

CEO Report
2004-2006
Years in Review

The first term of this Board has been completed. We did have a busy term starting with the election of officers for this Board on January 12, 2004. This board's first priority was in replacing Mrs. Connie Contant (Library Assistant). This board recommended the hiring of Mrs. Margaret Stromberg as our new library assistant as of March 10, 2004.

We witnessed the library automation project becoming a reality. We went LIVE on February 01, 2004. Part 1 of the new shelving project has been completed this past year with the financial aid of the Trillium Foundation in the amount of \$7,000.00 and the hard work from this board's volunteers.

This board renewed their \$50.00 subscription to the OBLA (ontario library boards association) www.accessola.com. Our Chairperson Marilyn Stewart and our Treasurer Knowlton Potter attended interesting workshops during this past year hosted by this organization. This Board also passed a resolution at its November 1, 2004 meeting to authorize Membership and to pay the prescribed fee of \$50.00 dollars to become members of this new organization called the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries www.fopl.ca.

We were recipients of \$350.00 dollars of children books from Kids Read Ontario, \$200.00 dollars recipients of The Sarah Badgley Literacy Fund for Ontario Rural Children, \$800.00 dollars from The Early Years Foundation and \$1,000.00 dollars of French books from the Caisse Populaire et Association des Auteurs de l'Ontario Francais.

Light On After School Program:

This after school program has been well received in our community. The program was launched on Monday, January 3, 2005. Our main objective was to have a safe and supervised environment for children to attend after school. The staff reviewed and rated cyber sites for children and compiled a list of interesting educational sites to visit.

CAP Student:

Thank to our CAP student Stéphanie Gagné that reached her 210 hours limit of her contract with Ontario Library Association (OLA) at the end of March, 2005. She was a tremendous help in tutoring our patrons with: Introduction to the computer/ Word Processors/Basic computer Maintenance/Internet Surfing/ How to set-up an E-mail account/Scanning and Excel. Stéphanie has also tutored the staff in computer software and she has been a tremendous help in revising our web site.

The Sandman Story Hour:

We have received word that HRDC will be sponsoring this program in the Nipissing Region as of April, 2005. Patricia Vezina our Early Years Educator is doing a fabulous job with our "wee-ones".

In January of 2006 we mourned the loss of a past Board member, Mrs. Debbie Foisy.

Debbie's family donated 83 books to the library for its permanent collection. Each book was catalogued and a bookplate was placed in each one in memory of Debbie. A letter of appreciation was sent to Mr. Yvon Foisy for his generous gift.

In April 2006, the Board approved 3hrs per week for the Library Assistant position rather than an on needs-basis. In November 2006, a motion was passed by the Board that there is an increase of 0.5hr, per closing shift for maintenance purposes.

During the summer months the library went through renovations including new flooring tiles and carpet, new shelving a new access door and ramp thanks to a successful Trillium Grant. It has been wonderful to work in a healthier environment

The Bonfield Public Library received a onetime Provincial Family Literacy Grant in the amount of \$10,500.00. A motion was passed by the Board to set this amount in a reserve for the 2007 budget. Our after school program might not be funded in 2007. This reserve was set aside for this program.

In 2006, 7610 library materials were circulated among 674 registered library patrons who also had access to 11504 in-house materials consisting of a wide range of books, DVD's, video's, magazines, cassettes, CD's and talking books in both official languages. In the Interlibrary Loan Department, 206 materials were borrowed by our patrons from libraries across Ontario.

We registered 1838 patrons who took advantage of our six high speed computers during 2006. Our patrons also had access to a scanner, laser jet printers and a digital photo card printer. We also provided photocopy, fax and laminating services.

We had a great year with our After School Program. We saw an increase in attendance by 26.5% over the previous year. This is a good indicator of the success and the need for this program in our area. The staff was on hand every Monday to Thursday from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm. We helped student with their homework. We tutored the basics of computer software's, and we also helped patrons in revising their résumés, checking the job banks and submitting their job applications via the internet.