

Eleanor London Côte Saint-Luc Public Library

ANNUAL REPORT 2018



Prepared by Janine West, Director

MAYOR'S MESSAGE



Over the past five decades, the Côte Saint-Luc Public Library has gained a well-deserved reputation as one of the finest in Quebec. It all began on the second floor of the Côte Saint-Luc Shopping Centre in 1966 under the leadership of the late Eleanor London. Today, the library is in a spacious location adjacent to City Hall, where Library Director Janine West oversees a talented staff.

Over the years, the library has evolved beyond just a place to take out books. Students in the community come here to study in groups. There are computers to use, DVDs, CDs and books including eBooks to borrow, and a wide array of newspapers and magazines to read in print or online. The library offers engaging programming for all ages, including theatre, concerts, book clubs, lectures, movies, art exhibits and more.

The library's new CreateSpace was launched in 2018, which is an intergenerational space where library members have the opportunity to discover not only new technology, but to create a variety of DIY projects.

The library has broadened its horizons and is reaching out into the community as never before. It prides itself on being a welcoming place for everyone, a place where learning, creating and connecting with one another are what make us stronger.

We're always to happy to hear about what can make us even better for you!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mitchell Brownstein". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mitchell Brownstein
Mayor



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

The Côte Saint-Luc Public Library is proud to call itself the beacon of community life offering relaxation, stimulation, education, leisure and exploration to all of its users. Although the library still offers outstanding print and digital collections, we are now less about our collections and more about our spaces and about facilitating connections.

While some of our spaces serve as community living rooms, others serve as individual or collaborative study spaces. Library programs and activities have become community gathering places where friends are made and opportunity exists for growth and meaningful conversation. One of the highlights of 2018 was the launching of the library's **CreateSpace**, an intergenerational makerspace devoted to both art and technology through discovery and creation.

However, much of 2018 was dedicated to reaching out beyond the library's walls meeting Côte Saint-Luc residents where they are building relationships, not only with individuals but also with schools, senior residences and community organizations. The library's story has truly evolved to become a platform for community-building and our core values are now

creation, collaboration and connection. No better illustration of this can be found than the newly created and donated sculpture *Reliance/Partenaires* by Dr. Harry Rosen which now graces Ashkelon Garden. The sculpture dedication reads "When communities build libraries, libraries build community".

I would like to acknowledge our tremendous staff and library supporters. Our library would not be where we are today without the hard work and dedication of our staff and volunteers, the support of our mayor Mitchell Brownstein and members of Council, in particular the portfolio councillor for the Library, David Tordjman, as well City Manager Tanya Abramovitch. I would especially like to thank you, our treasured library patrons, for your continued support. We look forward to many successful years ahead as we continue to expand opportunities and innovate services which will help our community grow and succeed.

We are excited to share the accomplishments that highlight how the Côte Saint-Luc Public Library continues to be the *jewel of the city*. The following is just a small sampling of what's been happening at the library in 2018.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janine West". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Janine West
Library Director

OUR MISSION

The Library's mission is to meet our community's social, educational, creative and cultural needs through innovative services, resources and programming in a warm and welcoming place.

OUR VISION

We will build a vibrant and thriving community that fosters social connections and which inspires everyone to create, discover and learn.

CÔTE SAINT-LUC PUBLIC LIBRARY

· BY THE NUMBERS ·

2018



426,887

LIBRARY VISITS
IN PERSON AND ONLINE



2,084
NEW CARDS
THIS YEAR

10,410

ACTIVE CARDHOLDERS



317,579

PHYSICAL ITEMS CHECKED OUT



21,925

DIGITAL ITEMS CHECKED OUT



65,080

PATRON QUESTIONS ANSWERED



16,185

PEOPLE ATTENDED A
PROGRAM OR EVENT



667

PROGRAMS OR
EVENTS GIVEN



20,419

PUBLIC COMPUTER
BOOKINGS



6,743

PATRONS USING
ELECTRONIC
RESOURCES

HIGHLIGHTS 2018

BROADENING OUR SERVICES

LIBRARY HOURS EXTENDED

The library was proud to reopen on Saturday nights until 10 pm starting on May 5th. The comments have been exceptionally positive and attendance remains high, particularly amongst students. Our opening hours per week now equal 80, the second highest in the province of Quebec.

