

# ANNUAL REPORT 2023



Strathcona County  
**LIBRARY**

Learning to grow a Three Sisters Garden with Knowledge Keeper Chantelle Gray



Earth Day at Deville North Cooking Lake Hall



Read to WIN with the Bookmobile

We recognize that Strathcona County Library is located on Treaty 6 territory and the homeland of the Otipemisiwak Métis, the traditional home of the Nehiyawewak, Papaschase, Nakota Sioux, Tsuut'ina, Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and Métis peoples. We are grateful for their stewardship of this land over many centuries and for the opportunity for all of us to live, work, and play here in a spirit of cooperation and commitment to our treaty obligations. Acknowledging the wrongs done to Indigenous peoples that are part of our shared national history, we dedicate ourselves to moving forward in the spirit of partnership, reconciliation and collaboration.

## Strathcona County Library

401 Festival Lane | Sherwood Park, AB | T8A 5P7  
780.410.8600 | sclibrary.ca | info@sclibrary.ca





“ I have friends who are immunocompromised, and they have portable air sensors. They say that that the air quality at the library is best among public places. It is somewhere safe outside their homes that they go in the community - a different kind of accessibility. ”

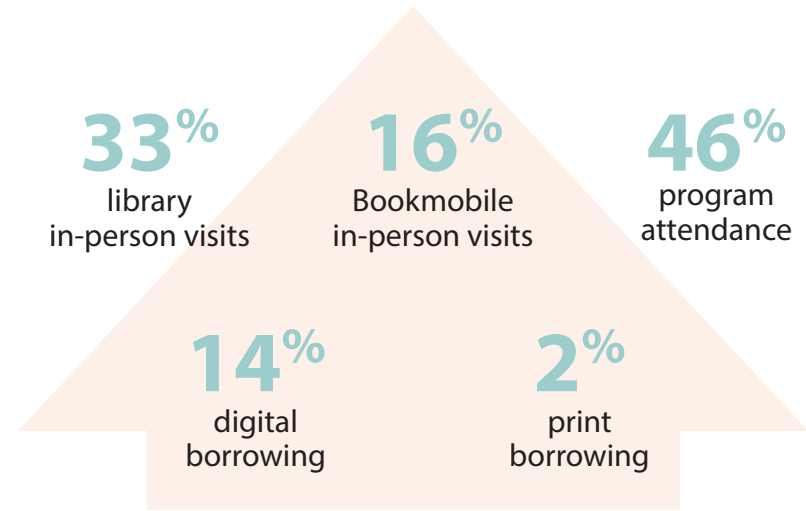
**Denise Charbonneau, Board Chair is proud of**

- The return of people to the library and its programs.
- Progress made on the library’s strategic plan.
- Revival of the library’s quarterly Program Guide so people can explore what’s on offer and connect with what interests them.

**Sharon Siga, CEO is excited about**

- New partnership initiatives like digital training for rural seniors.
- Facility upgrades like a new public address system and an item return bin at Emerald Hills Leisure Centre.
- Leading the way for community events celebrating National Indigenous People’s Day

**5 Trends  
on the RISE\***



\* As compared to 2022

Library cardholders borrowed nearly 1.4 million items in 2023. Just under 300,000 of those were in digital formats (eBooks, eAudiobooks, digital magazines and movies), and even more downloaded online articles, newspapers and training videos. But County residents still love books and other print-based materials too!

More people returned to the library and Bookmobile in 2023, with over 438,000 in-person visits combined. Meanwhile, over 32,000 people participated in almost 1400 library program sessions.

“ They have so many good books & are there to help you find the “just right book. ”



## Library Programs **MATTER**

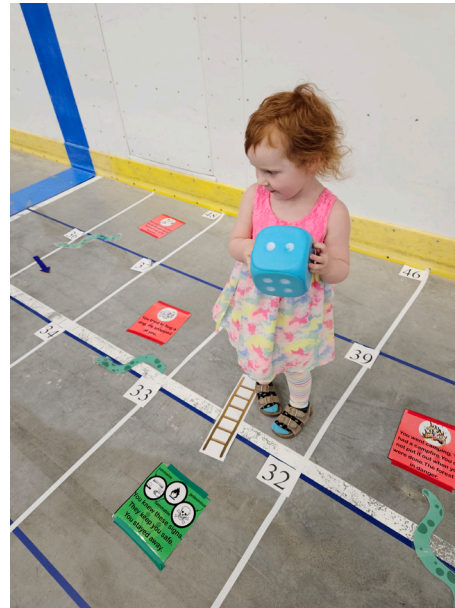
96% of surveyed attendees at **lifelong learning programs** said they **learned something new** while 89% said they **felt more confident** as a result.

