



GRAND FORKS PUBLIC

A playground for **curious minds.**

2018 ANNUAL REPORT





GRAND FORKS PUBLIC

The **mission** of the
Grand Forks Public is
to **connect** the
community, **inspire**
creativity, &
encourage curiosity.

A playground for **curious minds.**



CHILDREN'S BOOKS
107,334

CHECKED OUT

96,532

ADULT & YA BOOKS



53,159

HOURS of COMPUTER USE



MOVIES BORROWED

888,839

"Value" calculated as the average retail prices of various services & items offered in library & multiplied by the amount of patron usage in 2018.

VALUE OF GRAND FORKS PUBLIC LIBRARY

\$5,765,215.60

208 STATE
PARK
PASSES
BORROWED



742

EVENTS
PROGRAMS
&
CLUBS



"Value" calculated as the average retail prices of various services & items offered in library & multiplied by the amount of usage in 2018.



MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

“Change” has been the theme at Grand Forks Public — regarding staffing, programming, and the library building itself! Over the past year several long term staff members have retired, many with decades of experience. We appreciate their hard work and dedication, and they have left big shoes to fill! These retirements have also coincided with combining the Reference and Circulation departments into a new Information Services Department.

Library programming, including community outreach and collaboration efforts, continues to grow, ensuring library services are available to more residents of the city and county. The Library is also implementing a successful re-branding effort, including a redesigned website and expanded social media presence.

The library facility continues to see improvements, with even more updates scheduled over the next year. These changes will help ensure the over 240,000 annual library visits take place in a more comfortable environment. Beyond short term impacts, the board continues discussions with the city on potential long term solutions to the library’s space and infrastructure needs.

We invite you to visit Grand Forks Public _ ; experience our services and programming; and see why we are a “Playground for Curious Minds”.

Sincerely,
The Grand Forks Public Library Board

2018 Library Board Members

Justin Berry – President
Katie Darling – Vice President
Sarah Jensen – Secretary
Diane Knauf – County Commission
Sandi Marshall – City Council
Fred Remer
Ted Sandberg



"I LOVE OUR GF LIBRARY!
HELPFUL STAFF, FUN
EVENTS, AND OF COURSE,
GOOD BOOKS."

THE
PEOPLE WHO WORK AT THIS
LIBRARY ARE THE BEST!! SO MANY
PROGRAMS, SO MANY SERVICES AND SO
MANY THINGS TO DO AND SEE. COULDN'T
ASK FOR BETTER!!

"I APPRECIATE THE WORK
THE STAFF PUTS IN TO THE
LIBRARY TO MAKE IT A
SAFE *and* INVITING SPACE."

"I LOVE THE LIBRARY!
I GREW UP WITH IT
AND RODE MY BIKE
THERE IN THE
SUMMERTIME. THE
STAFF IS FRIENDLY
AND HELPFUL IF YOU
NEED HELP FINDING
ANYTHING!"

"ANYTHING WE HAVE
ATTENDED THERE HAS BEEN
SOMETHING WE HIGHLY RECOMMEND
TO OTHERS! ONE OF OUR
FAVORITES HAS TO BE BABY
STORY TIME!"

"GREAT STAFF, GREAT
SELECTION, GREAT
COMMUNITY OUTREACH
EVENTS, LOVE OUR
LIBRARY!!





CONNECTING THE COMMUNITY

2018 started many big changes to the way our library does things. We've put a focus back on the patrons and making their experience the best it can be both inside and outside the library.

Part of our mission is to connect the community, this means not only inside the library, but outside of its walls as well. With the addition of the Community Outreach Librarian, we were able to establish a library presence at the 701 Coworking Space, where we provided access to the library's electronic resources as well as placed a reference librarian in the space once a month to help younger professionals access free resources to help them grow personally and professionally.

We worked closely with Altru to establish the "Altru Recommends" book collection in the library. The collection includes carefully curated books and materials to help those going through the grieving process. The collection includes materials suitable for all ages from young children to elderly adults.

