

LINCOLN PELHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY



2025 — ANNUAL REPORT

LOOKING BACK, LOOKING AHEAD

In late 2023, LPPL launched its 2024 - 2027 Strategic Plan, the first for the merged library system. The plan set goals under four focuses: **Inspiration, Inclusion, Resilience,** and **Responsiveness.** This annual report reflects on the highlights of 2025, the mid-way point of the goals set out in the strategic plan.

As we prepare for upcoming renovations in Fonthill and Vineland, the day-to-day business of the library continues—story time for children and caregivers, help with printing and technology, and friendly conversations about the latest bestsellers. It's in these everyday moments we're reminded of the importance of literacy and the value of public libraries. In October, during Canadian Library Month, one customer shared:

“The library has had a wonderful impact on our lives. It's helped build my youngest daughter's confidence in reading. She's gone from hesitant to eager, blazing through book after book. It's also saved us a great deal of money, reducing financial strain and making reading accessible for our family. It has truly enriched our family's life in ways that reach far beyond the pages of a book.”

—an LPPL customer and parent

We're excited to keep connecting our communities—to ideas, experiences, stories, and each other.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

12,365 active cardholders

401,690 physical items borrowed

106,618 digital items borrowed

212,330 visits to a library location

1,324 programs offered

31,523 people attended a program



Julie Andrews
Chief Executive Officer



Donna Burton
Board Chair

Members of the Teen Advisory Group walking in the Fenwick Lions' Parade in May 2025.



2025 AT-A-GLANCE



**OLITA Tech Award,
OLA Superconference**

JANUARY



**Take Your Child
to the Library Days**

FEBRUARY



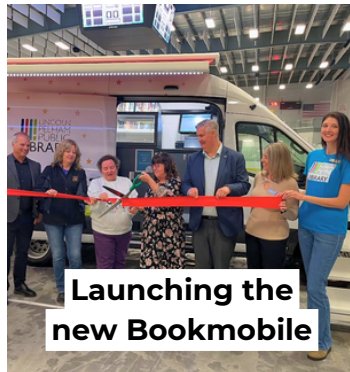
**March Break Visit
with Bluey**

MARCH



**Books on the Bench
with Emma Donoghue**

APRIL



**Launching the
new Bookmobile**

MAY



**Outreach at the
Seniors Showcase**

JUNE



**STEM Challenge
during summer**

JULY



**TD Summer Reading
Club final prize**

AUGUST



**Community Walk for
Truth & Reconciliation**

SEPTEMBER



**New shelving
installed in Fonthill**

OCTOBER



**Staff Development Day
with Michael Jacques
(Accessibility Focus)**

NOVEMBER



**Staff Holiday
Gathering**

DECEMBER

2025 HIGHLIGHTS

Provincial Accreditation and OLITA Award

In January, at the Ontario Library Association (OLA) Superconference, LPPL was recognized for achieving provincial accreditation in December 2024. The accreditation process involved a rigorous self-assessment of 190 elements covering library operations, facilities, and policies, ensuring library service met and exceeded provincial standards.

LPPL's Technical Services team was also awarded the OLITA Technology Advancing Libraries Award for its work in merging catalogues from two separate libraries into one system for LPPL. This provides customers with better access to collections across four branches and improves efficiencies for purchasing and offering a wider selection of materials.



First Year of Bookmobile Service

In spring, the Bookmobile hit the road, bringing library services to all corners of Lincoln and Pelham. Nicknamed "Paige Turner," and outfitted with more than 3,000 loanable items, the Bookmobile followed a regular two-week schedule and visited schools, senior residences, and community events.

By the end of 2025, the Bookmobile had welcomed aboard 4,493 visitors and loaned 2,138 items.

The Bookmobile was funded by the Town of Lincoln, Town of Pelham, Niagara Community Foundation (David S. Howes), Desjardins, and GivingTuesday donors.



