

**2022: written and illustrated by  
THE WESTERN MANITOBA REGIONAL LIBRARY**

**Facilities**

- The partnership with the City of Brandon, Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba and Brandon General Museum to create a Cultural Hub continued through the year. Through the summer the partners met to create an Operational Agreement. In the Fall the City of Brandon submitted a grant proposal to the Province of Manitoba to help fund the project and committed to contributing as well.
- The Supervisors and Director all worked on creating a Facility Needs List that outlines facility improvements that will be used as a guide for future improvement projects.
- Updated Signage was purchased and installed at many of our library locations, with plans to complete them all in the next 1-2 years.

**Technology**

- Smartboards were installed at 4 of our 6 library branches to assist programming and provide the ability to take part in meetings both in person and virtually.
- Leapstart kits were purchased for every branch in the region providing a tech-based reading tool for pre-school aged children.
- The library switched Computer Reservation Software Providers. We are now using a cloud-based system that allows us more ability to make adjustments/changes in-house.

**Workforce**

- Erika Martin took on the role of Director of Library Services in the Spring.
- Donna Jardine retired from her role as Bookkeeper in June.
- In April Kelci Kyle joined WMRL as our Administrative Assistant and Dorothy Raynor was contracted for Bookkeeping.
- A restructuring of administrative roles resulted in Alex Rogowsky being appointed Manager of Programming and Community Services and Carson Rogers being appointed Manager of Access Services/Downtown Brandon Supervisor. These positions include assuming new tasks and additional responsibilities.
- A newly created Supervisor of Shoppers Mall Branch role was filled by Paige Bender.
- At the end of the year a new Marketing and Communications Coordinator position was approved and filled. The WMRL is excited to have Alix Coucill join the team in early 2023.

**Community**

- Neepawa participated in a year-long focus on non profit and volunteer organizations. Each month they promoted a new organization.
- Carberry increased visibility in the community by participating in numerous events such as Carberry Homecoming and Moonlight Madness.
- Hartney hosted Arts West Travelling Gallery from June 26<sup>th</sup> to July 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Glenboro held a fundraising event in partnership with the Glenboro Cat Rescue raising funds and awareness for the organization.
- Regular story times at both the Brandon locations have been incredibly successful throughout 2022.
- Downtown Brandon Library partnered with Green Acres Community Center in the fall of 2022 bringing a bi-weekly pop-up library to the area. Programs and book checkouts/returns were available.
- Healthy Together Now provided a grant to the Downtown Brandon Library funding the purchase of a new hands-free water fountain/water bottle refill station.

**Finance**

The WMRL received numerous grants this year, including:

- The Winnipeg Foundation provided funding for additional books and craft supplies for story times at our rural branches.
- The Healthy Together Now Grant was awarded for purchasing a water fountain and bottle filler at the Downtown Library.
- The Carberry and Area Community Foundation provided a Children’s Non-Fiction Revitalization grant and a grant for a new bike rack.
- Canada Summer Jobs funding helped employ three youth to facilitate children’s literacy programs and the TD Summer Reading Club throughout the region.
- In partnership with the City of Brandon and AGSM, the WMRL applied to ACSC Large Capital Grant for \$5million dollars to put towards renovating the Cultural Hub.
- WMRL submitted applications for the ACSC Small Capital and Special Incentives grants to fund facility improvements.
- Downtown Brandon Library received \$15,000.00 to put towards new shelf ends.
- The Glenboro Library was successful in obtaining a grant from the Glenboro Area Foundation. Phase 2 of 3 of the project was completed.



**Contributors**

- Erika Martin, Director of Library Services
- Alex Rogowsky, Manager of Programming and Community Services
- Carson Rogers, Manager of Access Services/ Brandon Supervisor
- Kelci Kyle, Administrative Assistant
- Paige Bender, Branch Supervisor Shoppers Mall
- Debbie Unger, Branch Supervisor Neepawa
- Laurie MacNevin, Branch Supervisor Carberry/North Cypress
- Kelly Tirschman, Branch Supervisor Glenboro/South Cypress
- Helen Weitman, Branch Supervisor Hartney/Cameron

**Acknowledgements**

- Thank you to our patrons and communities; we appreciate your support!
- Our staff who work diligently contributing their talents, time, and energies
- Our volunteers, LAC’s, and especially Board members
- Our member municipalities who fund and house us
- Thank you also to Public Library Services, the provincial library community and all our service contractors including Technology Solve, and SirsiDynix.

