

# City of Nelson News

January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020

## CELEBRATING 100 YEARS AT THE LIBRARY

### HOW IT ALL BEGAN:

**Corporation of the City of Nelson By-Law No. 310**  
Whereas at least one hundred electors have petitioned the Municipal Council of the Municipality of the Corporation of the City of Nelson, praying for the establishment of a municipal public library under the provisions of part IV of the "Public Libraries Act":

**THEREFORE**, the said Municipal Council enacts as follows:

1. A Municipal Public Library shall be established in this municipality pursuant to the provisions of Part IV of the "Public Libraries Act."
2. This By-law shall take effect from the date of the registration thereof.

**DONE AND PASSED** in Council assembled this Nineteenth Day of January, A.D. 1920.

*J.A. MacDonald*  
Mayor



That's how Nelson's Library officially began, but it wasn't the first iteration. Tobacconist Gilbert Stanley's 1891 reading room really started the ball rolling; by 1899, and with similar enterprises having sprung up in between, the Nelson Library Association had been formed—and the hard work to bring Nelson to the signing of that document began.

Nelson's love of books and knowledge was evident even in the earliest Days, when the Daily Miner recorded that: "Yesterday a Miner reporter had considerable difficulty in making his way through the crowd of people gathered in the reading room to the Librarian's office. The Library has become very popular and that Nelson needs such an institution has been amply demonstrated."

### WHERE WE ARE NOW:

Fast forward 100 years, and the Nelson Public Library is still full of people of all ages enjoying reading, learning, and one another through a variety of programs. Although those early library enthusiasts could not have imagined how technology has enriched how we read and learn, those fundamental dreams of building a great community with opportunities for all have never changed.

Here are some of the things the Library does today:

- Facilitates learning, building capacity to adapt to a changing world
- Fosters creativity, an essential life skill in the new economy
- Provides public space that brings people together
- Showcases and generates enthusiasm for local culture and identity
- Contributes to our community's appeal as a vibrant place to live
- Provides what residents need to face the future with the resilience that comes from new knowledge, information, skills, and abilities.

We have more than 11,000 members, enjoy 145,000 visits, check out over 200,000 items, and see 30,000 books downloaded annually, and present hundreds of programs for kids, teens, adults, and seniors. We offer a great selection of databases and online services.



Illustration by Douglas Jones

## TURNING PAGES: 100 YEARS OF THE NELSON PUBLIC LIBRARY

On our birthday weekend, join us for:

### TURNING PAGES: A LIVE MULTIMEDIA EVENT

with an all-star lineup

**Friday, January 17, 7pm at the Capitol Theatre**  
(Tickets available at the Capitol Theatre online or at the Box Office)

### FREE OPEN HOUSE AT THE LIBRARY

with entertainment, fun, and cake!

**Sunday, January 19, 1 – 4pm**  
All are welcome!

**This fall, don't miss:**

**Turning Pages: the Historic Exhibition**

September 12 to November 22, 2020

Opening reception Friday, September 11, 7 – 9pm

### **AND**

The opening of our new Digital Makerspace in April 2020, with digitization software, editing software for film, music, art and photography, recording equipment for podcasts, a green screen for film and more!

**It's your Library, Nelson and Area! Here are some of the things you might do next time you drop in:**

- Bring your wee friends to storytime, Lego-drop-in, or playgroup
- Catch an author reading, talk or presentation, or a workshop
- Use a public computer or pick up the print job you sent from home
- Join a teen book club or learn something new in a teen tech session
- Find out how to download eBooks and eAudiobooks in a one-on-one session
- Borrow a ukulele, a radon detector, or an Ozobot from our Library of Things
- Borrow from our collection of 40,000+ books, DVDs, CDs and audiobooks
- Order books from libraries across BC
- Meet your friends—or make new ones!

### YOUR LIBRARY: FRIENDLY, WELCOMING—AND 100 YEARS YOUNG!



A quiet day in the Library, 1938



Robot Day at the library, 2019



Illustration by Douglas Jones

Nelson Public Library • 602 Stanley Street • 250-352-6333 • [www.nelsonlibrary.ca](http://www.nelsonlibrary.ca)

### AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY SERVICE

For Operations emergency service, please call (250) 352-3103.

To report a power outage, electrical hazard, damage to Nelson Hydro equipment or for outage updates, please call 1-877-32HYDRO (1-877-324-9376).