Quiet Booths added in Vineland and Fonthill

In August, quiet booths were installed at the Fonthill and Rittenhouse Branches. Each booth features a noise-reducing fan, dimmable lights, and plugs for charging and connecting devices. Booths are free to book with a library card.

The quiet booths were funded in part by the Rittenhouse Trust (Vineland), Nancy Ward's 50 for 50 run in 2021 (Fonthill), and the generosity of individual donors.



New Shelving in Fonthill

In October, brand-new shelving was installed throughout the Fonthill Branch. This exciting update created a better browsing and borrowing experience for customers, while also ensuring shelving met Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) guidelines, removing barriers and ensuring access for all.

This upgrade was generously funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation.



New to the Shelves: ESL Collection

In April 2024, LPPL began partnering with a group of local ESL (English as a second language) teachers to lead a weekly English Conversation Circle in Beamsville. To further support newcomers and English-language learners in the community, LPPL curated a special ESL Collection. Launched in November, this new collection includes graded readers, grammar and vocabulary resources, writing guides, and career-focused materials.

This special collection was funded by the Niagara Community Foundation.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT & FUND DEVELOPMENT

Every dollar helps the library do more for the community. In 2025, LPPL received an incredible **\$214,717.82** through donations, fundraising, and grants. Thanks to every individual, business, and organization for your support.

Art and Val Fleming Fund

at the Niagara Community Foundation: **\$15,583.40**

Moses F. Rittenhouse Trust Fund

at the Niagara Community Foundation: **\$10,000**

towards a Quiet Booth in Vineland

Niagara Community Foundation Mini Grants:

- ESL Book Collection: **\$2,500**
- Two spine label printers: **\$2,373**

Art show commissions: **\$181.25**

Memorial Donations: **\$2,813.53**

Donated in memory of Marge Wallace, Joe, Patricia Bartlet, June Bowslaugh, James H. Gadsby, Robert Magee, Harold Canning, Heather Tonin, Shirley Korinek

To donate, please contact:

Cassandra Best, CFRE

Fund Development and Volunteer Coordinator

905-933-8575 | cbest@lppl.ca.



1,008 kids signed up for TD Summer Reading Club (TD SRC) which builds literacy skills during summer break.

TD SRC and summer programs are possible thanks to generous community support.

\$4,050 total donated by:

Beamsville & District Lions Club
Beamsville Women's Institute
Kiwanis Club of Welland
Ontario Power Generation

Prize Donors:

A&W Beamsville
Bird Kingdom
Bissell's Hideaway
Carousel Players
Dairy Queen Beamsville,
McDonald's Fonthill
Niagara Helicopters
Town of Lincoln
Town of Pelham
Welland Jackfish



In 2025, the Books on the Bench author series featured bestselling authors Emma Donoghue, Uzma Jalaluddin, Adam Shoalts and Alyson Richman, raising **\$18,190.38** toward future programs and services

Uzma Jalaluddin signs copies of Detective Aunty at Fielding Estate Winery, June 2025.

Thanks to series supporters:

Meridian, Niagara Peninsula Energy Inc, Walker Industries, Seasons Retirement Communities: Stoney Creek & Welland, Rose Hill Lane, Chartwell: The Orchards (in kind), Vieni Estates (in kind), Fielding Estate Winery (in kind), London Born Wine Co. (in kind)