### Lifelong learning programs help people:

- Prepare to learn and succeed with formal education.
- Find and use resources to continue learning throughout their lives.
- Build skills and expertise so they can contribute to their communities and to society in general.
- Understand their options.
- Find and use resources to satisfy their curiosity, and to make their own choices.



Exploring Bees with Tim Kihn of Old Man Creek Apiary



Rolling the dice at the ARAS Safety Fair

## 5 Service **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Programs for homeschoolers, teens, and digital instruction for seniors at rural community halls.
- Truth & Reconciliation lecture series; Indigenous culture programs at Ardrossan Recreation & Agricultural Society (ARAS) Farmer's Markets throughout National Indigenous History month.
- New collection of children's titles in large print format.
- Community seed exchange and gardening information event.
- Ongoing all-ages drop-in chess program Wednesday afternoons.



Author Thomas Trofimuk reads aloud from his novel, "The Elephant on Karlův Bridge"



Writer in Residence Tololwa Mollel reads aloud from his 1992 book, "Big Boy"



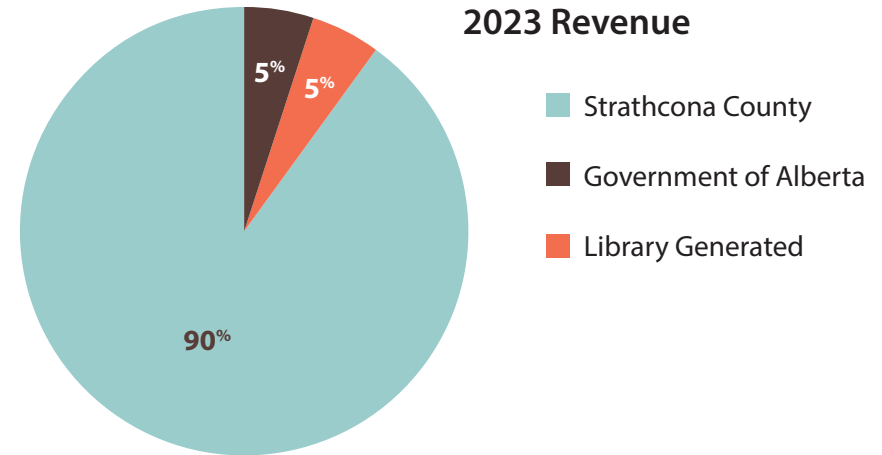
Ready for the "Unlazy River" obstacle course

## Plan of Service Goals 2021-2024

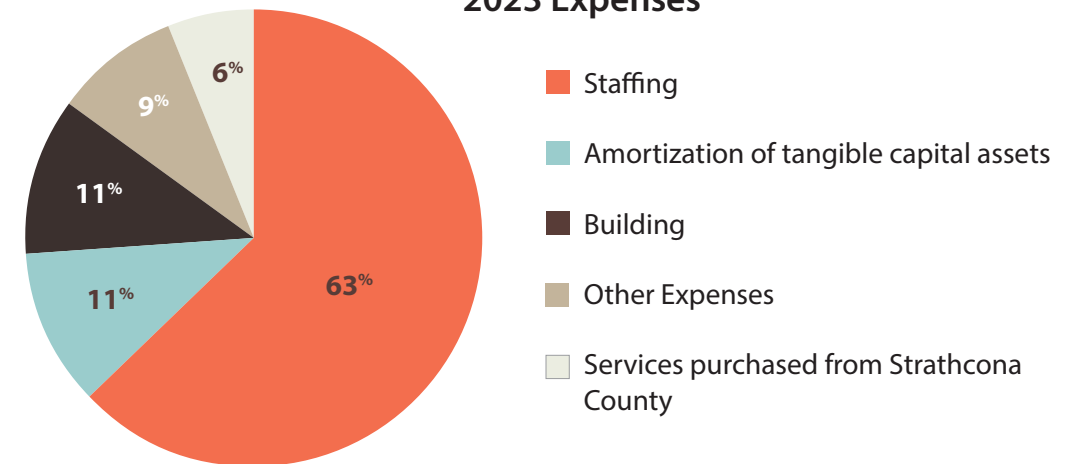
- 1 Support for Education and Lifelong Learning
- 2 Support for Technology Access and Digital Literacy
- 3 Support for Community Connection and Engagement

# FINANCIALS

### 2023 Revenue



### 2023 Expenses



Find our audited Financial Statements at [sclibrary.ca/policies](https://sclibrary.ca/policies)