PIANO PRACTICE

In 2018, the library offered its baby grand piano to library members for piano practice. Not only does this allow residents to practice on a quality instrument, it is good for the piano too.



Homework help

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

HOMEWORK HELP

The Homework Help program was launched in December. This bilingual, multi-generational service was planned with the help of two teacher-volunteers and is aimed at helping elementary school children. An enthusiastic group of teen volunteers were trained on how to encourage students to build positive study habits. While the volunteers and students work together, one of our teacher volunteers oversees the program providing both academic support for younger students, and to answer questions volunteers have about mentoring.

This program is beneficial for elementary students in providing positive role models and fostering good study habits to help them succeed; it helps volunteers build confidence and social skills, and it allows the adult teachers, one of whom is retired, to give back to their community in a way that is fulfilling.

TECHNOLOGY HELP

Reference librarians continue to provide timely and relevant service, fulfilling the different information needs of those residing in our community. However, technology know-how continues to be the greatest need, as is evidenced by the number of technology questions that the reference desk receives and the digital resource appointments that the department handles. The Reference Team prides itself on assisting patrons learn new digital skills enabling them not only to be comfortable using all of the libraries online resources, but to also attain a level of digital literacy enabling them to function in a technological world.

HIGHLIGHTS 2018

COMMITTED TO LIFELONG LEARNING

Lifelong learning takes place throughout life enhancing our understanding of the world around us, providing us with more and better opportunities, and improving our quality of life. Here are some of the ways in which the library helped keep our residents informed and their minds healthy and active in 2018.

Reading material in all of its formats continues to be a standard bearer of learning about the world amongst our library users. In addition, informative and interesting lectures covering the areas of literature, science, politics, music and art were offered in the library on a monthly basis. In particular Dr. Joe

Schwarcz brought chemistry to life while Hershey Dvoskin and Marvin Hershorn kept residents up to date with current affairs and politics. The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts was back to present the museum's current exhibits and Music Librarian Farah Mohammed continued to delight patrons with her popular *Passion for Music* lectures. Movies continue to be a big draw and new for 2018 was a series of movies in French as well as family movies on the weekend. Finally, workshops that offer our users a chance to improve their language or computer skills or prepare for the Canadian citizenship exam underscore our commitment to fulfilling our mission.



Inauguration of Dr. Harry Rosen sculpture



An Evening with Kim Thúy

A CENTRE FOR ART & CULTURE

DR. HARRY ROSEN SCULPTURE DONATION AND INAUGURATION

The sculpture *Reliance/Partenaires*, created and donated by Dr. Harry Rosen was inaugurated in the library's Ashkelon Gardens in August.

On the plaque affixed to the sculpture is inscribed "When communities build libraries, libraries build community", a testament to the community building power of the public library.

Unfortunately, Dr. Rosen passed away on November 15th.

TRIBUTE TO MYRNA BROOKS BERCOVITCH

The tribute to the late Myrna Brooks Bercovitch in

the Community Art Space proved to be a resounding success. The show received a large amount of praise and attention from local press. Due to the hard work and dedication of Myrna's students this tribute was able to be enjoyed by many.

AN EVENING WITH KIM THÚY

In April, the library welcomed critically acclaimed and award-winning author Kim Thúy. Interviewed by Anne Lagacé-Dowson, Thuy was a spirited and animated speaker, recanting funny family stories and adding humorous anecdotes. On a more serious note, she spoke at length about the refugee experience, how it fits in to her latest book *Ru*, and how it defines her as the person she is today.

