



Annual General Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, April 15, 2025

4:30 pm – 350 City Hall Square W – Room 204

1. Call to Order

Reading of Land Acknowledgment

We [I] acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations, which includes the Ojibwa, the Odawa, and the Potawatomi. The Windsor Public Library honours all First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples and their valuable past and present contributions to this land.

2. Presentations/ Delegations

3. Windsor Public Library Annual 2024 Report

4. Adjournment

A photograph of a modern library interior. The space is bright and open, with a high ceiling featuring exposed metal trusses and recessed lighting. In the foreground, there are several light green armchairs and a long white table with matching green chairs on wheels. In the background, there are wooden bookshelves filled with books, a large window with a colorful mural, and a white brick fireplace with a fire burning inside. The overall atmosphere is clean, organized, and inviting.

2024

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

W  **NDSOR**

PUBLIC LIBRARY Read Learn Discover

Our Year	2024 Highlights	Top Five	Quick Facts	Customer Use Index	Just the Figures	WPL Board & Administration
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IMPROVED ACCESSIBILITY FOR A STRONG FUTURE

As we reflect on 2024, we are filled with gratitude for the many ways our library system has served our community. Many of these highlights are captured in our latest Annual Report, but one I want to emphasize is the significant step we took toward improving accessibility. In 2024, our board approved the standardization of hours across nine branches and expanded service to include Sundays in 2025—an action that ensures more people, regardless of their schedules, can take advantage of everything the library has to offer.

While this decision marks an important milestone, it is not just about extending hours; it's about opening our doors wider and reaffirming our role as a place of connection, learning, and discovery for everyone.

This shift would not have been possible without the dedication of our incredible staff. The world of libraries is always changing, and our team has consistently embraced new challenges with flexibility and commitment. Their hard work will play a key role in making these service enhancements a success in 2025, ensuring that our libraries continue to be welcoming spaces where all feel valued. To every staff member who navigated these transitions with professionalism and care—thank you. Your efforts are deeply appreciated, and our community benefits from your dedication.

Of course, our libraries wouldn't be what they are without the people who walk through our doors each day. To our community—thank you for your unwavering support, engagement, and passion for what libraries represent. Whether you visited to check out a book, attend a program, study, explore new technology, or simply find a quiet space, you have made our libraries vibrant and full of life. We've loved seeing your enthusiasm, both in person and through our interactions on social media. We remain committed to listening to your feedback and growing alongside you. Together, we will continue shaping our libraries into places where everyone can read, learn, and discover something new.

As Chair of the Library Board, I want to extend my appreciation to my fellow board members for their leadership and vision, and to my City Council colleagues for their continued investment in library services. Their support allows us to expand our reach and enhance our services, ensuring that libraries remain a vital resource in our community.

We are excited about the future and look forward to another year of serving you. Thank you for making 2024 a year of growth and connection—we can't wait to see what we accomplish together in 2025.

Chair, Mark McKenzie
Windsor Public Library Board

WINDSOR PUBLIC LIBRARY IS STRONGER BECAUSE OF OUR COMMITMENT TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS.

IN 2024 WE PARTNERED WITH:

- Windsor-Essex Fidget Makers
- Pelee Island Bird Observatory
- Ojibway Nature Centre
- Ontario Government/Ontario Parks Lending Program
- Letters to Elders Program
- Girl Up Windsor on gender equality
- Polonia Centre
- Downtown Windsor BIA
- Art Windsor Essex
- Downtown Farmers' Market
- St. Clair College
- ProsperUs/United Way Windsor Essex County
- Essex County Public Library
- Sandwich BIA
- Museum Windsor

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2024 HIGHLIGHTS



OPEN SUNDAYS/STANDARDIZED HOURS

In 2024, the WPL Board approved extending Sunday hours to nine branches, a significant increase from the three branches that traditionally opened on Sundays. Additionally, the Board approved standardizing the hours of operation across all regular branches. These changes were designed to improve accessibility, ensuring that all residents—regardless of their work schedules—have a day that suits them to visit their local library branch. The new hours began in January 2025, and we’re excited to see how these improvements will be embraced as residents become more aware and incorporate the new options into their routines.



