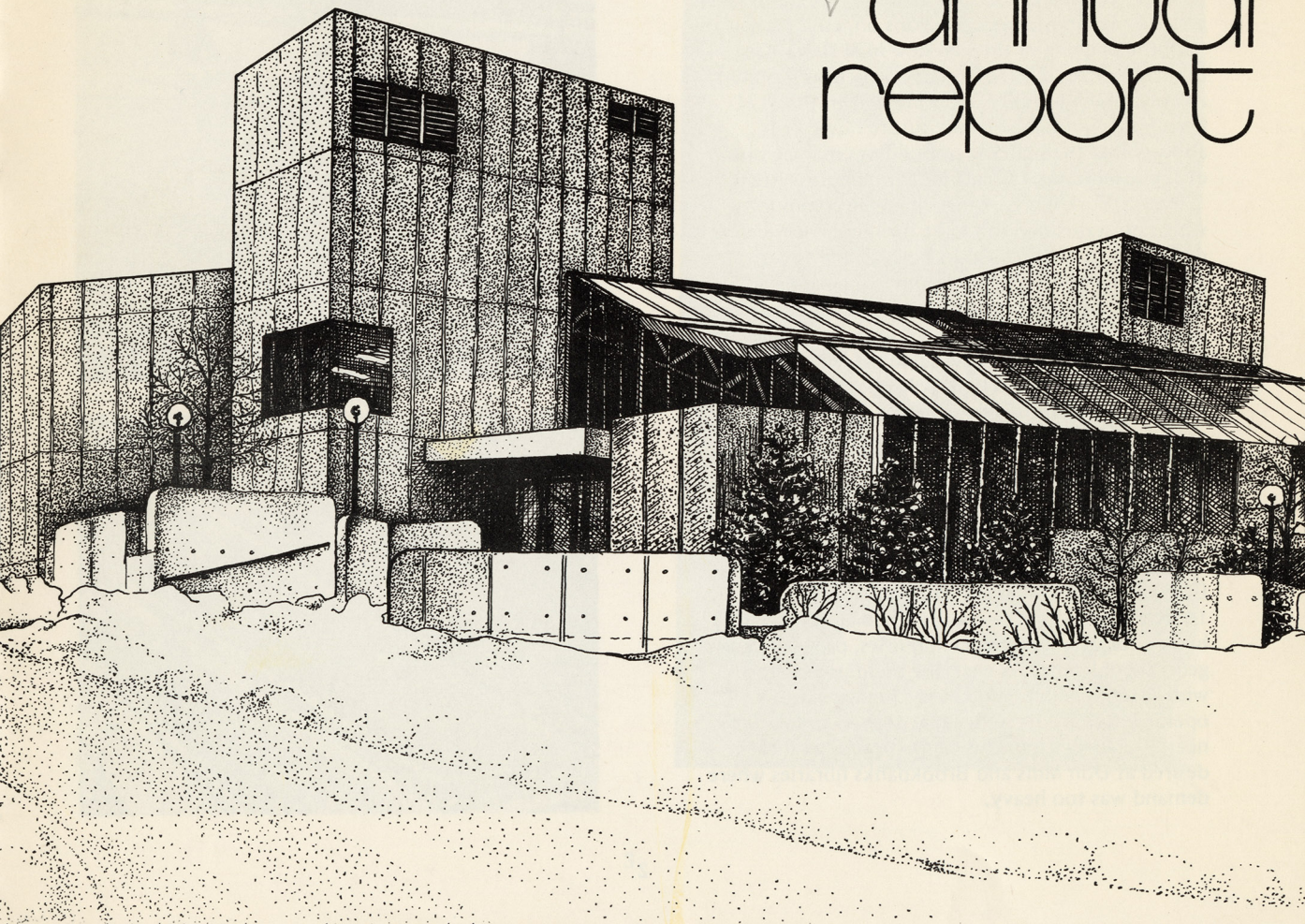
 north york public library

76

✓ annual
report

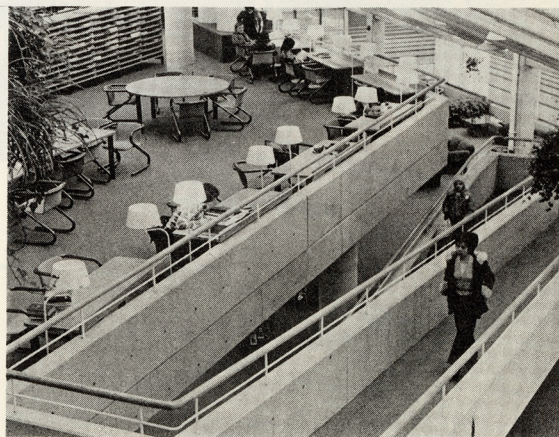


REPORT 76

In 20 years North York Public Library has undergone tremendous physical expansion, culminating with the opening of the Fairview Mall Drive Area Branch in May of 1976. It was an exciting moment, a time to look proudly upon the system that had been built. In looking to the future however it appears that the building of buildings may be one of the easier tasks facing a modern library system.

