

MOST POPULAR CHECKOUTS

Of all the items borrowed this year, these were the most popular.



PROGRAMS



597

programs & events

38,151

attended programs

Reaching patrons unable to access the library

Providing access to library resources while library service was limited due to safety precautions, was a top priority. Library staff expanded access to Home Service, selected materials for patrons based on their reading preference through bags of books, and carefully curated subscriptions for CKPL's subscription service.

164

outreach events

4,628

outreach attendance

733

home service deliveries

2,682

bags of books delivered

1,724

subscription bags filled

Summer Reading Club

124 programs

4,363 attendees

5,984 views

Chatham-Kent Public Library

ANNUAL REPORT

2021



**ADAPTING TO
SERVE YOU BETTER**



A message from the Chief Librarian:

2021 continued to be a year of challenges for Chatham-Kent Public Library and the community. For a good part of the year CKPL continued to provide access to library collections through curbside service in all eleven locations. Ask CKPL, a virtual reference service, was promoted and utilized by the community throughout the year. By the summer, just in time for Summer Reading Club, the library was cautiously re-opened at half hours and in September all locations were back up and running at full hours of operation.

I am proud of all CKPL staff who persevered through challenging times and situations to continue to provide exemplary library service to our communities. Staff delivered books and curated bags of books to meet patron needs. Innovative and creative programming continued and was expanded upon to connect and inform our communities.

Library staff worked in partnership with several other municipal departments to further their reach to outlying CK communities. CKPL's courier infrastructure and branches served as a base for the distribution of Camp in a Box for CK Recreation as well as Chatham-Kent Museum and Thames Art Gallery.

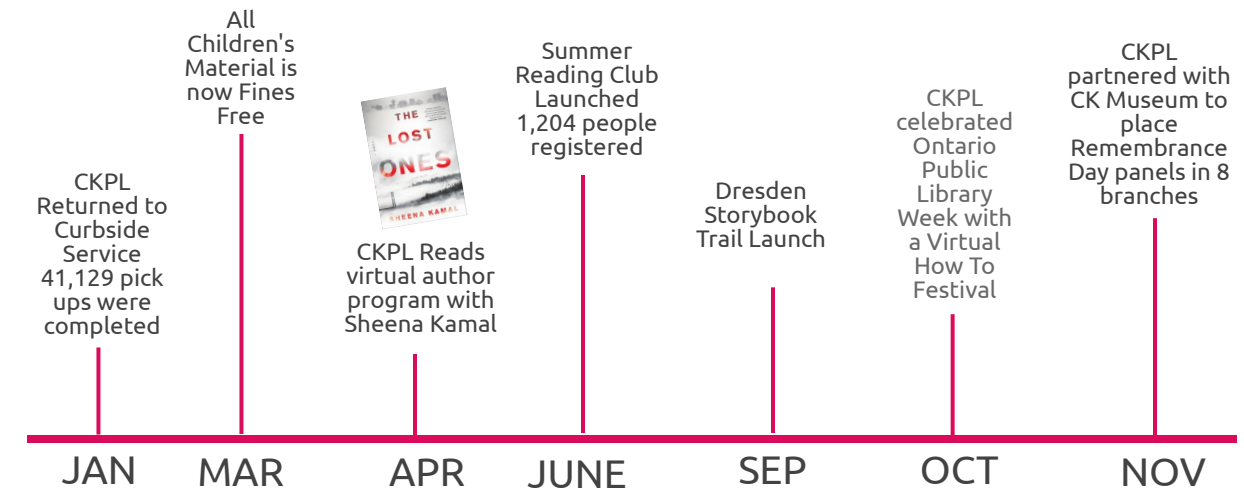
To support the local COVID-19 vaccine rollout, CKPL partnered with CK Public Health to provide 8 pop-up vaccination clinics in Blenheim, Bothwell, Merlin, Thamesville, and Wallaceburg branches, bringing the vaccine to 386 people. CKPL also helped patrons stay safe and engage in the community by printing over 1,500 vaccine passports from September to December 2021.

When Wheatley experienced a devastating explosion, CKPL offered its local branch as a command centre for emergency personnel, and, within six weeks, library staff worked with Employment and Social Services to set up a temporary community hub of services, including library service, lending 1,528 items from October to December.

Chatham-Kent Council recognized the value of libraries through its support of CKPL's application for grant funding under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) for the hardware, software, implementation, training and support necessary to install and operate a RFID enabled circulation, security and collection management system. CKPL's grant application was successful and the library was awarded \$506,000!

Tania Sharpe CEO/Chief Librarian

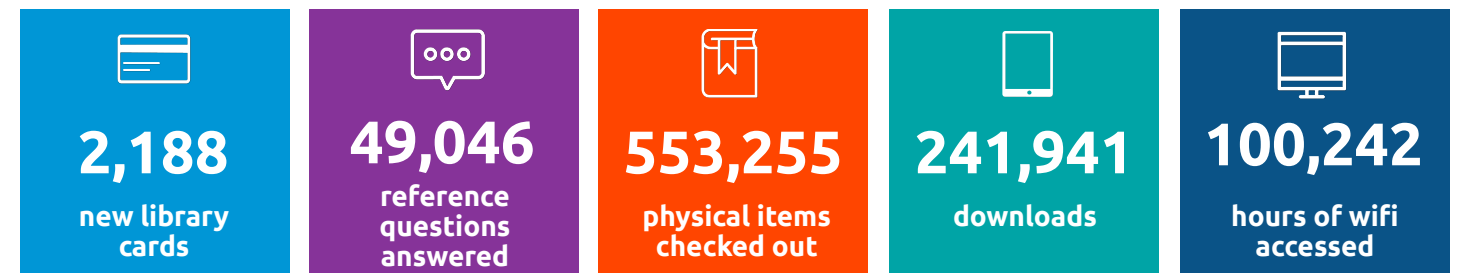
Library HIGHLIGHTS



BY THE NUMBERS

The pandemic continued but CKPL staff remained steady and continued to provide exemplary library service to their community!

Here is an overview of our year:



CKPL Strategic Plan 2022-25

CKPL will engage and inspire
CKPL will connect and involve

CKPL will offer access
CKPL will demonstrate social value

Message from the Library Board Board Chair

The Chatham-Kent Public Library Board, working closely with the Chief Librarian, provides strategic oversight of library operations to ensure our library delivers programs and services that reflect the unique and diverse needs of our community. The past year has presented many challenges and all members of the library team have shown flexibility and creativity in overcoming them. One of the Board's accomplishments was developing a new strategic plan which will assist our library to move forward over the next several years. On behalf of the Library Board, I acknowledge and thank the entire library team for their enthusiasm, commitment and community service.

Robert W. Clarke Chatham-Kent Public Library Board Chair

32,000
card holders

1,013,759
online catalogue searches

84,930

library visitors through the door

174,617

visits to our website

SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

FACEBOOK
50,684
engagements

TWITTER
2,407
engagements

INSTAGRAM
3,094
engagements

YOUTUBE
26,752
views