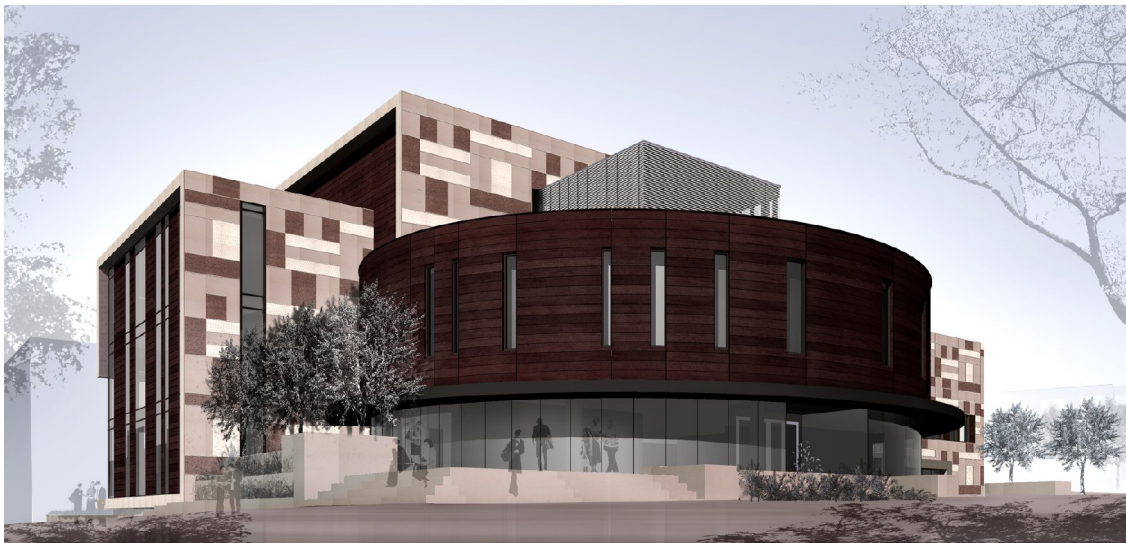


Belleville Public Library and John M. Parrott Art Gallery



Library Entrance

Belleville Public Library & Galleries

Annual Report 2008

Belleville Public Library Board
Board Members and Representatives
December 1, 2006 - 2010

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Barry Brown | Chair, Staff/Board Committee; Member, Marketing Committee; Member, Property Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Councillor Taso Christopher | Vice Chair; Member, Finance Committee; HastiNET Board Representative |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mayor Neil Ellis | Ex Officio; Member, Finance Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Mark C. Gagnon | Chief Executive Officer and Secretary-Treasurer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Jodie Jenkins | Chair, Marketing Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. Eleanor Jourard | HastiNET Board Vice Chair; Southern Ontario Library Service Board Representative (alternate) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. Beth Phieffer | Chair, Property Committee; Member, Finance Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Michael Roberts | Chair, Finance Committee; Member, Staff/Board Committee; Southern Ontario Library Service Board Representative |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. Rosemary Rooke | Chair, Staff/Board Committee; Member, Marketing Committee; Member, Property Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Councillor Garnet Thompson | Chair and Ex Officio Member on all Subcommittees; HastiNET Board Representative |



Belleville Public Library and
John M. Parrott Art Gallery
254 Pinnacle Street
Belleville, Ontario K8N 3B1

Telephone: (613) 968-6731
Facsimile: (613) 968-6841
TeleCirc: (613) 968-4708
Webpage: <http://www.bellevillelibrary.com>
E-mail: ceo@bellevillelibrary.com

Hours of Service:

Monday to Thursday
Friday
Saturday

9:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Belleville Public Library and John M. Parrott Art Gallery
Statement of Core Values

- ✓ Quality Service: We are committed to providing the highest possible quality service.
- ✓ Equitable Access: We are committed to providing open and equitable access to all Belleville citizens regardless of race, religion, age or ability.
- ✓ Respectful Relationships: We are committed to creating an environment and forging relationships with all our stakeholders based on mutual respect, trust and integrity. This includes developing an organizational culture based on open communication, teamwork and cooperation and that fosters creativity, recognizes staff contributions and achievements and actively supports the Library as a learning organization committed to ensuring that staff, volunteers, Board members and other contributors have the skills necessary to provide quality services and programs.
- ✓ Community Engagement: We will actively engage the community and work collaboratively with other community service providers in order to make a positive and meaningful contribution to the quality of life in our community and maximize the Library's resources and programs.
- ✓ Leadership and Innovation: We will develop and deliver an innovative and diverse menu of quality, up-to-date resources that respond to the ever-evolving needs of our community.
- ✓ Fiscal Responsibility/Accountability: We will operate on the basis of fiscal responsibility and accountability to our stakeholders.
- ✓ Privacy & Confidentiality: We respect individual privacy and confidentiality of personal information.
- ✓ Intellectual Freedom: We support intellectual freedom and encourage diversity and freedom of speech within an environment of tolerance and respect. We oppose censorship, and will not include hate literature in our collections.
- ✓ Literacy: We are committed to the support and promotion of literacy for all people.

