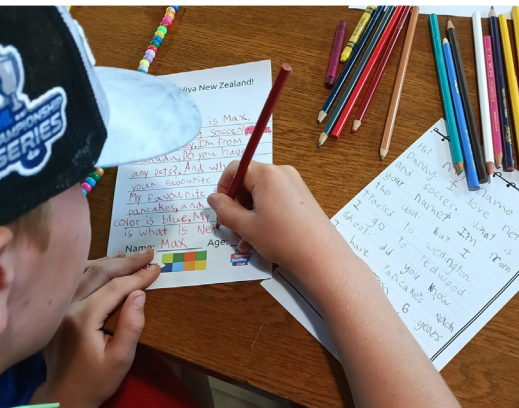


Huron County Library 2025 Annual Report





“ This has been the best library we’ve ever visited. So many things to do!





2025 Annual Report

Huron County Library

The Huron County Library is a county-wide library system with 12 convenient locations serving residents throughout the County. The Library serves as an inclusive and vibrant community hub that offers traditional library services with new and innovative offerings to meet the changing needs of our diverse communities.

In 2023, the Library adopted the following vision, mission and values as part of its new strategic plan that will serve as guiding principles for delivering Library services in Huron County for 2024-2028.

Vision

Imagine More: a place to learn, connect, create, and grow.

Mission

Huron County Library brings people, information, and ideas together to enrich lives and support a thriving community.

Values

- Respect
- Inclusivity
- Literacy
- Collaboration
- Curiosity
- Fun!

2025 in numbers...

18,456

Library card holders

271,644

Physical items circulated

59,928

Catalogue visits



I am amazed at what the libraries offer in Huron County.



Beth Rumble
*County Librarian and
Director of Cultural
Services*

A Message from the Director

This past year was one of growth, momentum, and meaningful impact across Huron County Library. Guided by our mission to bring people, information, and ideas together, our work reflected a strong commitment to welcoming and inclusive communities, innovation, youth, and literacy.

Our libraries were active and evolving spaces, supporting increased youth engagement, vibrant programming, enhanced collections, and thoughtful improvements to our physical spaces. We continued to expand access and respond to community needs through new initiatives, careful collection development, and ongoing consultation, ensuring our services remain relevant, equitable, and responsive.

At the heart of this work are our staff—the lifeblood of the library. Their passion, creativity, and deep community connections bring our vision to life every day. As familiar and trusted faces, staff create welcoming environments, build meaningful relationships, and deliver services that enrich lives across Huron County.

As we reflect on the year, we do so with pride in the scope of what was accomplished and optimism for what lies ahead, as we continue to imagine more for our patrons and our communities.

A Message from the Board Chair

As I reflect on the past year for the Huron County Library, I am filled with gratitude. Serving as Chair of the Huron County Library Board has been a tremendous learning experience that has deepened my appreciation for the vital role libraries play in the communities they serve. The Library’s 12 branches are far more than buildings filled with books; they are welcoming spaces for learning, connection, creativity, and support for residents of all ages.

I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks to staff for their hard work, passion, and commitment. They go above and beyond to serve the public with kindness, professionalism, and care. Whether they are supporting literacy, assisting patrons with new technologies, creating inclusive and engaging programming, or simply offering a friendly and trusted presence, their impact is felt.

I am also deeply grateful to my fellow Library Board members for their collaboration, insight, and unwavering commitment. It has been a privilege to work with such a thoughtful and dedicated group.



Trevor Bazinet
*Huron County Library
Board Chair*

2025 in numbers...

59,214

Adult Fiction
checkouts

25,275

Adult Non-
Fiction
checkouts

22,757

Juvenile Fiction
checkouts



My son loves it here. I brought my husband today so he could see how great it is.

Youth Engagement

Over the past year, the Huron County Library has made meaningful strides in building youth engagement by expanding and strengthening programs designed specifically for tween and teens. Through funding support from the McCall MacBain Foundation, and partnerships with community organizations such as The Well Community Collective and the Tanner Steffler Foundation, the Library has created opportunities for youth that support creativity, digital skills, and social connections in safe spaces.

Highlights include:

- The Huron County Library's Youth Program Developer coordinated Game On! A series that ran through the summer that was designed to bring young people together to explore their favourite video games in exciting new ways.
- Several branches hosted after hours events for youth, providing space for them to do arts and crafts, share their talents at open mics, gather together for games, or battle it out at Nerf Nights.
- There were opportunities for youth to express their creativity with a number of art and craft-themed programs.
- Dedicated gaming programs included Mario Kart tournaments, Rocket League, KPop Demon Hunters Karaoke, Switch free play, Virtual Reality free play, Dungeons & Dragons.



Nerf Night at Seaforth Branch.

2025 in numbers...