North York is a growing, changing community where no status quo can exist for library service. New methods and materials must be available to serve the growing multicultural community, the handicapped, and socio-economic groups whose background and education inhibit library use. New technological resources must be made available as well as more extensive business and legal collections. Taking a wider view a library network must be created to provide citizens the best possible service from a wealth of resources in many types of libraries. The Library Board has successfully met the challenge of physical expansion but these and other challenges await.

The Fairview Mall Drive Area Branch in the Eastern Division must be the focus of comment for 1976. Fairview's success was immediate in terms of book circulation, reference inquiries, programs and general public use. As well, the building attracted wide attention and proved very functional. It's opening produced a noticeable drop in circulation at nearby branches, but this was expected, and even desired at Don Mills and Brookbanks libraries where demand was too heavy.



Both Hillcrest and Pleasant View libraries completed one full year of operation in 1976. Pleasant View, which serves a self-contained community, forged strong contacts with existing community groups, and Hillcrest's rapid rise in circulation exceeded all expectations. Victoria Village, in the borough's southeast corner, underwent re-organization to bolster its circulation and improve its identification with its community.

Activity in the well-established branches of the Central Division can best be described as "business as usual". The Willowdale branch became Central Library and continued to provide a remarkable level and depth of service within limited space. As well, a Checkpoint book security system was installed at the year end to protect Central's collection. Circulation at Bayview dropped due to Fairview opening but it still records the most intensive use of its collection of any branch in the system. Levels of service at Bathurst Heights, Yorkdale and Centennial appear to have stabilized.

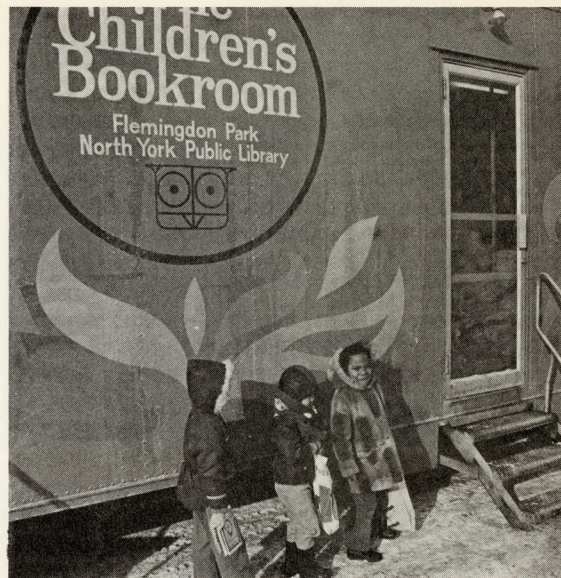
The Western Division continues to face two major challenges: a transient population and a growing multicultural community. Levels of service remain good however and the Library's role has been accepted by the community. Downsview and Humber Summit libraries made real gains in serving the Italian population, and their experience coupled with that of Woodview Park should provide an excellent base to develop more effective service to people arriving in North York from other countries.



The Library's Bookmobile, Shut-in Service and Mobile Outreach Program came under the wing of the Western Division in 1976. It was found one bookmobile could serve all isolated and developing communities, but the continuing usefulness of bookmobiles was demonstrated when the "Children's Book Room" rolled into service in Flemington Park. For several years the Library's attempts to get a permanent location in Flemington have been thwarted by political red tape. Perhaps 1977 will clear the way, but meanwhile the Children's Book Room is establishing strong Library identity and service in the area.

The Shut-in Service witnessed remarkable growth in 1976 with circulation of materials climbing over the 120,000 mark. More important, many letters were received conveying heart-warming thanks. The Mobile Outreach Program also continued to supply deeply appreciated film and craft programs to the elderly and handicapped, as well as puppet shows to the youngsters.

School liason, class visits, and work with pre-schoolers were again emphasized in a continuing effort to introduce children to the Library. The Children's Outreach Librarian visited 477 classes in the Western Division during the year, and the Children's Co-ordinator developed effective liason and staff training programs. A full slate of programs from puppet shows to authors' visit during Book Bug Bash week in November highlighted the excellent variety and quality of programs available throughout the year.



BRANCHES

The importance of adult programming was again made evident through the work of the Director of Public Service and the Adult Education Department. This department organized specific programs such as Canadian Authors Month, supplied resources and program ideas to the branches, and provided competent personnel to train staff in working with adults. The success and variety of the many programs offered points out the many needs of a contemporary community.

