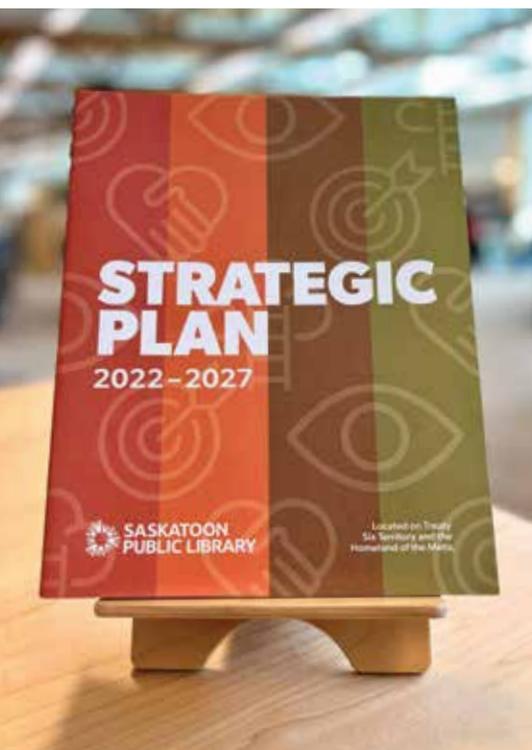
Discovery Passes
Regional Parks of Saskatchewan Pass
We added free Regional Parks of Saskatchewan passes to our popular Discovery Pass collection.



Braille Collection
Our braille collection now has more than 100 items, strengthening our commitment to enhance library resources for people with print disabilities.



Dyslexia-Friendly Collection
We added over 200 young adult and juvenile dyslexia-friendly books to our collection.



Strategic Plan

Our new strategic plan focuses on increasing inclusion and making the library more representative of the community. It also charts a course towards the opening of our new central library in 2026.

Learn more on our website!
saskatoonlibrary.ca/strategic-plan

Loving Your Library

SPL's community of library supporters continued to grow in 2022. Thank you to all donors for showing your love for the library!

We are so grateful to our donors for being a part of our story and helping to foster learning, discovery, growth and belonging in our shared community.

To learn more about giving to SPL, visit saskatoonlibrary.ca/donate.

