

Annual Report

EAST YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY



1984

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The public library system was able to maintain its high level of service to all East York residents in 1984. Services to seniors, one of our special concerns, increased appreciably; a brochure to publicize our Shut-in Service was produced, and service grew, with 120 users receiving regular monthly deliveries. The service to the St. Clair O'Connor Community completed its first full year. This brought to 5 the number of Senior Citizens' facilities receiving service from the East York Public Library. The general circulation showed a 6% increase and a 20% increase was noted in the circulation of talking books.

In October we launched Mystery Month, our major programming event for this year. Special book lists, quizzes and displays helped to publicize this event and create considerable interest. The festivities included a series of mystery films and author nights with mystery writers Eric Wright and Ted Wood.

The on-going capital expenditure programme again focussed on S. Walter Stewart. The renovations undertaken this year at the main branch provided improved access for the disabled.

The Chief Librarian, Madge Aalto, left on December 1 for a position in Victoria, B.C. Mrs. Aalto had served East York as Chief Administrator of the library system for the past 9 years. The Board and staff join me in wishing her all success in the future. At present, Mr. Bey Grieve, Assistant Chief Librarian, is Acting Chief Librarian.

The introduction of new legislation, Bill 93, An Act Respecting Public Libraries, was an important consideration for us as trustees in 1984. The Bill introduces many changes, which will have an impact on future library trustees, e.g. method and term of appointment, responsibility and independence.

It has been a privilege and an honour for me to serve once again as Chairman of the Library Board. The Board, consisting of nine volunteer members, is responsible for establishing the policies of the library system. We are mindful of this trust, and devote much time and energy to fulfilling our mandate. We acknowledge and thank the Council, management and all levels of staff for their continued cooperation and support.

Hazel Thornton
Chairman
East York Public Library Board

EAST YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

"BIG CITY RESOURCES — SMALL TOWN FRIENDLINESS"

East York may be the smallest library system in the Metro Toronto Region, but business in '84 was brisk — we circulated 823,527 books, records, cassettes and films. That's more than 8 items for every citizen in the Borough. Of course, as one of the Metro Toronto Library Systems, our services and resources don't stop at East York borders — our patrons, via interlibrary loan, have access to over six million volumes in Metro, including the Metro Languages Centre and its 300,000 volumes.

We were open 11,129 hours in 1984, and circulated an average of 74 books for every hour open.

This year saw a steady increase in the Sunday use of our Main Branch, the S. Walter Stewart Library, open September to May, 1:30 - 5:00 p.m.



PROGRAMMES

While we've always regarded books as our basic business, (our book budget as a percentage of other expenditures is one of the highest in Canada), we also played host to 62,209 people at a great variety of programmes, from financial seminars to magic shows, with appeal for every age group, from the two-year-olds at "Toddler Times", to several appreciative 96-year-old readers at our four Seniors' deposit collections.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS OF '84

'84 was a year of anniversaries — Ontario's 200th, Toronto's "Sesquicentennial", and East York's 60th. We completed a long-overdue historical project that celebrated the rich history of East York.* Thanks to fascinating photos culled from collections at Todmorden Mills, local citizens and camera clubs, we compiled "Old East York in Photos" — a graphic walk down memory lane, with pictures of the great Lea and Taylor farms on which East York is built, the beautiful Don Valley, and a couple of unforgettable citizens — John Diefenbaker as a formidable schoolboy, and the remarkable former Mayor True Davidson. This display travelled throughout the Branches, went to the East York Fall Fair, and delighted Seniors in the residences.

*NOTE: We invite citizens with interesting photos of old East York to submit them to the Publicity Department at the S. Walter Stewart Library, for reproduction and inclusion in this unique display.



J.D. Singh of 'Sleuth' Bookstore, author Eric Wright, Board member John Ridout.



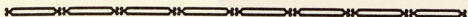
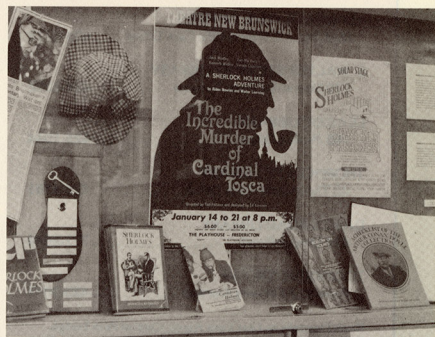
Central Park Lodge's "Craft and Chat" Club — presents a new book truck to librarian Elly Malcomson.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

Mystery buffs abound among our patrons, so October '84 became "MYSTERY MONTH", replete with mystery quizzes, a Sherlock Holmes Festival, "Freddy the Detective" puppet shows, booklists, and visits from critically-acclaimed Canadian crime writers Eric Wright and Ted Wood. All branches boasted displays of Sherlock Holmes memorabilia, courtesy of Metro Toronto Library's Conan Doyle Room.

SERVICES

Three new service brochures were published, outlining our extensive facilities for CHILDREN, for SHUT-INS (now bringing favourite reading and "Talking Books" to the doors of 120 East Yorkers), and MULTILINGUAL SERVICES. We have 14,581 books in other languages, and in 1984 we published flyers and bookmarks in Hungarian, German, Portuguese, Chinese, Italian, and Hindi.



A/V AND FILM DEPARTMENT

This busy department booked films that were shown to nearly 140,000 people outside the Library, and circulated a total of 17,262 films. Projectors were rented out 421 times and over 26,000 records were circulated system-wide.

While we're still talking numbers, we answered 42,362 reference questions, reserved almost 6,000 books, and registered 21,408 new borrowers in 1984.

But this annual report is not about statistics, it's about the people we serve, the many ways the library tries to enrich lives through reading, information, and community activities.

George Orwell's predictions notwithstanding, 1984 was a very good year indeed.

1984 AT A GLANCE

REVENUE

	1983	1984
Municipal Tax Levy	1,867,970	1,990,216
Provincial Grant	223,525	233,921
Other (incl. Surplus)	70,573	62,012
TOTAL	2,162,068	2,286,149

EXPENSES

	1983	1984
Books and Materials	404,078	439,127
Salaries and Benefits	1,348,178	1,418,567
Utilities, Rent and Insurance	108,740	100,376
Repairs and Maintenance	79,538	94,349
Debentures	71,409	79,460
Other	141,613	141,802
TOTAL	2,153,556	2,273,681

LOCATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

Unit 34 — 2 Thorncliffe Park Drive . . . 423-6218

S. WALTER STEWART LIBRARY

170 Memorial Park Avenue 425-8222

LEASIDE LIBRARY

165 McRae Drive 425-1044

THORNCLIFFE LIBRARY

48 Thorncliffe Park Drive 421-4791

DAWES ROAD LIBRARY

416 Dawes Road 757-8649

TODMORDEN ROOM

Pape and Torrens Avenue 425-9977

Book Deposits at East York Acres, Central Park Lodge, True Davidson Acres, Ina Grafton Gage Home and St. Clair O'Connor Community.

EAST YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

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