The demands of a contemporary community were also expressed by a 10% increase in the circulation of audio-visual materials. Films, records and cassettes continued to attract more people whose main interest is not books, and this is good. In 1976 video-cassettes were introduced and the 16 mm film service became the largest in Metro. In the future the Library Board may also have to study providing 16 mm film service at Area Branches.



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
35 Fairview Mall Drive, Willowdale
M2J 4S4

EASTERN DIVISION
Brookbanks Community Branch
210 Brookbanks Drive, Don Mills
M3A 2T8

Don Mills Area Branch
888 Lawrence Ave. E., Don Mills
M3C 1P6

Fairview Mall Drive Area Branch
35 Fairview Mall Drive, Willowdale
M2J 4S4

Hillcrest Community Branch
5801 Leslie St., Willowdale
M2H 1J8

Pleasant View Community Branch
575 Van Horne Ave., Willowdale
M2J 4S8

Victoria Village Community Branch
184 Sloane Ave., Toronto
M4A 2C4

CENTRAL DIVISION
Bathurst Heights Area Branch
3170 Bathurst St., Toronto
M6A 2A9

Bayview Community Branch
2901 Bayview Ave., Willowdale
M2K 1E6

Centennial Community Branch
578 Finch Ave. W., Willowdale
M2R 1N7

Central Area Branch
5126 Yonge St. Willowdale
M2N 5N9

Yorkdale Community Branch
Yorkdale Shopping Centre, Toronto
M6A 2T9

WESTERN DIVISION
Amesbury Park Community Branch
1565 Lawrence Ave. W., Toronto
M6L 1A8

Black Creek Community Branch
2141 Jane St., Downsview
M3M 1A2

Downsview Area Branch
2793 Keele St., Downsview
M3M 2G3

Humber Summit Community Branch
2990 Islington Ave., Weston
M9L 2K9

Woodview Park Community Branch
16 — 18 Bradstock Rd., Weston
M9M 1M8

York Woods Area Branch
1785 Finch Ave. W., Downsview
M3N 1M6

SERVICES BUILDING
120 Martin Ross Ave., Downsview
M3J 2L4

REPORT 76

An important event at year end was the moving of the 35,000 item Canadiana Collection to Fairview Library where adequate storage, study and work space plus environment control will help ensure that the collection can be effectively used and maintained.



The total North York Public Library collection neared maximum size as Technical Services processed over 185,000 new items. A large proportion were new titles signifying that quantity buying of one title is giving way to more selective buying in an effort to add depth to the collection. A massive inventory is nearing completion with the result that all back files could now be entered in a data bank.

In 1976 Computer technology made further inroads upon library operations. The success of North York Library's automated cataloguing helped convince Metro Libraries to join the UT/LAS system, while the Accounting Department moved ahead with plans to computerize in 1977.

North York Public Library's important place in Canada's library world was emphasized during the year with daily requests for information on services, policies and systems. The staff participated in many conferences, seminars and meetings on the national, provincial and local levels, and several members published articles on a variety of subjects. Such a high level of staff interest and participation bodes well for the ultimate success of detailed program planning and service studies which were begun during the year. The result can only be better service to the public in the future.

John E. Dutton,
Chief Librarian.

STATISTICAL REPORT

Balance January 1, 1976	91,006	
REVENUES		
Current Funds Received		
Borough of North York	6,966,327	
Province of Ontario	944,151	
Fines re Overdue Books & Sundry Receipts	162,401	
Interest Earned	<u>37,989</u>	8,110,868
		8,201,874
EXPENDITURES		
Library Operating		
Salaries & Employee Benefits	4,698,885	
Operating Expenses	680,880	
Operation of Buildings & Equipment	587,340	
Building Rentals	<u>119,495</u>	6,086,600
Library Capital		
Books, Records, Films, Microfilms	1,162,919	
Equipment	<u>79,203</u>	1,242,122
Debentures		
Repayment & Interest	<u>824,164</u>	8,152,886
Surplus at December 31, 1976		<u><u>49,988</u></u>

North York Public Library Board 1976

Douglas Pettem, Chairman
 Virginia Atkins
 Kenneth Frost
 Christopher Hrushowy
 Joseph Markin, Controller
 Gordon McCowan
 Fosca Montagnese
 Mae Waese
 Lorraine Williams

BOOKS AND MATERIALS STOCK

TOTAL BOOK STOCK DECEMBER 31st, 1975	1,059,611
WILLOWDALE AREA	291,273
DON MILLS AREA	223,725
BATHURST AREA	132,471
DOWNSVIEW AREA	190,666
YORK WOODS AREA	132,985
FAIRVIEW AREA	134,072
OUTREACH SERVICE	<u>10,834</u>
TOTAL BOOK STOCK DECEMBER 31st, 1976	1,116,026
RECORDS	60,473
CASSETTES	7,298
16mm FILMS	1,180
PERIODICALS (TITLES)	1,525

