



CEO – September 2023

Sector Updates

Federation of Ontario Public Libraries (see [website](#) for opportunities and resources)

FOPL attended the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) Conference earlier this summer and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference in August to continue their campaign to reach out and spread awareness among our municipal partners. FOPL representatives spoke to hundreds of delegates at each, highlighting the importance of public libraries and discussing some of the larger issues our libraries are currently dealing with.

Campaigns: “Keep Public Libraries Independent” and “the Value of Public Libraries” now shifting for 2024 to a new campaign in response to protests, book banning, censorship and issues of intellectual freedom.

FOPL has secured two lobbying days at Queens Park on November 14th and 15th. This is the first opportunity post-pandemic to lobby at Queens Park in person and they are very excited to engage with MPPs and other stakeholders about government relations priorities.

Partnering with OLA they are working towards the 2024 Ministry of finance Pre-Budget Submission (February 2024)

Budget Priorities:

- Increase to the Public Library Operating Grant:
\$ 25M increase to the existing \$ 21M envelope
- Funding an Ontario Digital Public Library
- Immediate Funding and sustainability for First Nations Public Libraries

Ontario Library Association (OLA)

2024 OLA Super Conference Theme: **Get Loud!**

Toronto January 24 – 27, 2024 (Save the date)

Saturday Boot Camp for Board Members will be in person on January 27.

More information will be communicated as available. Board members to consider participation. <https://www.olasuperconference.ca>

October is Canadian Library Month and Ontario Public Library Week runs October 16 - 22; The theme this year is **Libraries for Life**.

Board Business

Victoria Speirs was the successful applicant appointed by Council as the newest public member to serve on the Library Board. Chair Marks hosted this year's annual board / council social.