NEW EVENT CALENDAR

Explore the new Event Calendar at windsorpubliclibrary.com. It features a variety of exciting events and programs at branches near you. The colorful, user-friendly layout allows you to search for information by branch, keyword, and date, making it the perfect tool for helping patrons find the programs that best suit their interests.



PICKLEBALL ANYONE

One of the fastest-growing activities in Windsor—and seemingly the world—is pickleball. The city has invested in new courts throughout the community, and the WPL is in lockstep, supporting those in need by offering free equipment to borrow. Fitness and fun should be accessible to everyone, and the WPL’s pickleball equipment makes this exciting sport affordable for all ages. In 2024, we saw racquets requested 69 times.



OPEN STREETS EAST END EDITION

The Windsor Public Library received a warm welcome at Open Streets 2024. Many patrons visited the WPL Tent location on Wyandotte Street East, while ‘Betty’ traversed the full route. Open Streets was nominated for Best Street Event at the Best of Windsor-Essex Awards, and the WPL is proud to have been part of such a wonderful day in the community.

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WHY I LOVE THE LIBRARY

As outlined in our most recent strategic plan, our Digital Branch was tasked with creating a series of videos themed “Why I Love the Library.” In 2024, seven of these videos were produced and uploaded to social media, featuring a mix of staff and patrons. The videos covered a variety of topics, including the Let’s Talk English program, favorite memories, reasons why WPL is a great place to work, and why it’s a fantastic place to visit. These videos highlighted many of the wonderful aspects of WPL.



2024 SUMMER GAMES SERIES

In 2024, our Digital Branch capitalized on the excitement surrounding the highly anticipated Olympic Summer Games by launching a fun and informative video series for kids. Featuring a cast of puppets led by Etienne S. Cargot, and fueled by plenty of creativity, our Digital Branch introduced our youngest patrons to the Olympics, Paris, Canadian pride, and the many books available on these topics at WPL. In total, the Digital Branch produced 52 original videos in 2024 and garnered 244,111 views on YouTube, with many more through our other social sharing sites.



SOLAR ECLIPSE GLASSES

On April 8, 2024, a generational solar eclipse was visible across North America. In Windsor-Essex, residents were treated to a near-total or total eclipse. Many had the chance to witness this celestial event, thanks to a generous donation of solar eclipse glasses to the Windsor Public Library. The glasses, donated by the Royal Astronomical Society, were distributed to the public, with 5,000 pairs made available. The giveaway began on April 4, and all pairs were claimed within two days. WPL also hosted two discussion sessions to further everyone’s knowledge and safety.



ACCESSING AUTHORS

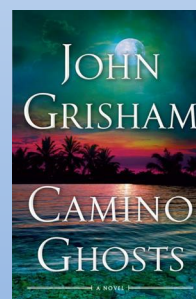
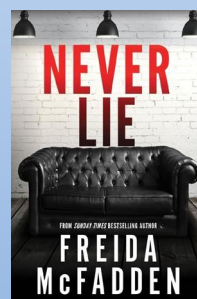
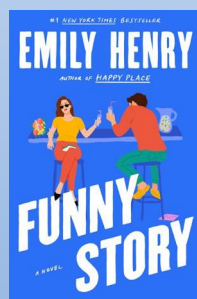
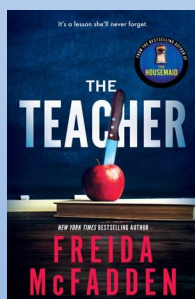
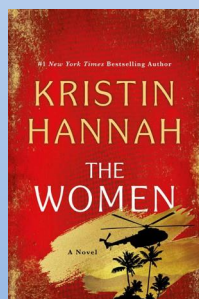
Accessing Authors was a great success in 2024, offering a range of events from poetry readings and open mic sessions to writing tips and strategies. Hosted at the beautiful John Muir Branch, the event provided residents with seven unforgettable nights filled with stories and insights from six talented local authors.

