



FRIENDS OF THE WHISTLER PUBLIC LIBRARY (FOWPL)
ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED
JULY 31, 2022
(AUGUST 1, 2021 to JULY 31, 2022)

Although COVID did not disappear, certain restrictions were lifted and The Friends were able to carry on in a somewhat normal manner with their key fundraising events. As a result, The Friends has remained a viable and healthy organization. Our prime purpose is to assist The Whistler Public Library in providing extra funds to carry on their extensive programs.

In May of this year The Friends were able to obtain a Tax Exempt Status as a registered Charity under the Canadian Income Tax Act. To this end, there were some changes made to our Constitution and By-Laws approved by members through a Special Resolution held in May of 2022. Changes were then recorded and registered with the BC Society.

Towards the end of May, The Friends wished Elizabeth Tracy, Whistler's Library Director, adieu, as she moved on to become the Chief Administrator Officer for the Village of Pemberton. The Friends have worked closely with her for ten years and it has always been a pleasure. We wished her the best and look forward to working with her replacement.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS:

September Bulb Sale: Despite the rainy weather the Bulb Sale proved to be a very popular event with the community. Bulbs, which were bagged early in the summer and stored at the Library, were sold for \$10.00 per bag. There were tulip and daffodil bags and a few bags of mixed bulbs. At the same time extra bags of Mystery Books were sold by donation. The Bulb Sale raised \$1300.00. Many are repeat customers who are always happy with their purchase of beautiful spring bulbs!

50/50 Raffle: For the second year in a row, The Friends of the Whistler Public Library Society was granted a Gaming Licence. As per last year, we hired Raffle Nexus and Bambora Payment Processor to manage our Raffle. The Raffle was very successful with \$10,000.00 worth of tickets being sold. One lucky winner went home with \$5000.00! After expenses, The Friends garnered approximately \$3800.00 in profits, from which we were able to send a cheque to the Brock Corning Company to assist The Library with the purchase of a Sound Booth. Much publicity went into making the 50/50 Raffle a success: an Ad in the Pique Newspaper, broadcast

on Mountain FM, Posters around town and social media. After the event, the required reports were submitted to the Gaming Licence (GERR report- Gaming Event Revenue Report and the GASR report- Gaming Account Summary Report). This year our raffle was held for over a period of four weeks, from February 10 to March 11/22. Next year, members have decided to sell tickets for a period of six weeks.

Spring Book Sale: The decision was made to hold our Annual Book Sale at the Library Plaza. Fortunately, it coincided with Family Week. The Plaza was busy with many families and individuals. Books had been gathered, sorted and organized for over a period of two weeks. There were many great book donations. The Book Sale itself was held on the Saturday of the May long weekend (May 21,2022). Again many volunteers graciously gave up their time to gather, sort, organize and sell the books. The community donated books at specific locations: Re-Use Centre, Nesters Market, Independent Grocer, Creekside Market and the Library. Books were sold by donation and The Friends raised just over \$4,600.00! Quite a success! Holding the Book Sale on the Library Plaza was a huge plus as it promoted the Library as a hub of our Whistler Community. Having it in front of the Library focused The Friends' commitment to fundraising for The Library.

Bulb Collection: Volunteers have collected bulbs and drying racks were built to house the bulbs. Bulbs will be prepared, bagged and stored at the Library in preparation for our annual Fall Bulb Sale later in the summer. Bulbs were generously donated by the Resort Municipality of Whistler, The Fairmont, The Brew Creek Centre, Pika Landscaping, and Whistler Landscaping.

PROGRAMS:

One of the major funding that we are supporting is the Library's WonderLab Project, which entails upgrading and propelling the Library to meet the technological needs of patrons for the 21 Century. This year the focus was on the purchase of a Production Pod Bear Cave Vocal Booth. The Sound Booth provides patrons with the opportunity to record videos, voice-overs and produce industry quality recordings.

Other programs that benefited from our financial assistance this year included: Reading Link Challenge, two courses received funding this year in preparation for the Fall: *Connect Whistler* (Welcome Week, Fall 2022) and *Weaving Our Way Toward Conciliation* - presentation on the history of Coast Salish wool weaving, learn basic weaving techniques, and contribute to a weaving for the Library (Fall 2022).

ADVOCACY:

The Friends of the Whistler Public Library continues to advocate and support The Whistler Library by stimulating public interest in our library and by helping to share information about the many Library programs, events, services, projects and needs. FOWPL continually publicizes events through bulletins, posters and the media to promote fundraising events. This year we initiated a presence using Social Media to promote and advocate for The Whistler Library:

[Friends of Whistler Library - Posts | Facebook](#)
[Jennifer Black \(@friendsofwhistlerlibrary\) - Instagram](#)

MEMBERSHIP:

Our membership continues to grow through many of our members promoting the FOWPL with their families, friends, neighbours and community groups. Everyone is welcome. Members are contacted regularly through email regarding upcoming events, meetings and important notices. The Whistler Library website lists our contact information and reports.

whistlerlibraryfriends@gmail.com

MEETINGS:

Normally meetings are held every third Wednesday of the month, September to June, at 4:30 pm in the Library. All members are notified of the meeting via email. Unfortunately, due to the Pandemic, in-person meetings were not allowed and we have held meetings via Zoom. We are happy to report that we have had much success with the Zoom format. However, we look forward to meeting in person sometime in the future.

- ❖ This report was prepared by Roberta MacQuarrie and reviewed by Susan Annand, Alice Mastalir, Rury Nakagawa, Marianna Orr, and Ernest Smerchynski (Friends of the Whistler Public Library Directors for 2020/2021)

50/50 RAFFLE

**LET'S GET
TO \$10,000**



Closes Friday at
Noon!!



USED BOOK SALE

Saturday, May 21
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Library Plaza
(In front of Whistler Public Library)
Books sold by donation