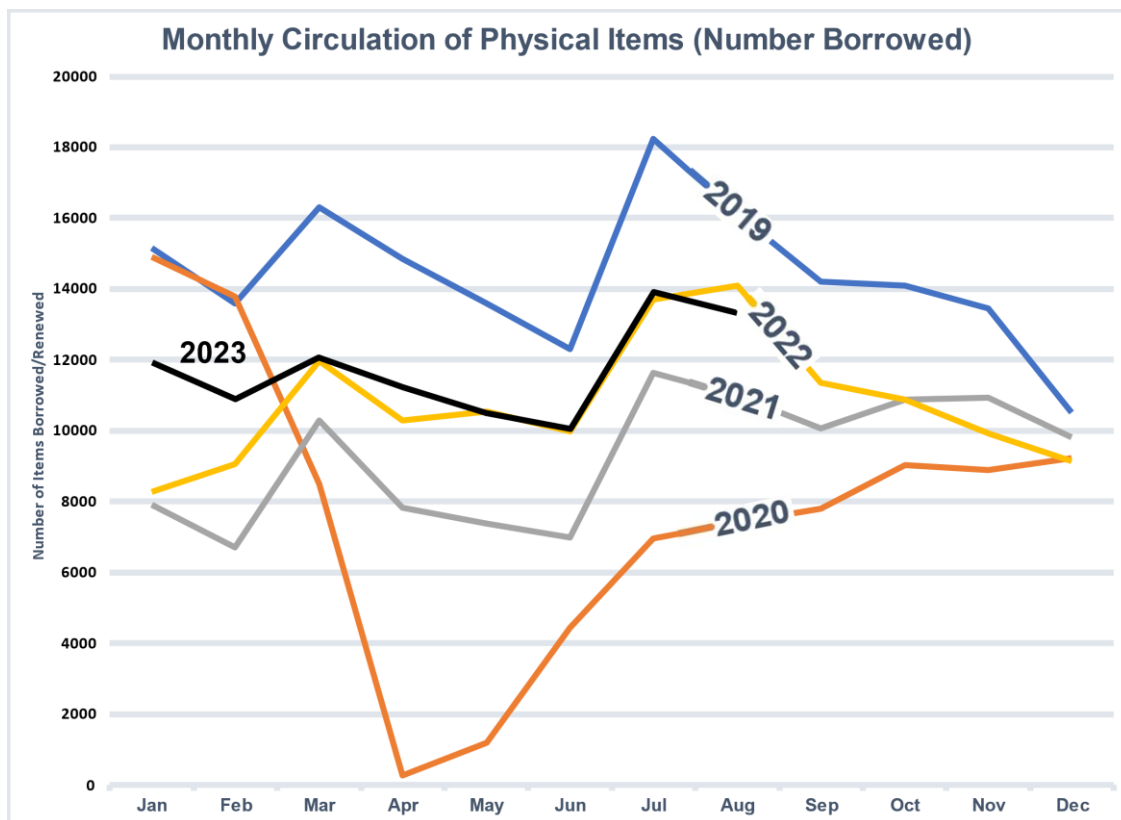
Inheritance

The library was named as a beneficiary in the last will and testament of Jacob Stuhl (Jack). The estate trustee, daughter D.B. has fulfilled her father's wishes of a Legacy Gift (\$2,000.00) to the Orangeville Public Library Board. The CEO communicated the Board's sincere appreciation to Mr. Stuhl and his family.

Operations

Mid-year stats – as of August 31, 2023.

Figure 1: Monthly circulation of physical items 2019-2023.

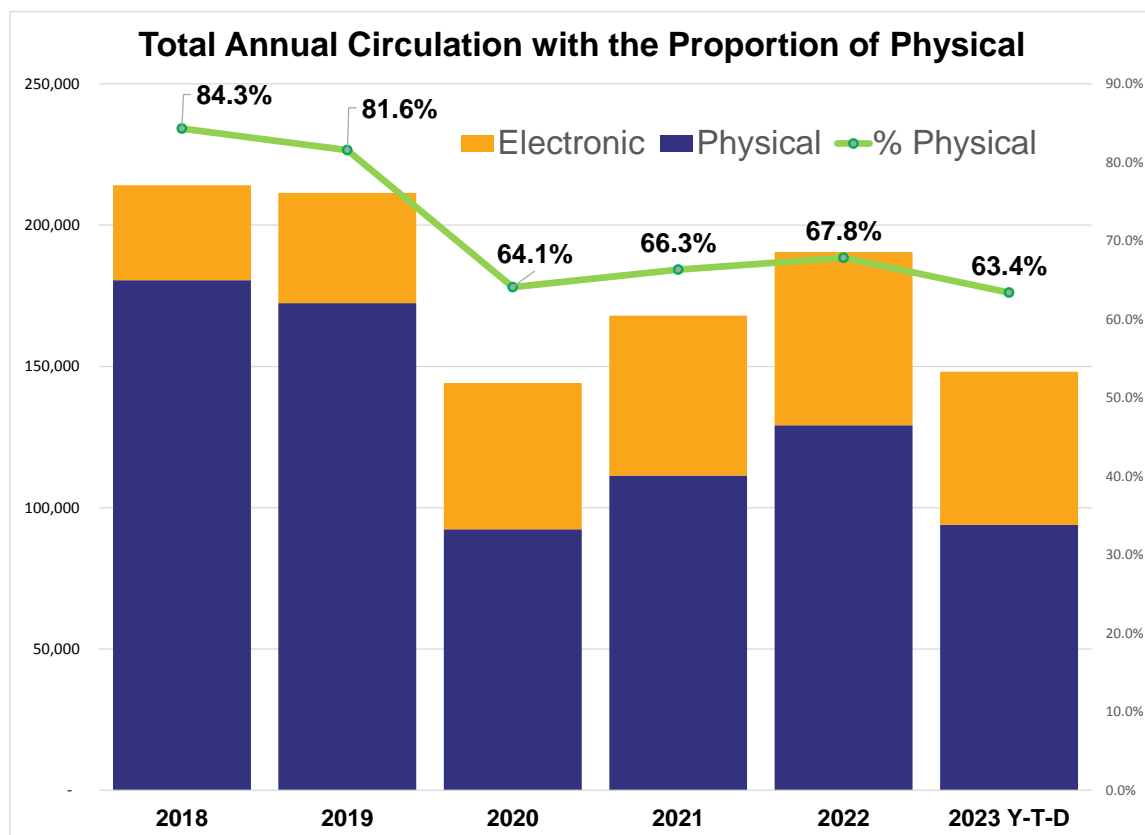


June is typically a slow month in library for programming and circulation – many families busy with end of school year events. However, July and August are typically strong and did not disappoint with circulation of physical items exceeding 13,000 each month.

Without Mill, space is at a premium and as for circulation of physical items it is difficult to measure or capture what percentage of the decline is attributable to the closure of Mill. Our hope is for increased circulation once Mill opens putting our goal of a 10% increase in circulation over the last year in reach.