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TOP FIVE

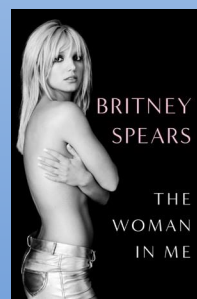
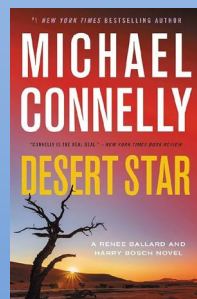
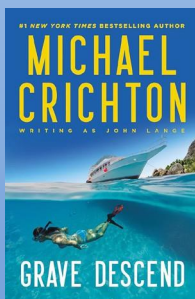
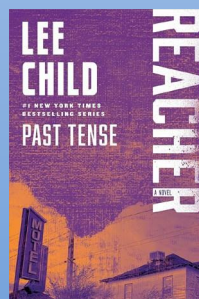
Top 5 Items Borrowed

1. The Women / Kristin Hannah
2. The Teacher / Frieda McFadden
3. Funny Story / Emily Henry
4. Never Lie / Frieda McFadden
5. Camino Ghosts / John Grisham



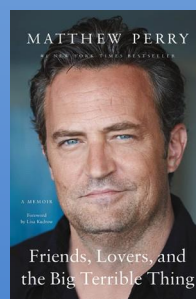
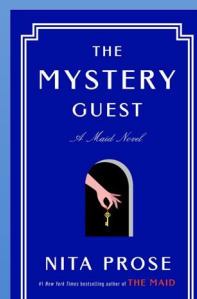
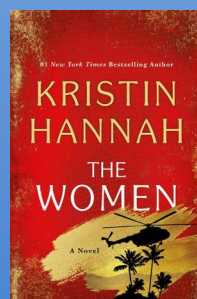
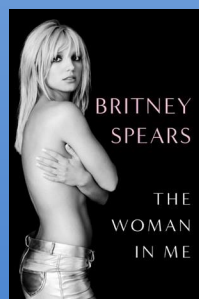
Top 5 eBooks Borrowed

1. Past Tense / Lee Child
2. Grave Descend / Michael Crichton
3. Desert Star / Michael Connelly
4. The Woman in Me / Britney Spears
5. Becoming / Michelle Obama



Top 5 eAudiobooks Borrowed

1. The Woman in Me / Britney Spears
2. Becoming / Michelle Obama
3. The Women / Kristin Hannah
4. The Mystery Guest / Nita Prose
5. Friends, Lovers, and the Big Terrible Thing / Matthew Perry



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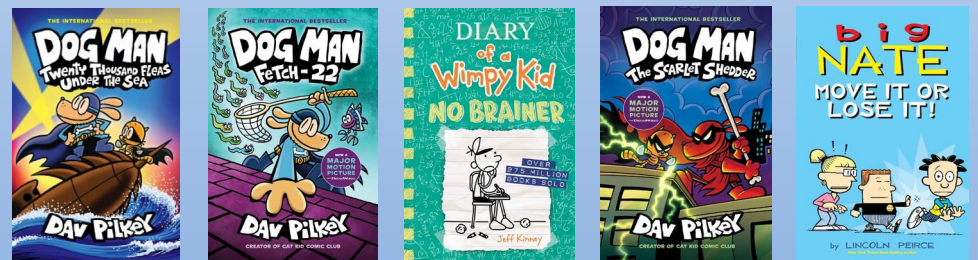
Top 5 DVDs Borrowed

1. Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire
2. Barbie
3. Dune: Part 2
4. Anyone But You
5. The Beekeeper



Top 5 Children's Fiction Borrowed

1. Dog Man: Twenty Thousand Fleas Under the Sea / Dav Pilkey
2. Dog Man: Fetch 22 / Dav Pilkey
3. No Brainer / Jeff Kinney
4. Dog Man: The Scarlet Shedder / Dav Pilkey
5. Big Nate: Move it or Lose it! / Lincoln Peirce



