

## Focusing on our Customers

In 2005 the library improved library collections, library space and library access with the aim of making the library experience a more positive one for our users.

In addition, to better understand and respond to the needs of our patrons with disabilities, all library employees took part in sensitivity training provided by the Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee.



A \$10,000 Corporate Barrier Removal grant permitted the library to increase its collection of materials in alternative formats, including large print books, books-on-CD, narrated DVDs and described DVDs.

The Churchill Branch Library received a new carpet in 2005.



A set of power assisted doors was installed at the Main Library.

Your library service is nice and help was terrific. I'll always come back here.

2005 Customer Comment



## Community Support

We wish to thank our Community Partners who generously assisted the library in 2005.

- ♦ Community First Credit Union, sponsors of the Family Storytime, the Saturday Morning Story and Craft Hour and of the Library Volunteers Reception
- ♦ Cambrian Mazda and Cambrian Nissan, sponsors of the Toddler Time program
- ♦ Zonta Club of Sault Ste. Marie, sponsors of the Pre-School Storytime program
- ♦ Kiwanis Club of Sault Ste. Marie, sponsors of the Babytime program
- ♦ TD Bank Financial Group, sponsors of the Summer Reading Club
- ♦ Friends of the Library, sponsors of the CNIB VISUNET service
- ♦ Sault Ste. Marie & District Chapter of the Ontario Genealogical Society, sponsors of a new microfilm reader-printer for the Main Library
- ♦ Ontario Lupus Association, sponsors of a resource collection on Lupus.

A special thanks to the hundreds of individuals who generously supported the library with their individual donations, and to our many volunteers who contributed thousands of hours to library services in 2005.



William Quackenbush and two young volunteers plant the flower beds at the Korah Branch Library. 133 volunteers donated 6,855 hours to the library in 2005.

## Mission Statement

The Sault Ste. Marie Public Library believes in the individual's right to access all expressions of knowledge, creativity, experience and intellectual activity.

To this end, the Sault Ste. Marie Public Library provides and promotes services and resources that meet individual and community needs for information, education, recreation, and personal development.

## Library Board

Michel Aube	Elsbeth Belair
Judge Wayne Cohen	Bill Latham
Janet McFadden	Christopher Rous
Frances Ryan	Doreen Simard
Krister Ulmanis	

Wilhelm Eisenbichler, Secretary-Treasurer

## How the Library was Funded

### Revenue

City of Sault Ste. Marie	\$ 2,234,063
Province of Ontario	368,070
Grants, Fundraising and Fees	631,273*
Funds Forward from 2004	67,144
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 3,300,550</b>

### Expenditures

Staff costs	\$ 2,035,071
Library Materials	288,171
Facilities, supplies and administration	931,458*
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 3,254,700</b>
Carry Forward to 2006	45,850

\* includes in-kind donations/expenses of \$460,000 representing the appraised value of three manuscript collections that were donated to the Library Archives

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SAULT STE. MARIE PUBLIC LIBRARY 2005

*Libraries change lives*



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Web Site: [www.cityssm.on.ca/library](http://www.cityssm.on.ca/library)

## Message to the Community

I am pleased to report that in 2005 the people of Sault Ste. Marie continued to make the library their cultural facility of choice for literacy-based recreation, personal research, education and information. The numbers are impressive—over 29,000 people registered as regular library users and over 700,000 library uses a year.

Throughout the year the Board and staff of the Sault Ste. Marie Public Library worked diligently to advance library services in the community. Major initiatives included the development of a marketing plan for the library, the introduction of new library services and programs, the continued growth of the library Archives, and the re-carpeting of the Churchill Branch Library.

On behalf of the Library Board of Trustees, I would like to thank the Council and Staff of the City of Sault Ste. Marie for their support of library services in our community, all library staff, Friends of the Library and volunteers for their hard work throughout the year, and our many donors and community partners whose assistance helped make 2005 a very successful year indeed.

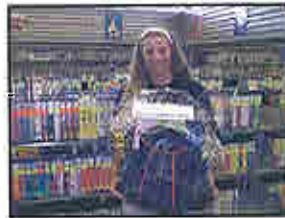
*Christopher Rous*  
Chairperson

## Promoting Literacy

In 2005 the library continued to offer a full range of literacy-based recreational opportunities, ranging from quality literature collections to family-literacy programs that promote reading and learning.

New library programs that were introduced included the Teen Summer Reading program, the Family Storytime, the Community Corners Family Storytime, and the Pre-School Program for Caregivers. They join the many other library programs to provide the community with quality library programs suitable for every interest and for every age.

The library provided 1,059 literacy-based programs in 2005, attended by 5,694 people.



Smiles from the winner of the Teen Summer Reading Program draw. 364 young adults participated in this new library program specifically for teens.

## The Library from Your Home



In 2005 the citizens of Sault Ste. Marie conducted 32,366 searches for information on the library's suite of web-based databases. These databases, which are available 24/7 from the library web site, provide free access to thousands of magazine articles and journals—from the comfort of your home or workplace.

THE GLOBE AND MAIL



## Learning @ the Library

The library continues to serve as the primary community support for formal and informal education. Students, educators, home-schoolers, parents of pre-school children, and life-long learners rely on the library for answers to their varied questions.

- \* The library supported formal education by hosting 66 tours and class visits in 2005, introducing library services to 2,146 students and educators
- \* Library staff helped 57,458 persons find the information or research material they needed
- \* Library patrons borrowed 626,028 items from the library in 2005
- \* Library patrons used the library's free Internet computers 37,444 times in 2005
- \* 29,494 people have a library card



Rosedale School students checking books out from the Library during a school tour.

## Supporting Research

The Historical Forestry Database became available in 2005. This spatial database contains 100 years of St. Mary's Paper wood management information, comprised of thousands of maps, photographs and documents of interest to historians, foresters and natural resource planners. The Archives also owns the original documents. This is just one of the ways the library supports science and research in Sault Ste. Marie.

## Safekeeping our Cultural Heritage

The library's collection of Sault Ste. Marie historical papers, documents and manuscripts keeps growing. In 2005 the Archives received three donations of historical papers, valued at \$460,000. The newest collections are the St. Mary's Paper collection, the Great Lakes Power collection, and an 1882 edition of Picturesque Canada.



A rare 1882 edition of Picturesque Canada, with information on Sault Ste. Marie and area, now in the library Archives.

## Wireless @ the Library

In 2005 the library installed wireless Internet access at the Main Library for library patrons wishing to access the Internet via their own wireless-equipped laptops.

This project was made possible by a grant from Industry Canada Community Access Program.

Exploring the Web from the Main Library's wireless "hot spot".



*Just a quick note to let you know how convenient I'm finding the "hot spot" you've created at the Main Branch.*

*Customer Comment*