HIGHLIGHTS 2018

TRIO IBERIA: IMPRESSIONS OF SPAIN

Also in April, the library presented Trio Iberia. On the program was a delightful array of pieces from Spain's most celebrated composers, including Isaac Albeniz, Manuel de Falla, and Enrique Geranados. A highlight was a rendition of the most famed Spanish piece, 2nd movement from the Concerto de Aranjuz by Joaquin Rodrigo.

CONCERTS IN THE PARK

In July, Vintage Wine returned to the outdoor stage at Trudeau Park for an evening of rock 'n' roll, soul, standards, and dance classics from the 1950s to the 1980s. An appreciative audience danced the night away making this a perfect evening concert.

In August, the library featured the Bagg Street Klezmer Band in Trudeau Park. People clapped throughout and a great time was had by all.

SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK: *ROMEO AND JULIET—LOVE IS LOVE*

In August, the library presented Repercussion Theatre's *Romeo and Juliet: Love is Love* in Trudeau Park. With a cast of 10 dynamic performers, an eye-catching design and live music, this gender-bent take on the classic love story was not to be missed. It is noteworthy that Côte Saint-Luc was proud to be able to support the troupe by offering them a rehearsal space for their 2018 season.



Vintage Wine

THE DIGITAL EXPERIENCE

In 2018, the library launched a number of new services to help our library users with their technology needs.

PRESSREADER

In March, the library launched PressReader which provides access to over 7,000 newspapers and magazines from all over the world. In 2018, there were over 4,000 connections and over 20,000 articles read.

IPAD KIOSK

In August, the library launched another new service, an iPad lending station. Equipped with 6 iPad Air tablets, library members can check out the iPad to use in the library. Since August, the service has been used 199 times. The iPad lending station was purchased with funds raised through library annual book sales.



iPad Kiosk



Furry Paws Reading Club

FOSTERING A LOVE OF READING FOR ALL

The library continues to fulfil one of its primary missions of fostering a love of reading for all. With a cradle to grave approach, the library offers early literacy programs for the very young, author visits for all ages, book discussion groups, as well as inspiring book talking events given by librarian staff. The library's high-quality collections support this mission by providing access to books and reading material that will satisfy every taste. These were some of the highlights in 2018.

CANADA READS CÔTE SAINT-LUC EDITION

In March, the library presented the Côte Saint-Luc edition of the 2018 CBC Canada Reads debate where five librarians defended their chosen book from the year's shortlist. Audience members were invited to vote on which book/librarian best responded to the year's theme "One Book to Open Your Eyes."

YOU'VE GOTTA TO READ THIS!

In June, the library hosted You've Gotta Read This! featuring four librarians sharing their inspiring picks of what might be the great summer read of 2018. Each presented between 3 and 4 books and forty two book lovers were treated to a selection of works that were varied enough that they would appeal to many different reading tastes.

TD SUMMER READING CLUB

Summer Reading Clubs are a great way to motivate kids to read while they're out of school and to visit their local library. It allows them to maintain or even improve their reading skills, which helps with the learning and studying skills necessary for school success. The TD Summer Reading Club offered even more chances for kids to have fun at the library throughout the summer of 2018. In all, 263 kids signed up. Activities included the very popular "Guess the Amount of Candy in the Jar" contest, Find Waldo and Friends in the library (in a new location every week), filling out the activities passport created especially for our library and getting it "stamped" by staff.

FURRY PAWS READING CLUB

Brought back by popular demand, in December a group of children participated in the Furry Paws Reading Club with certified therapy dogs Brandy and Astra as well as their volunteer handler, Harriet from Blue Ribbon Therapy Dogs.

Reading out loud can make children nervous, and that negative association can inhibit a child's ability to learn. Therapy dogs are non-judgemental and provide children with an opportunity to practice reading in a safe and calm environment.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVITY

RAINBOW STORYTIME

In October, the library launched the Rainbow Storytime program. While building literacy skills, this program also aims to celebrate diversity, inclusivity, and acceptance, curb bullying, dispel stereotypes, intolerance, and ignorance, and encourage empathy and self-expression in a safe and positive environment.