THANKS TO 2025 DONORS*

Anonymous x 11	Erin Cox	Kumbir Vandeyar	Sandee Matthews
Aaron Kleinsmith	Fonthill Lionettes	Laura Marchio	Sandra Ferguson
Aileen Lynett	Frances Rigg	Leslie MacPherson	Sandy Kerr
Andria Lynett	Gail Julie	Linda Roote	Senthil Thiyagarajan
Alice Thies	Gail Money	Liz Rossnagel	Medicine PC
Alison Chisholm	Gayle Lucas Roth	Louise Wheaton	Sheldon McLaren
Allan & Mary Jansen	George Stephenson	Lynette Fast	Shellee Niznik
Andrew Colgoni	Georgina George	Lynne Mitchell	Sonya Markowski
Andrew Peter Jones	Gloria Furtney	M&D Mikolic Holdings Inc	Stephanie Fralick
Andria Lynett	Graham Pett	Margaret Andrewes	Stephanie Xamin
Anna Mucciante	Greg Lewis	Margaret Blazenko	Stephen Taylor
Anne & Jorg	Gwendoline MacDougall	Margaret Schoppel	Susan DiBattista
Antonia Crecco	Heather Autkar	Marie McNiven	Suzanne Larose
Beryl Smith	Heather Beale	Marilyn Stanley	Tania Szabo
Bob Genge	Heather Junke	Marilyn Walsh	Tanya Lamarre
Bob Marx	Helena Kerr	Marilyn Watson	Terri Bond
Bonnie Bader	Irene Lis	Mark & Adele Thomas	The UK Online Giving
Bonnie Brooks	Irene Masun	Martin Kicul	Foundation
Brian Eckhardt	Iris Williams	Mary Coole	Theo Blom
Carl & Sylvia Hakansson	Isobel Lamb	Mary Turner	Tiffany Janzen
Carolyn & Howard Davis	James and Judy Westell	Mary Wacasey	Tim Slack
Cassandra Trach	Jan Chamberlain	Mary-Ann Lammers	Trina Inglis
Catharine & Michael Boyd	Jan Lavigne	Maxine Gaylor	Valerie Korinek
Catherine Cookman	Jane Gadsby	Megan Jentz	Victor & Holly Dirksen
Cathy Hutchinson	Janet Damude	Michelle Lowry	Walt Sheppard
Cathy McPherson	Janet Forfar	Morgan Jacquelyn	Wayne Olson
Charles Vermeer	Jayne Toms	Nancy Jordan	Wesley and Judith Cline
Cheryl Cranley	Jennifer Hart	Nancy MacGillivray	<i>*excluding Books on the</i>
Christian Kuhl	Jill Miike	Isabel and Wayne Gale Fund	<i>Bench Author Series</i>
Christina Drummond	Jim & Cheryl Werneiwski	Oliver Cabaca	<i>ticket purchases</i>
Claire Masters	Jim Dodgson	Patricia Lindsay	
Clinton McKee	Joan McCurdy-Myers	Patricia McPherson	
Daniel Fontaine	Jocelyne Clutterbuck	Patricia Rybski	
Deborah Molokach	John & Bea Clark	Paul and Bernadette Coyne	
Diane Rawsthorn	John Swart	Paul Roth	
Dianna Kit	John Whittaker	Penny Bartok	
Dianne Richards	Julie Andrews	Peter Ward-Whate	
Don Eastman	Julie Lewis	Rachelle Mohr	
Don Hilton	June Warrack	Ralph Middleton	
Donna Burton	Karen Horton	Randy & Joni McCann	
Doreen Sproule	Kathleen Hultink	Reynolds Maxine	
Doris Steel	Kathy Laidman	Richard Corfe	
Doug Junke	Kathy Siamro	Richard Gilbert	
Doug Mole	Keith RAE	Rita Mary Cote	
Elna Gravelle	Kelly Sherwin	Root Bissonnette Walker LLP	
	Kent Reynolds	Sabine Casson	

BUILDING CONNECTIONS, BUILDING COMMUNITY

THE NEXT CHAPTER:

RENOVATING THE FONTHILL RENOVATION

An exciting \$4 million, two-phase renovation is moving forward to modernize the nearly forty-year-old Fonthill Branch.

- Phase One (\$1.5 million), fully funded by the Town of Pelham, will begin in 2026.
- Phase Two (\$2.5 million) includes the addition of an elevator, opening access to the basement and adding 3,000 square feet of public space to a reconfigured main level. Fundraising is ongoing.