4,767

Videogame
checkouts

3,965

Young Adult Fiction
checkouts

14,452

DVD checkouts

“

I want to volunteer here because the library seems like a really great place to be. It's fun to hang out here after school.

Community Connections

The Huron County Library's mission is to bring people, information, and ideas together to enrich lives and support a thriving community. As a result, we are always seeking opportunities to gather feedback on services and to bring people together to participate in conversations about their desires for their communities.

Highlights of community outreach and engagement from 2025:

- **Libraries Transforming Communities:** The Huron County Library once again hosted a series of community conversations in Bayfield to identify goals for their communities, which included building more community connections, a clear plan for growth, and improved communication.
- **Library Impact Ontario survey:** Patrons were invited to participate in a survey to provide feedback about their use of technology services at the library.
- **Meet Your Neighbour:** In partnership with the Huron Immigration Partnership, several branches hosted Meet Your Neighbour events in celebration of Welcoming Week. Events included Meet Your Neighbour Nights, Dashwood Community Picnic, Conversation Circle & Beading Workshop, South Huron Block Party, and film screenings.

Promoting Meet Your Neighbour programs at Goderich Branch



2025 in numbers...

2,550

Programs

15,279

Program
attendance

191,055

In-branch visits

“

Just wanted to say what an amazing job the Library does in planning so many fabulous activities, unique ideas and for all ages.

What's new?

2025 provided no shortage of new and exciting programs, services and additions to the Library's collection.

Highlights Include:

- **Skip the Line:** Introduced in 2025, the Skip the Line collection provides access to popular titles without the wait.
- **Huron County Maker Space:** The Huron County Maker Space at the Goderich Branch opened in June. The exciting addition is part of the Library's expanded line-up of technology-based tools, programs and services available at branches across the County. The space includes a 3D printer, VR headset, Cricut machine, heat press, and button maker.
- **Cricut at the Branches:** A Cricut machine travelled around the County through the year providing access to this creative tool to patrons at all branches.
- **Envoy Connect:** Envoy Connect Players were added to the lending technology collection. The devices are audiobook players made available through an initiative from the Centre for Equitable Library Access to support those with print disabilities.
- **Yoto Players:** The addition of this screen-free audio player helps young ones play and learn independently with stories, music and more.



A young patron trying out the new Yoto player.

2025 in numbers...

2,519

Skip the Line
checkouts

3,503

Object Library
checkouts

18,071

Large Print
checkouts

“

Great to be able to come in and grab a new book! Love it!

Celebrating Diversity

Each year, staff work hard to find unique ways to help make people feel welcomed and supported in our communities. Staff frequently shared reading recommendations to help expand our understanding of one another, including materials focused on celebrating Canadian authors, Disability Pride Month, Red Dress Day, and birding for mental health.

Some highlights of supporting our diverse communities:

- The Huron County Library marked National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day on Sept. 30. Special events included Indigenous beading workshops, First Nations food presentations, and a presentation on Treaties and Huron County.
- Staff partnered with the Huron County Museum to attend the Huron County Pride event. The Library also hosted a virtual author talk with Danny Ramadan, and supported the Huron Cultural Office 2SLGBTQ+ Art Exhibition which was hosted at the Exeter Branch.
- Staff supported the Huron Cultural Office in the planning and support of the Huron Multicultural Festival. The Library also partnered with the Huron County Museum to host children's activities at the Festival.
- To ensure the Library's collection reflects the community, a Diversity Audit was completed to identify understocked areas of the collection.



Library staff at the Huron Multicultural Festival

2025 in numbers...

232,169

Website page views

4,925

Facebook followers

1,647

Instagram followers

“As a member of the LGBTQ+ community, it felt very welcoming to see your Pride flag hanging.

