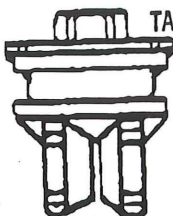


Rebecca P. Idlout LibraryBag 212 Pond Inlet, NWT
X0A 0S0

(819) 899-8972

fax 8175



aAb ΔcεDc D'bcLL'b'A'

Γ'NLCC' . Δε'ND'

X0A 0S0

N.W.T.

LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY

(819) 899-8972 FEB 1 1 1997

NWT LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY



3 1936 00045 540 0

ANNUAL REPORT - 1996.

In the last Annual Report there were two main objectives for the coming year. One of these was moving the Library into its new building, and the other was to find some way of making adult patrons make use of and feel more comfortable in the Library. These two objectives have come close to being met since the Library opened its new doors on July 4, 1996.

The past year was one of planning and activities, meetings and inspections, phone calls and faxes, letter and report writing. Use of the Library by school students, Arctic College students, pre-schoolers and their parents as well as the general public continued through until the end of April in the school portable classroom.. The Library was then closed to allow time for the sorting and dividing of the school and public collections and the packing up, moving and unpacking of furniture and materials. Due to severe budget restrictions the CFC (now DEA) made the decision for each school to house and be responsible for their own collections rather than continue as a joint use Library. Students and staff would still be welcome to use the Library as all community members during public library hours. We were thankful to the students and a number of dedicated volunteers who gave their time and help with the move. It could not have been accomplished in the time without the support of school and community.

Since the official opening day on July 4 '96 interest in the Library has increased. This has been especially apparent during the new "adult only" hours on Wednesday evenings. Many comments about the comfortable and relaxing atmosphere have been made and a number of people feel less intimidated than when the library was housed in the school. As in past summers many of the visitors to Pond Inlet came to the Library to browse and seek information. This year's most notable visitor was the Hon. Pierre E. Trudeau, past Prime Minister of Canada. Most have been surprised that a community the size of Pond Inlet has such a well used, modern library.

Early in October we celebrated Literacy Week across the NWT with an "Open House - Read for 15" event. People came to the Library to read for at least 15 minutes, or read elsewhere in the community and called in. The total of 602 readers made Pond Inlet the winner over Igloolik, our competitors, and was recorded in local and regional newspapers.

In November, to celebrate Children's Book Week in Canada, we hosted children's author Kathy Stinson. Her book "Red is Best" has always been a favorite with our pre-schoolers!

In December the Christmas season was on everyone's mind! Unfortunately, due to the lack of funding we had not been able to re-start the pre-schooler's story hour as usual in Sept. As this had always been a very worthwhile and well attended program the Library Board applied for funding under "Brighter Futures" (Community Wellness) and was approved in late December, just in time to hold the annual children's Christmas party!

Looking to the future:

Now that the initial unpacking phase is completed we have to look to the future. The Library must continue to be an active and attractive part of the local community. This can only be done with the help of an active Library Board that in turn supports the Local Librarian with program planning, fundraising and heightening the community's awareness of the need for good literacy skills.

After several years of service both as a regular member and then as Chairperson, Carl Jorgensen resigned from the Board in October. We thank him for taking us through the years of planning and moving into the new building, and for the organization of several Golf Tournaments held as fundraisers for Literacy on the sea ice each spring. Thanks also to the other Board members and the Regional Library Manager who all worked so hard this past year to make sure Pond Inlet has a Library to be proud of in the future.

Philippa Ootoowak

Philippa Ootoowak

Local Librarian.