| Circulation           |                |               |               |               |              |              |                |
|-----------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
|                       | Brandon        | Shoppers Mall | Carberry      | Neepawa       | Glenboro     | Hartney      | TOTAL          |
| Adult Materials:      |                |               |               |               |              |              |                |
| Print formats         | 33,346         | 13,489        | 5,739         | 9,201         | 3,648        | 1,562        | 66,985         |
| Non-print formats     | 6,360          | 248           | 1,123         | 443           | 156          | 80           | 8,410          |
| Teen Materials:       |                |               |               |               |              |              |                |
| Print formats         | 5,127          | 1,493         | 352           | 422           | 115          | 14           | 7,523          |
| Non-print formats     | 3              | 0             | 7             | 2             | 0            | 0            | 12             |
| Children’s Materials: |                |               |               |               |              |              |                |
| Print formats         | 31,548         | 18,928        | 5,485         | 6,138         | 2,151        | 994          | 65,244         |
| Non-print formats     | 2,617          | 47            | 156           | 91            | 61           | 40           | 3,012          |
| E-Resources           | 227,286        |               |               |               |              |              | 227,286        |
| <b>TOTAL 2022</b>     | <b>385,288</b> | <b>34,205</b> | <b>12,862</b> | <b>16,297</b> | <b>6,131</b> | <b>2,690</b> | <b>378,472</b> |

| Membership        |              |               |            |            |            |            |              |
|-------------------|--------------|---------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|
|                   | Brandon      | Shoppers Mall | Carberry   | Neepawa    | Glenboro   | Hartney    | TOTAL        |
| Adult             | 4,721        | 1,229         | 546        | 664        | 250        | 211        | 7,621        |
| Children          | 922          | 216           | 156        | 140        | 51         | 41         | 1,526        |
| Non-Resident      | 344          | 78            | 5          | 59         | 16         | 0          | 502          |
| Other             | 132          | 24            | 20         | 3          | 0          | 0          | 179          |
| <b>TOTAL 2022</b> | <b>5,987</b> | <b>618</b>    | <b>612</b> | <b>818</b> | <b>301</b> | <b>246</b> | <b>9,828</b> |

| Holdings             |               |               |               |               |              |              |                |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
|                      | Brandon       | Shoppers Mall | Carberry      | Neepawa       | Glenboro     | Hartney      | TOTAL          |
| Adult Books          | 40,138        | 828           | 7,523         | 9,992         | 4,302        | 4,962        | 67,745         |
| Teen Books           | 4,755         | 1             | 420           | 543           | 388          | 187          | 6,294          |
| Children’s Books     | 24,522        | 526           | 3,910         | 4,586         | 3,703        | 1,991        | 39,238         |
| Government Documents | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0            | 0            | 0              |
| Magazines/Newspapers | 51            | 0             | 15            | 15            | 15           | 11           | 107            |
| Audio Books          | 1,007         | 0             | 112           | 95            | 37           | 13           | 1,264          |
| DVDs                 | 1,695         | 0             | 316           | 353           | 322          | 148          | 2,834          |
| Microforms           | 858           | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0            | 0            | 858            |
| Miscellaneous        | 165           | 3             | 27            | 29            | 5            | 20           | 249            |
| <b>TOTAL 2022</b>    | <b>73,191</b> | <b>1,358</b>  | <b>12,323</b> | <b>15,613</b> | <b>8,772</b> | <b>7,332</b> | <b>118,589</b> |

**Statement of Revenue and Expenditures  
For the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

| Revenue                                | 2022               |
|--|--------------------|
| City of Brandon                        | 731,588            |
| Municipality of Glenboro South Cypress | 18,780             |
| Municipality of Grassland              | 18,732             |
| Municipality of North Cypress-Langford | 32,940             |
| Town of Carberry                       | 20,856             |
| Town of Neepawa                        | 55,308             |
| Province of Manitoba:                  |                    |
| Operating grant                        | 606,495            |
| Collection development grant           | 33,000             |
| Technology grant                       | 24,626             |
| Memberships and fines                  | 17,125             |
| Interest                               | 4,438              |
| Federal Government                     | 11,029             |
| Amortization of deferred contributions | 19,200             |
| Other revenue                          | 2,087              |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                           | <b>\$1,596,204</b> |