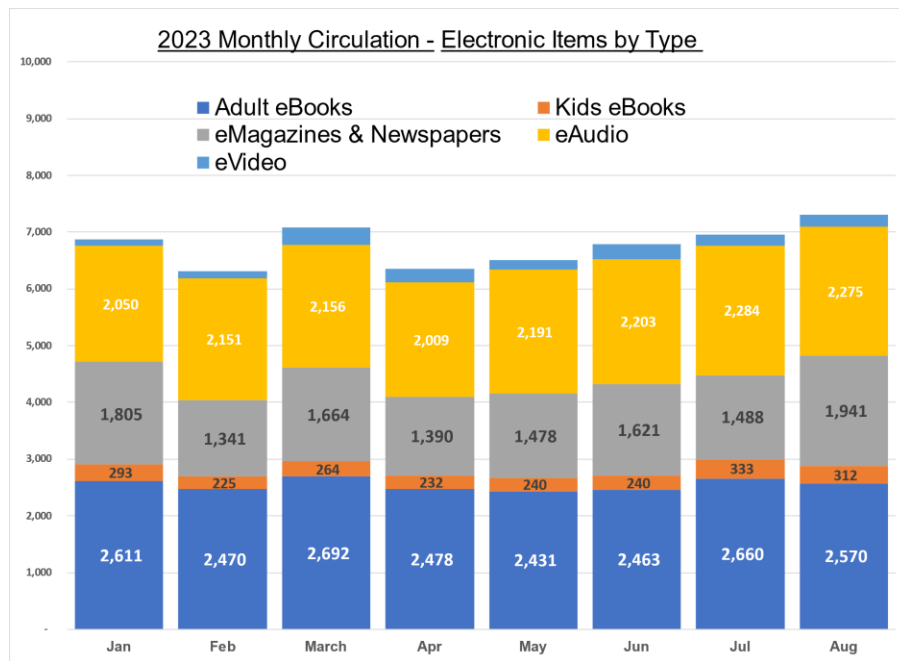
The first half of the year circulation of physical items accounts for less than 50% of the target 142,000. The total of physical items circulated as of June 30 was 66,685 items – 47% of target. As of August 31, year to date circulation rose to was 93,929 which takes us to within 66% of the year end goal with four months remaining.

Figure 2: Total annual circulation with the proportion of physical.



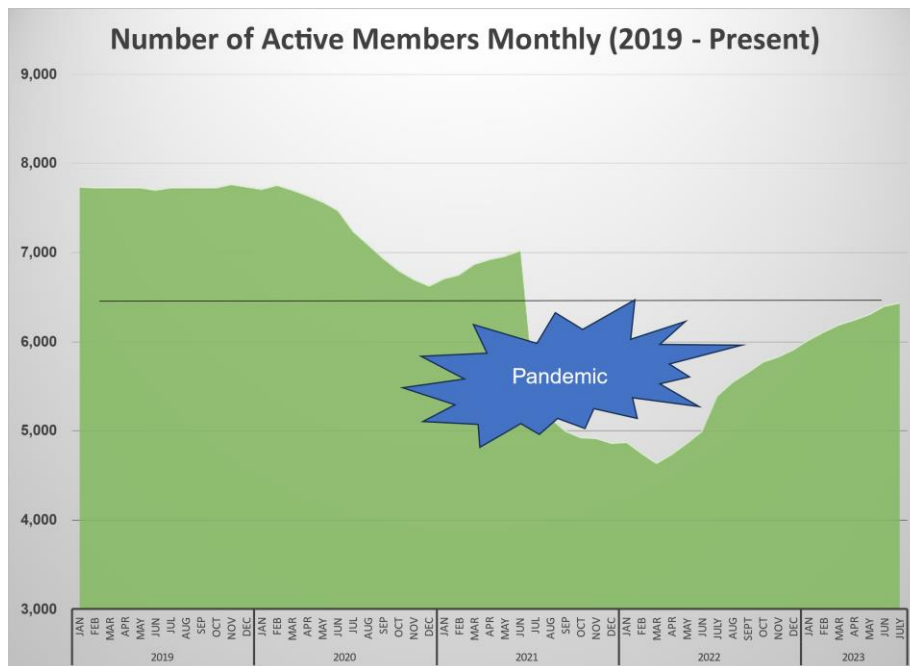
Circulation of electronic materials continues to gain in small increments each month.

Figure 3: 2023 monthly circulation of electronic items by type.



