



**Peterborough
Public Library**

To: Library Board of Trustees

From: Jennifer Zoethout, Library Manager/CEO

Meeting Date: March 29, 2016

Subject: Report PPL16-013
French Language Resources

Purpose

A report to inform the Library Board of matters concerning Library operations and services related to the French language.

Recommendation

That the Library Board approve Report PPL16-013, dated March 29, 2016 of the Library Manager/CEO, as follows:

That Report PPL16-013 on the Library's French Language collection be received for information.

Budget and Financial Implications

There are no budgetary or financial implications associated with receiving this report.

Background

At the Library Board meeting on February 23, 2016, the Board expressed a desire to discuss the library's French Language collection at the next meeting. In anticipation of the discussion, the Library Manager/CEO asked Staff to compile this report.

Currently the library has 1890 items in the French Language collection, with a circulation of 11,425 from 2014 - 2016. Please see Appendix A for the breakdown by type.

Staff have received very few official requests (via our "suggestions to purchase" form) to purchase French material. The majority of requests that are received are for children's books. These are likely for those who are attending local French immersion programs. Therefore, most of our budget for French materials goes towards the purchase of children's materials.

While we don't keep exact data, anecdotally Staff can say that the library has received only a handful of specific requests for adult material within a ten year period.

In the context of the population of French speakers in Peterborough, the current 2011 Census population figures show that:

- 1.14% of Peterborough's population is made up of people whose mother tongue is French.
- 0.34% of Peterborough's population speak French at home.

Recently, a request was received for a magazine called *Coup de Pouce* and Staff explained to the patron via email that the library subscribes to this electronically through the database *Library Press Display*. *Library Press Display* offers hundreds of French magazines and newspapers from all over the world.

Staff did receive a complaint that the library cancelled the print subscription to *Paris Match*. It was not circulating well enough to warrant its cost (\$199 per year), and the majority of issues circulated only once.

A service that the Library also offers patrons is Inter-Library Loan (ILLO). This allows the library to borrow books from other libraries that also participate. Staff has indicated that there are very few requests for French materials, totalling approximately 12 requests (average), per year.

Ontario Public Library Guidelines currently suggest 2 to 3 items per capita. Taking a look at the Peterborough French speaking population, there should be between 1800 and 2700 French items in the collection. Including all formats, print and electronic, the library is above the minimum.

In comparison to other libraries of similar size and population in regards to the French Language collection, the library is on par (See Appendix B). In some categories, the library has more French e-resources (due to the subscription to the Canadian Electronic Library).

Recently, a vendor agreement with Archambault was completed to help build the collection in several key areas, mainly within the children's collection: DVDs, audio books, book and CD, and easy readers.

Typically, the library spends about \$1,800 per year on print and audiovisual French materials from two suppliers.

Also available in electronic format are French titles through platforms such as:

- *Library Press Display*
- *Biblioenfants* (75+ French books, videos for children)
- *OverDrive* (about 600 titles - mostly children's)
- *Canadian Electronic Library* (ebooks)
- French health database (*Santé en français*).
- Other informational databases that the library subscribes to such as *CPIQ* have some French journals/newspapers.

In 2017, the library has increased the budget allocation for French Language titles to \$4,800 for print and audiovisual and the largest amounts are being allocated to children's materials:

Resource Type	Money allocated	Totals
Board books	150.00	
Picture books	350.00	
Fiction (Grade 3-5)	400.00	
Easy-Readers	350.00	
J Non-fiction	250.00	
JP Kits	400.00	
J Graphic Novels	400.00	
Adult Fiction	800.00	
Adult Non-fiction	400.00	
Music CD Children	150.00	
Music CD Adult	150.00	
DVD Children	400.00	
DVD Adult	100.00	
Audio books Children	400.00	
Audio books Adult	100.00	
Audiovisual		\$1,300.00
Books		\$3,500.00
Total		\$4,800.00

Staff recognizes that there is local demand mainly as a result of children attending French immersion programs; however, public libraries have historically been in the position of providing materials that complement or supplement school curricula.

Staff Contributors to report:

Laura Gardner, Collection Development Librarian

Laura Murray, Childrens Services Librarian

Marisa Giuliani, Access Services Librarian

Karen Bisschop, Information Services Librarian

Karen Clysdale, Library Technician

Submitted by,

Jennifer Zoethout

Library Manager/CEO

Contact Name:

Jennifer Zoethout, Library Manager/CEO

Phone: 705- 745-5382 Ext.2380

E-Mail: jzoethout@peterborough.ca

Appendix A: French Collection Type

Appendix B: 2014 Annual Survey Data