*"Libraries will get you through times of no money better than money will get you through times of no libraries."  
-Anne Herbert*

| Expenditures                    | 2022               |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Advertising                     | 13,754             |
| Amortization                    | 15,375             |
| Bank charges                    | 355                |
| Books                           | 128,778            |
| Building maintenance            | 33,201             |
| Collection development          | 33,000             |
| Computerization and IT services | 15,379             |
| Convention and travel           | 8,699              |
| Employee benefits               | 97,262             |
| Insurance                       | 6,352              |
| Miscellaneous                   | 752                |
| Postage                         | 7,725              |
| Professional fees               | 13,182             |
| Rent                            | 301,170            |
| Salaries                        | 746,408            |
| Service contracts               | 98,158             |
| Staff training                  | 1,260              |
| Stationery and supplies         | 23,962             |
| Sundry                          | 768                |
| Telephone                       | 10,796             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                    | <b>\$1,556,336</b> |

**Chairperson's Report: 2022 Year in Review**

2022 has been a year of challenge and reinvention. I'm so proud of and grateful to WMRL staff and branch supervisors who have been so flexible and willing to find ways to provide and improve services to their patrons during a period when most of us avoided in-person contact.

After a period of staff turnover, the Board of Trustees is thankful that Erika Martin was available and willing to step into the position of Director of Library Services. Erika has excited staff and Trustees with her ideas for growth and inclusion and we are all looking forward to the future of the WMRL under her direction.

A small change with a big impact was implemented - late-fees were permanently eliminated in 2022. It's clear that life gets in the way sometimes and returning a book on time isn't always possible.

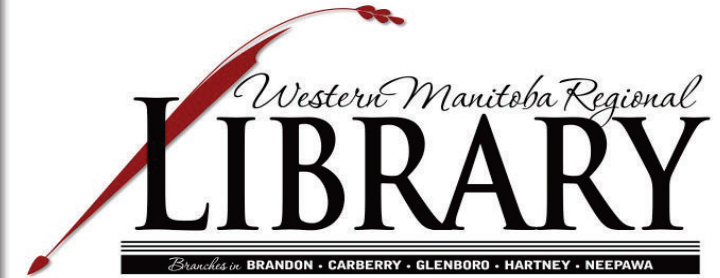
On the downside in 2022, inflation reared its ugly head at WMRL, as it has everywhere. As a result, our levies to Municipalities had to be increased for our 2023 budget to maintain service levels. This regional partnership with Municipalities ensures affordable library services for all partners and their representation on the Board of Trustees is invaluable.

Please visit your local branch soon and learn what's happening in 2023 at WMRL.

Coral Millar  
WMRL Trustee Chairperson  
Councillor, Municipality of Grassland

**Library Board of Trustees**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Coral Miller, Chair</b><br><i>M. of Grassland</i>        | <b>Jeff Fawcett, Vice-Chair</b><br><i>Councillor, City of Brandon</i> |
| <i>Matthew Berry, City of Brandon</i>                       | <i>Kevin Mantell, Councillor, M of Grassland</i>                      |
| <i>Dr. Wayne Kelly, City of Brandon</i>                     | <i>Jason Nadeau, Councillor, Town of Neepawa</i>                      |
| <i>Hector Swanson, Town of Neepawa</i>                      | <i>Loretta Oliver, M of North Cypress Langford</i>                    |
| <i>Donna Fillion, M. of Glenboro South Cypress</i>          | <i>Melanie Lavich, Town of Carberry</i>                               |
| <i>Mike Sudak, Councillor, Town of Carberry</i>             | <i>Tracy Rimmer, Councillor, M of Glenboro South Cypress</i>          |
| <i>David Blair, Councillor, M of North Cypress Langford</i> |   |
|   | <i>Kelci Kyle, Secretary (Apr-Dec)</i>                                |
|   | <i>Donna Jardine, Secretary (Jan-Apr)</i>                             |
| <i>Erika Martin, Director (Apr-Dec)</i>                     | <i>Alex Rogowsky, Manager of Programming and Community Services</i>   |
| <i>Aly Wowchuk, Director, (Jan-Apr)</i>                     |   |



**MISSION STATEMENT**  
*The mission of the Western Manitoba Regional Library is to enrich lives and strengthen communities by providing universal access to broad and diverse collections of resources relevant and responsive to community needs.*

**ANNUAL REPORT 2022**



**SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF**

|                                     |             |               |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| <b>City of Brandon</b>              | <b>pop.</b> | <b>51,313</b> |
| <b>Town of Carberry</b>             | <b>pop.</b> | <b>1,818</b>  |
| <b>M. of North Cypress-Langford</b> | <b>pop.</b> | <b>3,011</b>  |
| <b>Town of Neepawa</b>              | <b>pop.</b> | <b>5,685</b>  |
| <b>M. of Glenboro South Cypress</b> | <b>pop.</b> | <b>1,565</b>  |
| <b>M. of Grassland</b>              | <b>pop.</b> | <b>1,583</b>  |