Top 5 Young Adult Fiction Borrowed

1. A Court of Thorns and Roses / Sarah J. Maas
2. A Good Girl's Guide to Murder / Holly Jackson
3. The Ballad of SongBirds and Snakes / Suzanne Collins
4. Powerless /Lauren Roberts
5. The Brothers Hawthorne / Jennifer Lynn Barnes



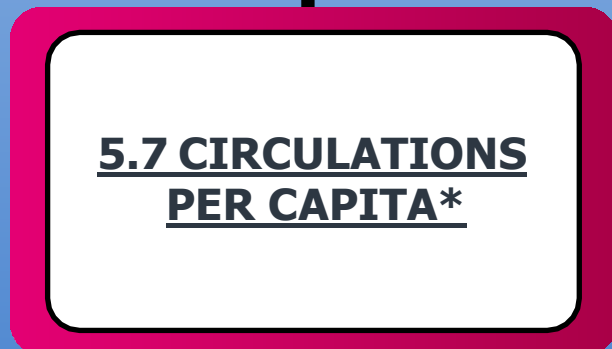
Top 5 Adult/Young Adult Graphic Novels Borrowed

1. Heartstopper: Volume 1 / Alice Oseman
2. Five Nights at Freddy's: The Twisted Ones: The Graphic Novel / Chris Hastings
3. Ducks: Two Years in the Oil Sands / Kate Beaton
4. Fazbear Frights GNC Vol. 3 / Chris Hastings
5. Fazbear Frights GNC Vol. 2 / Chris Hastings



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QUICK FACTS



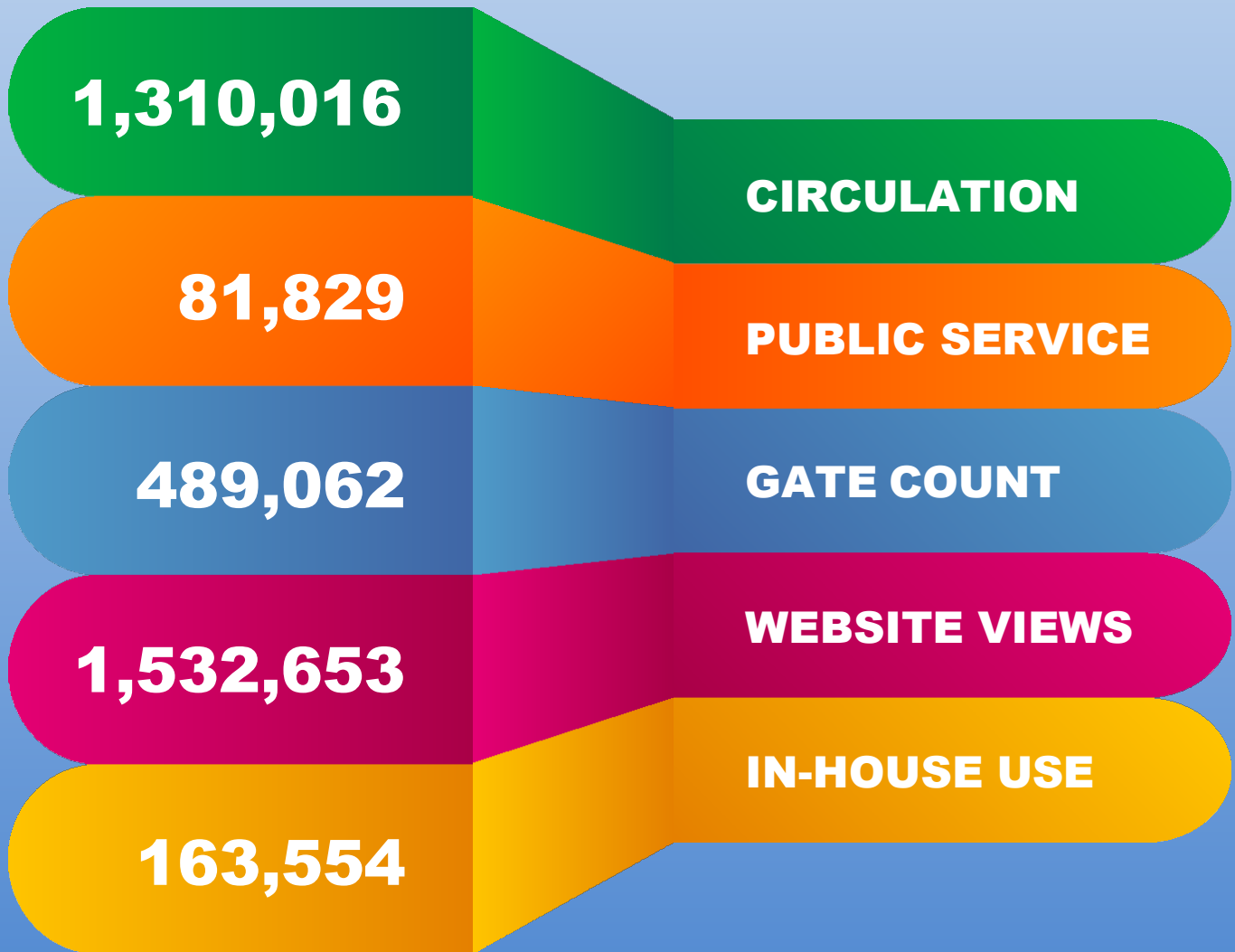
*Windsor Population : 229,660
2021 Census

