

BOARD CHAIR'S REPORT

2019 was a good, but challenging, year for South Central Regional Library. This spring we faced a crisis: a water break in one of our larger branches resulted in its partial closure for many months. This was a big challenge for the patrons of Winkler branch, the staff there, and indeed the staff of all the other branches, who put in extra efforts to help make the best of this situation. Through this, we were able to display the many benefits of our multi-branch organization.

With five branches, we can offer our citizens a great variety of materials and borrowing options, and the ability to be able to borrow materials from any and return to any branch. We recognize and appreciate our municipal and provincial funding partners as well as other organizations and individuals who partner with us to help bring exceptional programming to our branches. Finally, I am honoured to recognize and thank all our staff people for the friendly, efficient and caring interactions with all library users.

~ Marvin Plett, Chair



**134,021 PEOPLE WALKED
THROUGH OUR DOORS**

**13,832 REFERENCE
QUESTIONS ANSWERED**

**12 ONGOING
PROGRAMS**



**South Central
REGIONAL LIBRARY**

located in

Altona, Manitou, Miami, Morden, and Winkler

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

**13,134 COMPUTER
SESSIONS**

**60,001 ONLINE
SERVICE USES**

**21,578 SOCIAL
MEDIA ACCESSES**

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

2019 was an eventful year, with new staff joining the team, exciting summer reading programs in all of the branches, and some issues which were out of our control. The patrons of SCRL were extremely patient during the summer with the temporary closure of the Winkler Branch due to renovations from flooding. In December, Morden Branch managed as best they could without internet service for almost a month. Events such as these prove the staff are resilient and show the best of who we are.

Thank you to everyone who comes to our libraries, checks out books, movies, and audio books. Our circulation continues to increase every year, and we strive to provide you with the best we can offer in materials and services. Thanks to a great team for their dedication and to the SCRL Board for supporting us in what we do best. I am proud to be Director of such a great regional library system.

~ Cathy Ching, Director of Library Services



MISSION STATEMENT

To provide access to resources to meet the educational, cultural, informational, and leisure-time needs of citizens of all ages and background. The library strives to foster a life-long interest in reading and learning.

**5
BRANCHES
28,237
MEMBERS**

INTER-LIBRARY LOANS

4,570

**ITEMS BORROWED FROM OTHER
MANITOBA AND CANADIAN LIBRARIES**

11,247

ITEMS LOANED TO OTHER LIBRARIES

**153 NON-RESIDENT
MEMBERS**

**7,431
EVENT ATTENDEES**

**306,513*
PHYSICAL ITEM
CHECKOUTS**

**53,147
EBOOK
CHECKOUTS**

***172,774 WERE
CHILDREN'S ITEMS**

7 SUPPORTING BODIES

City of Winkler * City of Morden
Town of Altona * RM of Stanley
RM of Thompson
Rhineland Municipality
Municipality of Pembina

**4086
VOLUNTEER HOURS**



Manitou installed new rubberized paving in the library's Reading Garden, an ongoing project that promotes the link between nature and literacy. The annual Summer Fun Day in August (a community event that wraps up Summer Reading) enjoyed record attendance this year.



SCRL HIGHLIGHT

Dr. Jim Duncan (The Owl Man) and Rusty from Discover Owls visited two of our branches.



SCRL HIGHLIGHT

We hosted visits from five different authors this year: Michelle Mulder, Sheena Kilpatrick, Eva Klassen, Eli Barsi, and Sally Ito.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Revenue

Province of Manitoba	\$ 424,984
Supporting bodies	540,868
Library-generated	33,801
Book Sale Income	20,966
Special Project Income	14,535

Expenditures

Salaries and benefits	721,185
Supplies and Services	151,428
Acquisitions and Resources	194,923
Book Sale Expense	5,278

TD SUMMER READING

- **1316 PARTICIPANTS**
- **245 PROGRAM EVENTS**
- **97 CLASSROOM VISITS TO PROMOTE THE SUMMER READING PROGRAM & OUR LIBRARIES**



Altona hosted a Mardi Gras Murder Mystery in March (sponsored by Pembina Valley Pharmacy), which was enjoyed by all. In October, setting up at the Regional Connections Winter Expo helped show off what the library has to offer, including Ozobots, the robotics MaPLE lab.

STAFF & VOLUNTEERS

Administrative office: Cathy Ching, Director; Debra Petersen, Financial Officer; Joanna Dueck, Cataloging.
 Altona: Rachael Friesen, Branch Librarian; 10 clerks and pages, & 12 volunteers
 Manitou: Angela Lovell, Branch Librarian; 4 clerks
 Miami: Cheri Debreuil, Branch Supervisor; 2 clerks, & 8 volunteers
 Morden: Kim van Vliet, Branch Librarian; 8 clerks, assistants, and pages, 10 volunteers, & the SCRL booksale committee
 Winkler: Randall Klassen, Branch Librarian; 9 clerks, assistants and pages, & 9 volunteers



In June, *Winkler* had a plumbing leak that flooded the library and forced a partial closure for months. On the bright side, no books were damaged, and the necessary repairs and replacements included a new desk and furniture, fresh paint, and a lot more comfy corners to read in.



Children's author Michelle Mulder visited *Miami* in May, delighting kids not just with her reading, but with her amazing hat. Over the summer, the "Consider the Source" book club, where teens read a book, then watched the movie made from it, proved to be very popular.



SCRL HIGHLIGHT

The MaPLE* labs, new to the library in 2018, saw a lot of use this year—78 events over all five branches.
 *Make Play Learn Experiment

SCRL HIGHLIGHT

MB Underground Opera performed their version of "The Three Little Pigs" at three of our branches. Kids and adults alike enjoyed their antics.



This year *Morden* co-hosted a series of Open Mic nights, which showcased a variety of local talent. A library table at Morden's Nature & Garden Expo in April drew a lot of interested visitors.

DONORS, PROJECTS, AND GRANTS

Private & Local Donations

- B. Brooks
- C. Dyck/ M. Paw
- A. Halstead
- M. Warnica
- T. Hildebrand
- Bonnie Dobson (Municipality of Pembina)
- Heather Morrow (Crocus Realty)
- Morden/Winkler Co-op
- Altona Co-op
- Pembina Valley Pharmacy
- Good as New Community Thrift Shop

SCRL Book Sale

- RBC Benevity Grant
- Coffee Culture – Morden
- Morden Community Thrift Store

Foundations & Grants

- Morden Area Foundation-Morden Branch Endowment Fund

Manitou Reading Garden Project

- Tire Stewardship Manitoba
- Municipality of Pembina (In-kind)

Summer Reading Program

- Young Canada Works
- Canada Summer Jobs