MULTILINGUAL COLLECTION

The library initiated a collaboration with the McGill Multilingual Children's Library to bring multilingual picture books to the library. A Farsi collection began circulation in March, with more languages, including Russian, Korean and Hebrew to come in 2019. This project allows the library to offer multilingual books to the ever-growing community of newcomers and those who speak a third language.

VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

In 2018 the library had a total of 55 volunteers who contributed 1,546 hours. Whether they were delivering books to library members who cannot get to the library, or advocating and promoting the library in their role as a Library Ambassador, volunteers perform a necessary and valued service. The following represents a fraction of the work they do.

HOME LIBRARY SERVICE

Home Library Service was extended in 2018. Currently there are 311 HLS patrons being served by 8 regular drivers and 2 back up drivers.

LIBRARY BOOK SALE

On April 21 and April 22 the library held the first of our semi-annual book sale. In total we had 21 volunteers who donated a total of 116 volunteer hours over the 5 days. The sale was a success as we raised a total of \$2,541.85. The second sale took place on October 20 and 21 and raised almost \$3,300. The money raised goes to fund "love to have" projects such as the iPad kiosk.



Library book sale

HIGHLIGHTS 2018



Harry Potter Birthday Party

COME CELEBRATE WITH US

EASTER EGG HUNT

The library hosted its very first Easter Egg Hunt in April and attracted lots of families. Children were invited to hunt for plastic eggs hidden all over the children's department and return them to the service point in exchange for a chocolate egg. Over 100 eggs were given out which meant that 100 children participated.

HARRY POTTER BIRTHDAY PARTY

The Youth Department welcomed 130 participants for the celebration of Harry Potter's birthday on July 31. The party featured Quidditch matches in Ashkelon Gardens, magic wand decorating, a Sorting Hat station and a Horcrux Hunt. Children also made slime during a Potions Class. Prizes were given out at the end of the event. We thank Babar Books for their support in loaning us their Quidditch equipment.

250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE SYNAGOGUE

In 2018, the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue celebrated their 250th anniversary. In recognition of this milestone, the Mayor and Council passed a resolution of congratulations. In addition, the library partnered with the synagogue and organized a lecture given by Mr. James Archibald, past president of the corporation and showcased an historical exhibit in the Library Art Gallery.



250th Anniversary of the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue

LEARNING IS FUN AT THE LIBRARY

In 2018, the Library created a set of strategic priorities for the Youth Department which incorporated a STEAM orientation into the design of its library programming. These are some of the highlights.

CODE CLUB

The Côte Saint-Luc Code Club was launched February and ran on Saturdays throughout winter and spring. Lead by a volunteer teacher from Code Club Canada, children worked together to program an animated rock band using MIT's Scratch coding. Code Club Canada's curriculum helps children strengthen 21st century digital literacy skills, and provides a STEAM program that encourages growth-mindset learning.

HONEY MAKING WORKSHOP

In September, urban beekeeping organization Alvéole came to the library for a honey extraction workshop. Participants had the opportunity to become a honey producer for a day with activities ranging from uncapping honeycombs to operating the honey extractor. The program provided an enriching learning opportunity and touched on the science stream of STEAM programming.

