

2019

# REPORT TO OUR COMMUNITY



**SPL**



Located on Treaty 6  
territory and the homeland  
of the Métis.

# Board Message

While there was no shortage of activity at Saskatoon Public Library (SPL) last year, what often gets lost in the day-to-day operations of Saskatoon's libraries is the evolution of the organization as a whole. That's why this report is an annual highlight for Saskatoon Public Library's (SPL) Board—it allows us a chance to reflect back on the year that was. And what a year we had in 2019!

The highlight, of course, was the new central library project. Following city council's approval of a borrowing request, we are targeting an opening date of 2026. Next steps will involve public consultations and securing a downtown site for the facility. We are looking forward to seeing the project continue taking shape in the coming months and years.

We attended more than twice as many community events as we have in past years, meeting our objective to bring services and information about SPL outside of library walls. Our new outreach workers also met with more than 600 patrons and provided more than 1,000 referrals to local support organizations.

While these are just two examples of the work we've done over the past year to modernize services and make our organization more accessible, there are many more. As the social and educational roles of libraries evolve, the Board is proud of how SPL is keeping pace to make sure it remains one of our community's most valued public services.

**Brett Bradshaw**  
Board Chair

**Carol Cooley**  
CEO

## 2019 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Lisa Erickson, Chair  
Brett Bradshaw, Vice-Chair  
Hilary Gough, Councillor  
Nicholas Kaminski  
Cheryl Starr  
Liz Kuley  
Jim Siemens  
Carol Cooley, CEO

Ex Officio  
Mayor Charlie Clark

Saskatoon Public Library is governed by a volunteer library board and the Public Libraries Act (1996).

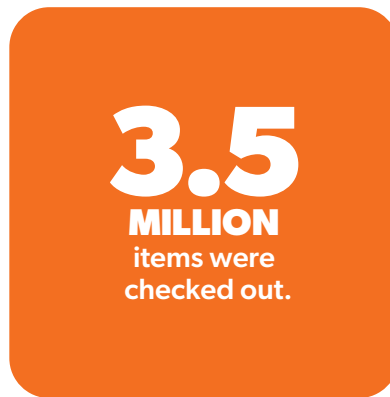
Patrons saved over  
**\$46 MILLION**  
by using the library in 2019!

Thank you for using  
Saskatoon Public Library.

Check how much you have saved at  
the bottom of your receipt.

# By the Numbers

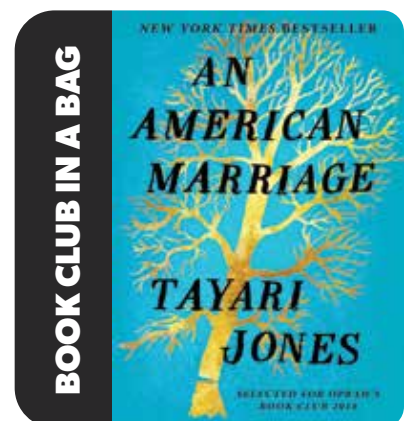
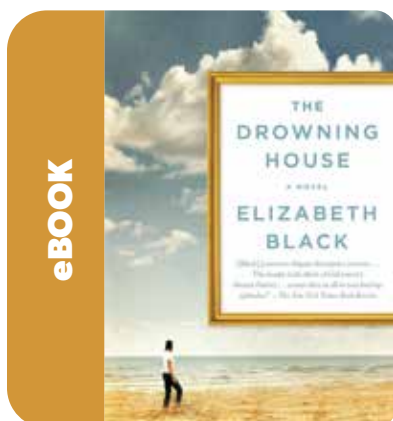
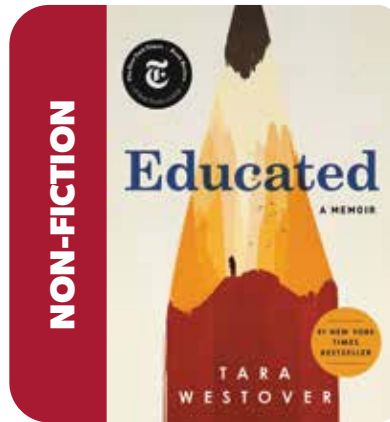
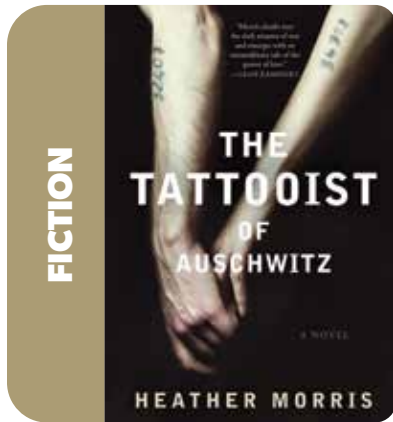
You came, you browsed, you borrowed . . . a lot! With numbers up across the board, 2019 was our busiest year yet. Thanks for booking it to the library!



Due to new technology being installed system-wide in 2019, we are unable to accurately report the total number of visits to SPL.

# Most Popular

There was a lot of library love circulating in 2019, and these were the items checked out most often.



# Programming

Saskatonians have a serious yearning for learning! From puppet shows to coding robots and everything in between, more than 104,000 people attended programs.



**4,675**

free programs offered.

**10,366**

kids boogied at

**266**

dance parties.



**2,447**

attended Performers  
on Parade.

**471**

received expert  
advice at legal  
programs.



**28,571**

attended storytimes.

**808**

attended Aboriginal  
Storytelling Month  
programs.



**2,268**

improved English-  
speaking skills at  
Conversation Circles.

**2,100**

enjoyed SPL's  
puppet shows.



**1,349**

spent quality  
time together at  
Fam Jam.



**TD**  
**Summer**  
**Reading**  
**Club**



**2,438**  
kids in Saskatoon read  
**53,436**

books over the summer,  
helping keep reading  
skills sharp!

[saskatoonlibrary.ca/summerreading](http://saskatoonlibrary.ca/summerreading)



**knowlympics**

2019 CHALLENGE PASSPORT



stoonlibrary

**2,996**

people took part in the  
third annual all-ages summer  
learning challenge,  
a 21% increase!

[saskatoonlibrary.ca/knowlympics](http://saskatoonlibrary.ca/knowlympics)

# Services

In addition to the library's collections, we love making connections. Whether it's inside or outside library walls, we're always at your service!



**622**

met with SPL's Outreach Workers.

**5,717**

Chromebooks were checked out.



**662**

deliveries made through the Home Reader Service.

**786**

Book Club in a Bag kits checked out.

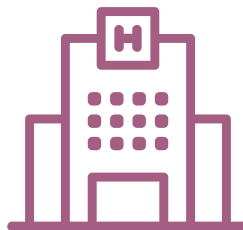


**971**

kids enjoyed storytimes during

**59**

visits to the Jim Pattison Children's Hospital.



**49**

community events.



**10,286**

kids were hosted by SPL during

**266**

field trips.



We reached

**7,584**

kids during visits to schools, preschools and daycares.

# SASKATOON IS GETTING A NEW CENTRAL LIBRARY!

For information and updates, visit  
[saskatooncentrallibrary.ca](http://saskatooncentrallibrary.ca)

SPLC  NECTS

## We made it easy to say good readance to late fines.

Over July and August, **6,549** patrons bid  
good readance to **\$34,235** in late fines  
simply by visiting the library during our  
second annual fines forgiveness program!

**GOOD  
READANCE**