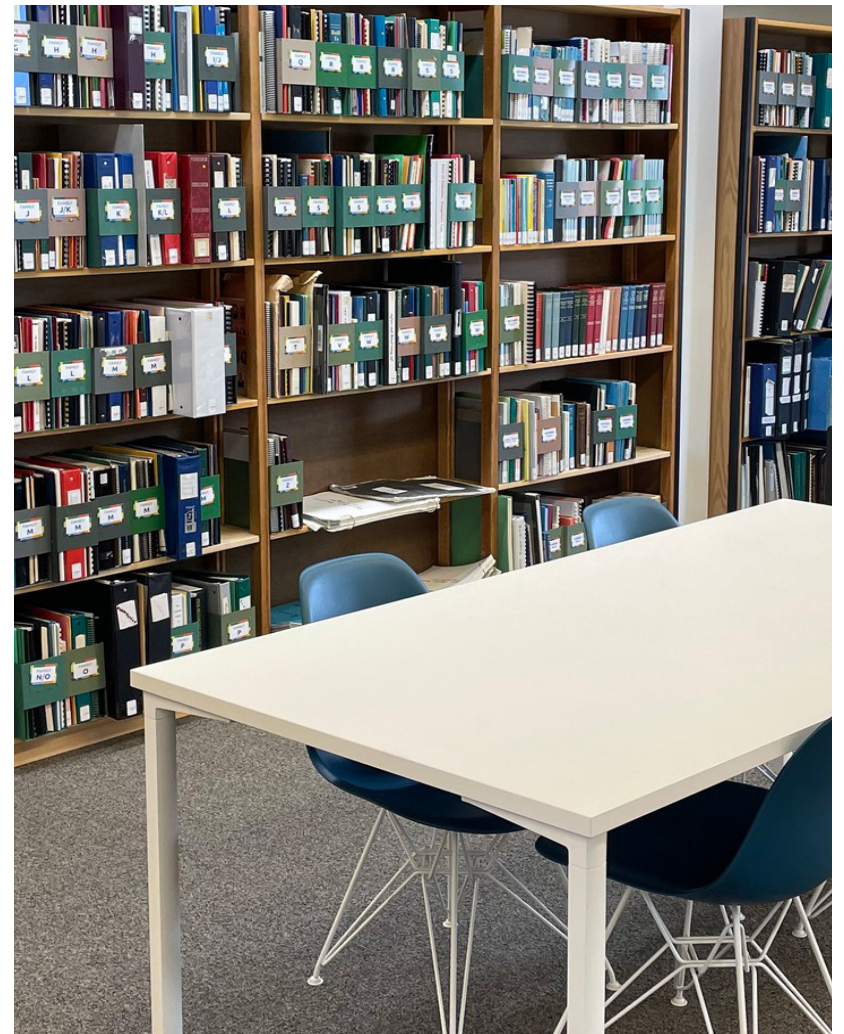
Improving Services

The Huron County Library is always working to improve the services we offer to our patrons, whether through improving our physical spaces, building our collections, or supporting the needs of our communities.

Service improvements included:

- The extensive collection of genealogical materials from the Ontario Genealogical Society – Huron Branch has been relocated to the Seaforth Branch. The collection includes: local family histories, cemetery records, census information, church records, other historical resources essential to those researching their Huron County roots.
- The Seaforth Branch also underwent a refresh of its space. The space received new paint, glass partitions to create a private meeting space, and a collections move that better utilized the space on the second floor.
- Work continued at the Clinton Branch with the installation of new shelving as well as the opening of the lift to help improve accessibility in the branch. The branch also had a refresh with new paint, improved lighting and new furniture.

Huron County Ontario Genealogical Society collection at the Seaforth Branch



2025 in numbers...

46,164

E-books
checkouts

38,659

E-audiobooks
checkouts

9,305

Films streamed

“

I like that I can look for books while the kids play.

12 Branches Serving Huron County

Alice Munro Branch

Address: 281 Edward St., Wingham
Phone: 519-357-3312
Email:
WinghamLibrary@HuronCounty.ca

Bayfield Branch

Address: 18 Main St., Bayfield
Phone: 519-565-2886
Email:
BayfieldLibrary@HuronCounty.ca

Blyth Branch

Address: 392 Queen St., Blyth
Phone: 519-523-4400
Email:
BlythLibrary@HuronCounty.ca

Brussels Branch

Address: 402 Turnberry St.,
Brussels
Phone: 519-887-6448
Email:
BrusselsLibrary@HuronCounty.ca

Clinton Branch

Address: 27 Albert St. S., Clinton
Phone: 519-482-3673
Email:
ClintonLibrary@HuronCounty.ca

Exeter Branch

Address: 330 Main St. S., Exeter
Phone: 519-235-1890
Email:
ExeterLibrary@HuronCounty.ca

Goderich Branch

Address: 52 Montreal St., Goderich
Phone: 519-524-9261
Email:
GoderichLibrary@HuronCounty.ca

Hensall Branch

Address: 108 King St., Hensall
Phone: 519-262-2445
Email:
HensallLibrary@HuronCounty.ca

Howick Branch

Address: 45088 Harriston Rd., RR 1
Gorrie
Phone: 519-335-6899
Email:
HowickLibrary@HuronCounty.ca

Kirkton Branch

Address: 70497 Perth Road 164,
RR 1 Kirkton
Phone: 519-229-8854
Email:
KirktonLibrary@HuronCounty.ca

Seaforth Branch

Address: 108 Main St. S., Seaforth
Phone: 519-527-1430
Email:
SeaforthLibrary@HuronCounty.ca

Zurich Branch

Address: 10 Goshen St. N., Zurich
Phone: 519-236-4965
Email:
ZurichLibrary@HuronCounty.ca



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