MAKE YOUR OWN KITE

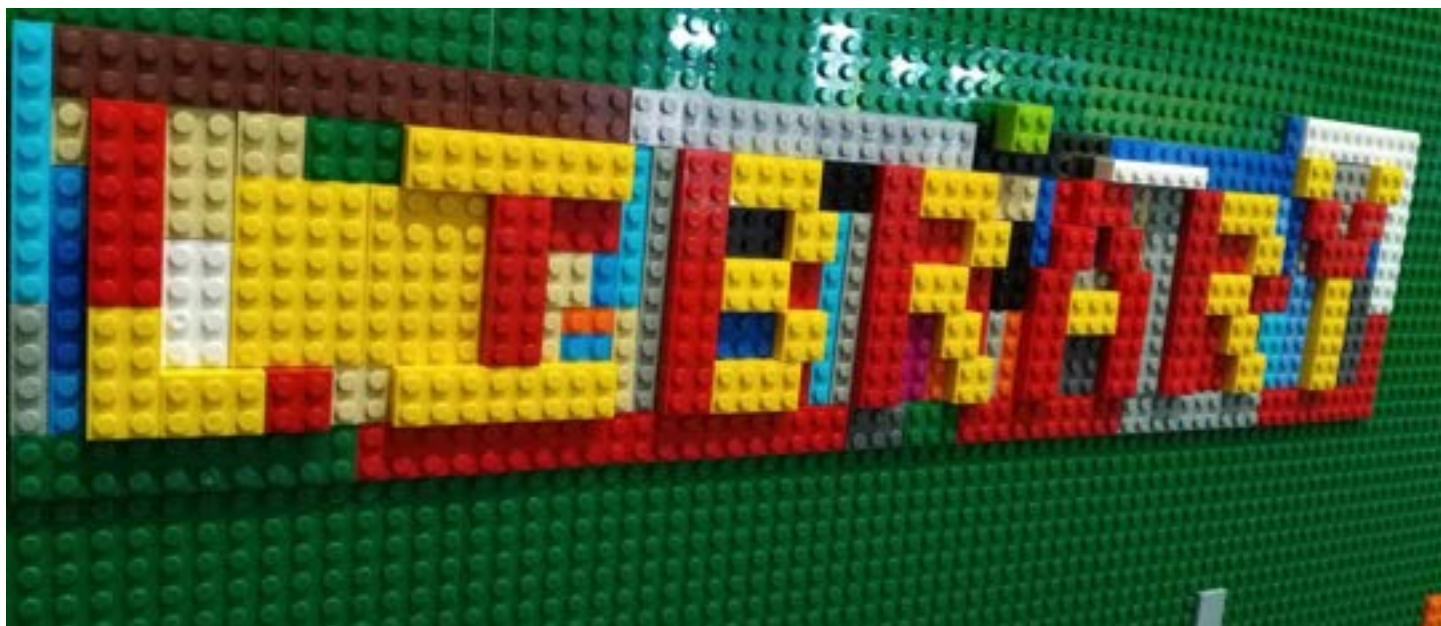
In July, kids gathered together to make kites. On top of being recreational, making a kite teaches kids a useful skill that falls in line with the department's strategic priority of providing STEAM programming and promoting a healthy lifestyle. Afterwards, the kids were excited to go running in the Ashkelon Gardens to test out their kites.

LEGO WALL

The Lego Wall went up at the beginning of June and has been a popular addition to the Youth Department. Lego promotes physical and mechanical skills thus encouraging STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics) skills.



Honey Making Workshop with Alvéole



Lego wall

TRAPPED IN THE LIBRARY: ESCAPE ROOM CHALLENGE

In March, the library hosted a program for teens—Trapped in the Library: Escape Room Challenge, an innovative and exciting program that attracted 20 teens. Escape rooms use game-based learning to encourage teamwork, problem-solving, and leadership in teens. Solving codes and ciphers requires mathematical and logical reasoning and reinforces information literacy. In May, the library offered a version of the popular teen Escape Room Challenge, for 8 to 12-year-olds. Another challenge took place in September.

ULTIMATE FOOD CHALLENGE

Cooking is an essential skill-builder for kids and teens touching on essential STEAM skills. The program was launched in September and teens continued to meet on a monthly basis. The first few challenges were more dexterity, arts, and engineering-related, as teens were challenged with things like cake-decorating and building a stand-alone gingerbread house. The challenges increased in difficulty with carnitas and sushi. The program will continue to incorporate STEAM and literacy skills in 2019, as teens learn to

measure and think about mathematic conversions and fractions, and are challenged to follow recipes, reinforcing their reading and sequencing skills.