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CUSTOMER USE INDEX

CUI aggregates five key performance indicators into one statistic which is driven by how libraries are actually used. They are circulation, gate count, in-house use, public service and website usage.

WPL connected with customers 140.4 times per hour in 2024.

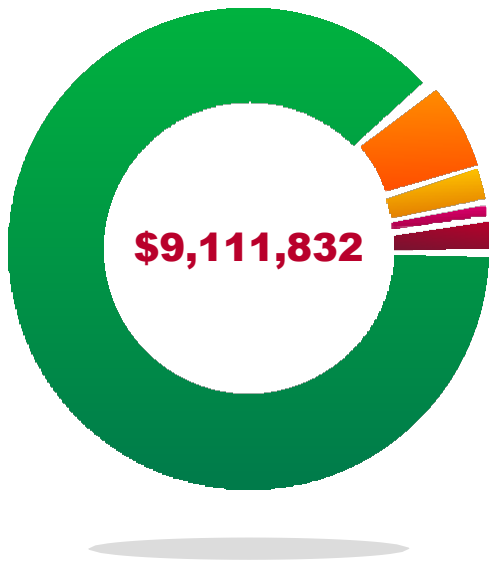


***Service hours = 25,461 in 2024.**

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2024 BUDGET

Revenue



- **Municipal Contribution**
\$8,196,393
- **Provincial Grant**
\$537,916
- **Donations & Grants Revenue**
\$95,577
- **Fees Revenue**
\$131,946
- **Miscellaneous**
\$150,000

Expenditures



\$9,111,832

Staffing		\$6,513,271
Collections		\$1,096,859
Building Operations		\$380,419
Donation & Grant Expense		\$71,869
IT & Communications		\$240,079
Rent, Insurance, Utilities		\$619,622
General & Administrative		\$148,600
Program Expense		\$34,772
Transfer to Reserves		\$6,341

*Unaudited.

Our
Year

2024
Highlights

Top
Five

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Just the
Figures

WPL Board &
Administration

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

City Council Representatives

Chair: *Councillor Mark McKenzie*

Vice-Chair: *Councillor Kieran McKenzie*
Councillor Renaldo Agostino

Community Members

Massimo De Menech
John Coleman
Marko Jovanovic
Delia Greco

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Chief Executive Officer
Jennifer Knights

Manager, Public Services
Sue Perry
Leisa Pieczonka
Julie Catenacci

Manager, Financial Accounting
Carrie McCrindle (A)
Rachel Chesterfield

Manager, Operations
Tracy McManus

Manager, Marketing & Communications
Jason Moore

Supervisor, Facilities
Daryl Hermann

Administrative Receptionist
Krystal Jarrold