The library added to our list of book clubs with the addition of "Pints and Pages" a monthly book club that meets downtown at Half Brothers Brewing Company. We were also able to be part of the ALA Great Stories Project, a national thematic reading and discussion program that engages under-served teens in our community.

Finally the library participated in the city's "Welcoming Community Roadmap Project" from this we have begun expanding our Foreign Language collection and updated our meeting room reservation policy to accommodate more types of activities.



INSPIRE YOUR CREATIVITY & ENCOURAGE YOUR CURIOSITY

There is something for every person, every age at the Grand Forks Public Library. Even if you never pick up a book, our mission is to inspire and encourage you! Programming in 2018 focused on this part of our mission.

We hosted the Discover Space Exhibit, that allowed people to explore the wonders of space. In combination with that our First LEGO League and Minecraft Mania programs gave kids the opportunity to explore robotics and computer programming.

The Voter Connections Series, brought together local political candidates and community members to talk about important issues in a forum style discussion.

Additional firsts for programming included a Comic Extravaganza, Drone Day, Harry Potter mini golf, and Sensory Activity hour (for special needs patrons).

We continued with our one of a kind early literacy efforts by partnering with the Little Red Reading Bus, the Summer Reading Program, READ Dogs, and our well known storytimes.

Finally we expanded our collection to include items that will engage both readers and non readers alike. Including video games, and Roku Sticks for both adults and children, 2019 will see the addition of mobile hot spots as well.

37,415 SQUARE FEET *with*
249,882 THINGS
TO BORROW *and*
SERVICES TO
USE FOR *Free!*

BOOKS

MOVIES

VIDEO GAMES

STATE PARK PASSES

INTERNET ACCESS

MOBILE HOTSPOT

NEWSPAPERS

ROKU STICKS

MAGAZINES

3D PRINTING

COMPUTERS

E BOOKS

CDS...





FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Grand Forks Public Friends (formerly known as the Friends of the Grand Forks Public Library) is a group of enthusiastic volunteers that supports the library and its mission by raising funds and promoting library programs and services in the community.

The Friends' new seven-member board hit the ground running in 2018. More board members meant more ideas, more collaboration and more Friends recruited! We had record high book sales and more business members than ever before, and annual programs like our Fill-a-Backpack Program, the Six-Word Story Contest. The library's Haunted Stacks, STEM offerings, and Summer Reading Program all benefited.

We also implemented a new, incredibly popular interactive mystery event that filled every seat in the room. We look forward to hosting more of these kinds of programs to remind adults that their local library isn't just a place to borrow books, but a vibrant place to join their community in experiencing a variety of arts and culture.

Do you want to give something back to the community or make a difference to the people around you? Do you long to develop new skills or build on existing experience and knowledge? There's a place for you with the Grand Forks Public Friends! You could volunteer at a book sale, sort books, address envelopes, host a reception — the opportunities are endless! If your schedule doesn't allow volunteering, you can also support the library just by your membership dues.

2018 Friends Board Members

Debbie McLennan – President
Kathy Iverson – Vice President
Theresa Brorby – Treasurer
Alicia Walstad – Secretary
Aimee Rogers
Noelle Myers
Kaylee Cusack