Membership numbers continue to trend upwards and as of August 31 the total active memberships sitting at 6,425 (accounts which have been used in the past 24 months). We are confident we will meet and possibly exceed the goal of 6500 memberships (new or renewed) for 2023.

Figure 4: Number of active members monthly 2019 to present.



Facilities

Mill Street Library

The board chair narrated the latest Mill renovation update video which has been uploaded to the [website](#).

Alder has been refreshed with new signage and convenient power packs (see photos below)

Figure 5: New signage at Alder, power packs for the booth section at Alder library.



Staff Updates

Truth and Reconciliation Week 2023 will be commemorated from September 25-30 and the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation is on September 30. As part of the commitment to providing rich and informative learning opportunities to increase staff knowledge and skills, professional development focused on learning and listening to the truth before attempting reconciliation.

The four library coordinators were responsible for developing phase two of our journey of Truth and Reconciliation. A book list was provided, and staff selected the title of their choice, read it over the summer and then gathered to discuss the book, the author, and the impact on them with their colleagues. This “Book Talks / Club” initiative has met with overwhelming positivity from our team.

Employee service milestones were celebrated at the Employee Recognition luncheon, held September 18, 2023.

We celebrated Kim Carson's 30 years of service! to the Orangeville Public Library. Over these past three decades Kim has been a guardian of knowledge, custodian of our collections and the maestro behind our library systems, ensuring that information flows seamlessly to those who need it. Her expertise is unparalleled, and her contributions to our library are immeasurable. A big shout out... to thank Kim, for her dedication, wisdom, and her boundless love for the world of knowledge.

Congratulations to all three recipients who represent a combined 45 years of service!

Figure 6: Picture from the Employee Recognition luncheon, (left to right) - Shelby, Shannon, Kim, and Darla



Shelby Cole	Public Services Assistant	5 years
Shannon McGrady	Coordinator, Program and Research	10 years
Kimberley Carson	Librarian, Collections and Systems	30 years

Program Update *as submitted by Lauren Tilly*

TD Summer Reading Program 2023

The Orangeville Public Library TD Summer Reading Program came to a close with a Bubble Foam Party on August 27 where children enjoyed dancing and music with Presswood Entertainment. Over 200 TD Summer Reading Club participants read a collective 122,213 minutes (about 3 months) between July and August!

Figure 7: Pictures from the TDSRC finale party.



Summer Reading Program Assistant's Jasmine and Quinn provided the community with a range of fun activities this summer including a coding club and outdoor stories in the park with the Neighbourhood Block Box. The Nature Tales story pilot at Island Lake Conservation Area was well received with 100 attendees over the summer.

Fall Programming

Fall programs have begun with storytime resuming on September 12. The first storytime of the season featured special guest and local author, Mandeep Kaur Bassi, who came to read her book: "We are Just Like You, Mom". Programming remains at the Alder Street location and will begin to transition back to Mill after the reopening.

Program and Research staff have several outreach visits and opportunities coming up this fall including class visits to the Alder Library, a presence at the International Plowing Match in the Education Centre with Dufferin Libraries on September 20 and 22 and a table at the Autism Speaks Canada Walk in Orangeville on September 24.

2024 Program Planning

Program and Research staff are in the process of developing the 2024 Program Plan to map out the offerings for the next year.

Internal (staff) and external (community based) program submissions have been received and have gone through a process of review and evaluation. New ideas have been aligned with the strategic directions, values and literacies of the organization to compliment current program offerings and build towards the goals set out in the Program Framework to meet community needs and expectations.

Forecasting of the staffing requirements for 2024 programs is being done in addition to a monthly schedule of programs and events.

Up and Coming

- [After School Club](#) will feature special guest Miles Cohen from 3Rs: Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle to guide participants through an art workshop - “The Art of Recycling” on Monday, September 25 at 4:30 pm.
- Dufferin Libraries Coffee, Conversation and Books program returns on October 18 hosted by Shelburne Public Library featuring local author Patrick Clark
- In partnership with BookLore the Orangeville Public Library will host a book launch for local author Nancy Early on Saturday, October 21 at 11 a.m. in the Town Hall Atrium for her new book – Once Upon a Forest: Orangeville’s Early Years
- The last [100% Certainty Book Club](#) of 2023 will take place on Thursday, December 7 at 7 p.m. with the featured book being Life on Tenth: A Second Chance at Life by Delia Ephron