Total Pledges & Donations to end of 2025:

\$1.5 million from the Town of Pelham

\$672,160.73* from the community



In October 2025, Fonthill residents Paul and Bernadette Coyne announced a leadership gift toward the Fonthill renovation, leaving only \$1.7 million to be raised. The future branch will be named the Coyne Family Branch.

**Learn more and get involved:
[LPPL.CA/FONTHILLRENO](https://lppl.ca/fonthillreno)**

THE NEXT CHAPTER:

EXPANDING THE VINELAND BRANCH

In spring 2025, \$2 million was awarded through the Green and Inclusive Community Buildings (GICB) federal fund toward a renovation and expansion of the Rittenhouse Branch. This will be the first NetZero design-build in Lincoln. Community consultation will take place in 2026, with a goal of construction between 2027 - 2029. The total project is estimated at \$5 million.

Total Pledges & Donations to end of 2025:

\$2 million from GICB federal grant

\$64,839.75* from the community



The proposed expansion will add 6,000-square-feet to the existing building.

**Learn more and get involved:
[LPPL.CA/VINELANDRENO](https://lppl.ca/vinelandreno)**

**The fundraising figures in this report are estimates and subject to change.*

2025 FINANCIALS

Revenue

Municipal Grant	\$2,274,296
Provincial Operating Grant	\$96,727
Canada Summer Jobs Grant	\$1,883
Project Grant	\$19,395
Donations	\$83,731
Self-Generated Revenue (Fees, Fines, Rentals)	\$49,842
DC Funds	\$66,600

\$2,592,474

Expenditures

Staff Salaries & Benefits	\$2,067,870
Collections	\$224,283
Programs	\$22,061
Administration	\$72,473
Insurance	\$14,907
Telephone & Internet	\$30,533
Automated Systems & Software Support	\$60,101
Transfer to Capital Reserve	\$6,423

\$2,592,474

2023 - 2026 Library Board

Donna Burton (Chair)	Ruth Gretsinger	Terry Teather
Councillor Mike Mikolic	Joanna Kocsis (former)	Jayne Toms
Councillor Shellee Niznik	Nicole Nolan	Lathie Vannabouathong
Andrew Colgoni	Linda Roote	Stephanie Xamin

Library Leadership

Julie Andrews

Chief Executive Officer

Susan DiBattista

Director of Community Engagement

Amy Guilmette

Director of Customer Experience

Jo-Anne Teeuwsen

Manager, IT and Technical Services

Locations & Hours

Fleming Branch

5020 Serena Dr, Beamsville
905-563-7014

Mon - Thurs: 10 am - 8 pm
Fri: 1 - 5 pm | Sat: 10 am - 5 pm

Maple Acre Branch

781 Canboro Rd, Fenwick
905-892-5226

Tues, Thurs, Fri: 11 am - 6 pm
Wed: 1 - 8 pm | Sat: 12 - 4 pm

Fonthill Branch

43 Pelham Town Sq, Fonthill
905-892-6443

Mon, Tues, Thurs: 10 am - 8 pm
Wed, Fri: 10 am - 5 pm | Sat: 10 am - 2 pm

Rittenhouse Branch

4080 John Charles Blvd, Vineland
905-562-5711

Mon - Thurs: 10 am - 8 pm
Fri: 1 - 5 pm | Sat: 10 am - 5 pm

Land Acknowledgment

Lincoln Pelham Public Library is on the traditional lands and territories of the Hatiwendaronk, Haudenosaunee, and Anishinaabeg, including the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the Six Nations of the Grand River, many of whom continue to live and work here today. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties (No. 3) and by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum agreement.

Lincoln Pelham Public Library recognizes the contributions and stewardship of all Indigenous Peoples, including First Nations, Métis, and Inuit. We are committed to celebrating and sharing stories from Indigenous communities and creating space for education and dialogue as we collectively acknowledge hard truths and work toward reconciliation.

 LINCOLN PELHAM
PUBLIC LIBRARY

FIND US:

lppl.ca | admin@lppl.ca | @LPPLibraryON