845

BAGS OF BOOKS SOLD TO NEW HOMES



EVENTS
PROGRAMS
RECEIVED FRIENDS
FUNDING



7 NEW BOARD
MEMBERS

24 BUSINESS
MEMBERS

56 INDIVIDUAL
MEMBERS

168



SIX
WORD
STORY
CONTEST
ENTRIES



31 BACKPACKS *with* SUPPLIES
DONATED TO CVIC



777 VOLUNTEER
HOURS



LIBRARY REVISIONING PROJECT



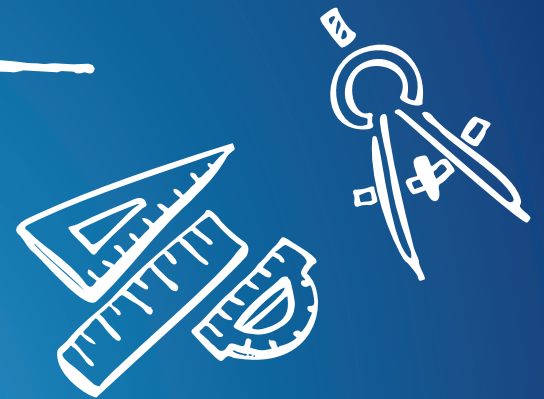
REMOVED FORT DVD - INCREASING ACCESSIBILITY
BEGAN OFFERING VIDEO GAMES FOR CHECKOUT
IMPLEMENTED SELF SERVICE HOLD PICK UP
WEBSITE REDESIGN (RELEASE IN EARLY 2019)

STEPS TOWARDS A 21ST CENTURY LIBRARY



FACILITY CRITICAL UPDATES

UPSTAIRS BATHROOM REMODEL
ADDED STORAGE ROOMS
CEILINGS/WALLS PAINTED
INDOOR LIGHTS REPLACED



REVENUE

	2018	2017
City of Grand Forks	\$2,005,120.00	\$1,832,932.48
Grand Forks County	\$604,414.00	\$715,378.05
State Aid/Intergovernmental	\$144,482.00	\$166,317.28
Grants	\$9,750.00	\$39,279.00
Library Fees/Services	\$44,816.00	\$47,439.97
Donations/Interest	\$28,380.00	\$19,279.45
Total	\$2,836,962.00	\$2,820,626.23

EXPENDITURES

	2018	2017
Wages & Salaries	\$1,329,992.00	\$1,319,690.99
Benefits	\$485,382.00	\$494,814.81
Supplies	\$53,165.00	\$54,216.25
Utilities	\$71,520.00	\$75,157.65
Services & Contracts	\$154,902.00	\$202,604.17
Building Maintenance	\$64,206.00	\$59,006.13
Operating Expenses	\$66,704.00	\$62,198.77
Books & Periodicals	\$188,252.00	\$215,515.99
Capital Expenditures	\$16,530.00	\$13,055.83
Xfr to Capital Account	\$328,916.00	\$200,000.00
Other	\$1,568.00	\$13,055.83
Total	\$2,761,137.00	\$2,702,030.97

118 YEARS OF DEDICATION

Those that dedicate their careers to the public library are more than just employees, they have a passion for their community and a true desire to serve our patrons.

In 2018 we celebrated a combined 118 years of service to the library from five members of our staff. These individuals were instrumental to shaping the library and its service to the Grand Forks City and County community. We will miss them dearly and wish them the very best in their retirement!

Retired January 31st
Reference Librarian Diane Lindseth – 30 years

Retired April 27th
Circulation Supervisor Carol Junk – 10 years

Retired June 13th
Reference Librarian Janice Sayers – 28 years

Retired August 29th
Circulation Assistant Bill Seibert – 10 years

Retired September 14th
Reference Supervisor Toni Vonasek – 40 years





GRAND FORKS PUBLIC

A playground for **curious minds.**

Vision

The Grand Forks Public_ is a playground for curious minds of all ages. It is our community's place for innovation, inspiration, & creativity.

Values

Curiosity:

We encourage the desire to explore, learn, and grow.

Connection:

We connect people to information, possibilities, and each other.

Innovation:

We challenge assumptions through bold and creative problem solving.





CONNECT WITH US

Keeping up with the library and everything that is going on is easier than ever! You can follow us on social media, check the latest news on our website, and have monthly events sent directly to you through our newsletter!

Facebook: @gfpubliclibrary

LinkedIn: Grand Forks Public Library

Instagram: @gfpubliclibrary

Website: www.gflibrary.com

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