CODING AND ROBOTICS

In honour of 24 Hours of Science, Canadian Classroom came to visit in May with five different robots. Kids in attendance worked in teams to complete robot challenges. These robots are not only fun, but make block coding using logic, science, and math accessible. They also help children form important skills like spatial reasoning, communication and teamwork, and problem-solving.

Canadian Classroom returned for a second Coding and Robotics Makerspace workshop in July for ages 9 and up.

BRINGING THE LIBRARY TO THE COMMUNITY

The library continues to reach out beyond its four walls, meeting our library patrons where they are. Creating relationships within the community is one of our core values and 2018 was a landmark year.

SENIOR'S RESIDENCES VISITS

Seniors make up a significant portion of our community and are a major library user group. With this in mind, the library spent 2018 reaching out to local residences including the Waldorf, B'nai B'rith, and Saint Patrick's Square, speaking to Program Directors and promoting library services. These conversations were extremely successful in understanding the needs of local residences and will help shape our future outreach initiatives. At St. Patrick's Square, the library was invited to give two technology workshops on how to use tablets and smartphones.

NEW SPACES

CREATESPACE

The month of July saw the launching of the library's CreateSpace. This new intergenerational space is located in the library basement and its purpose is to be a place where library users of all ages can gather and create, invent and discover. Geared towards a variety of crafting and art projects, 3D printing, robotics, and electronics, the space facilitates collaborative learning using both high tech and low tech tools.

The library also created opportunities for learning, sharing and connecting at our enriching club activities such as the library knitting and jewellery club which were relocated to the CreateSpace. In addition, the Art Hive provided an outlet for artistic talent allowing even the less artistically-inclined the opportunity to dabble in art while making new friends.

Côte Saint-Luc resident, Charles Guerin, has been an enthusiastic volunteer donating not only his time, but equipment too.

TRAVELING TALES

Book deliveries to local daycares were launched in January as part of the Traveling Tales Early Literacy Program. This project enabled even more daycare providers to share books with their young students. Reading aloud to young children is proven to support school readiness and success and these deliveries will continue to help daycare providers foster a love of books at a very early age.

STORYTIME IN THE PARK

In 2018, the library scheduled a grand total of 9 park visits. Children's librarians read stories, played games and facilitated arts and crafts activities in an outdoor setting reaching children in all areas of the city. Unfortunately, some were held indoors due to inclement weather but regardless, participation was high.

YOUTH DEPARTMENT REDESIGN

In November, the library initiated a reimagining of the Youth Department space, with the goal of creating more dedicated zones for each age group and activity. Using the "lighter, quicker, cheaper" approach to placemaking, the changes were implemented within a couple of weeks and were enthusiastically received by all. The most rewarding change, was the creation of a more well defined baby/toddler zone. Parents and caregivers all commented that they feel much more comfortable and welcome in this newly dedicated space.



CreateSpace

LIBRARY FINANCIAL REPORT 2018

REVENUES	
Province of Quebec	\$ 59,200.00
Donations	\$ 1,467.21
Auditorium Rentals	\$ 4,270.36
Book Sale	\$ 5,841.00
Fees, Fines, Miscellaneous	\$ 110,633.55
TOTAL	\$ 181,412.12
EXPENDITURES	
Staffing	\$ 2,082,687.81
Collections	\$ 302,578.24
Programs and Events	\$ 33,891.84
Furnishings and Equipment	\$ 26,287.51
Supplies and Services	\$ 60,077.93
TOTAL	\$ 2,505,523.33
CAPITAL PROJECTS	
	\$9,928.83



Some of our staff with Mayor Mitchell Brownstein and Councillor David Tordjman.

**// I love coming here.
It's like coming home! //**

—Library patron