Vision Statement: The Belleville Public Library and Art Gallery: Your accessible link with the world, providing opportunities for personal inspiration, enrichment, and recreation in a welcoming environment.

Mission Statement: Through community partnerships and in response to an evolving social, cultural and economic environment, the Belleville Public Library and John M. Parrott Art Gallery provides equitable access to information and creative expression.

Long-Range Goals:

1. Develop a sustainable financial model.
2. Increase awareness, use and relevancy of the Library and Art Gallery to the community, including the forging of new partnerships and programming initiatives. Focus on services of value and create a marketing plan.
3. Increase and improve the collections.
4. Improve accessibility. (Continue to monitor access to facility at appropriate times, to improve access and to make it a comfortable environment).
5. Ensure staff are appropriately deployed and capable of delivering the required services.

Approved by the Belleville Public Library Board
September 13, 2005

Chief Executive Officer's Annual Report for 2008

Greetings! I want to thank the Library Staff and the Library Board Members for making 2008 another very successful year for the Belleville Public Library and John M. Parrott Art Gallery. This past year marked a dramatic shift in the number and types of programming offered in the Children & Youth Services Department of the Library and the development of new programming ideas in the Gallery and by the Reader's Advisory Desk. I want to specially thank everyone in the Children & Youth Services Department, at the Reader's Advisory Desk and in the Gallery for their efforts in working and experimenting with new programme initiatives.

I would like to touch briefly on the events of last year as a way of providing some structure to all the activity in 2008:

We received several significant donations in 2008. I am very pleased to announce the receipt of a donation of \$25,000.00 from the Parrott Foundation in response to the Library Board's request for support of a Gallery-related project. The Parrott Foundation have instructed that the donation to be used to repair, cleaning and reframing of the Manly MacDonald Collection. We also took receipt of a very large and valuable Grandfather Clock donated by Dr. Russell and Mrs. Lorraine Scott valued at \$15,000.00 as well as the donation of artwork in the form of a Manley Macdonald painting by Dr. Robert Erlich valued at \$7,000.00. While these donations were significant they were not alone; the Belleville Public Library and John M. Parrott Art Gallery was fortunate enough to receive donations from a total of seventeen different donors.

2008 is the year we started sorting through a backlog of outstanding Human Resources policy issues including Performance Evaluations and long-range plans for Staff Training. We conducted a Professional Development Day on Friday 6 June 2008. Sessions this year will included information on Workplace Safety (conducted by Belleville Police Services) and Fire Safety (Belleville Fire Services), building evacuation procedures, and open and close procedures for the building. We also formed a collection development/purchasing committee in an effort to establish a more well-rounded collection in the Library.

In January of 2008 we started a new partnership with the Rotary Club in Belleville. We now host a new literacy initiative in partnership with Rotary International and Hastings County Social Services; this programme started with an official launch and media event that took place on 14 January 2008 in the Gallery.

The work on the new Library Webpage was completed by OSM Networks in June of 2008 making the new Library webpage will be our primary advertising tool and community information portal. Having said that, we have not altogether abandoned print resources; the Library maintained a regular advertisement appearing in the Intelligencer (starting December 2007) which allowed us to highlight various events and will act as a reminder to the public at large that the Library offers programming and events as well as our traditional services. We also have a five minute spot on CJBQ 800 AM Radio once a month where we continue to announce Library programmes and events.

The 2nd Anniversary of the Opening of the New Building was celebrated on Saturday 31 May 2008 with Singer/Songwriter “Jake” in a musical performance for children run out of the Children’s Programming Room and in the Courtyard/Reading Garden.

This year the Olive Delaney Award was presented to Erik Yao, one of our student employees who performed extremely well in his duties and made a positive contribution to the internal life of the Belleville Public Library and John M. Parrott Art Gallery. Erik Yao was nominated for this award by Fanny Tom, Circulation Department Supervisor.

The Library Board (specifically the Property Committee) and the Friends of the Library continue to work in partnership for the refurbishment of the Library Foyer. The Property Committee met and did a visioning exercise, out of which a fairly clear idea as to how the Foyer should eventually evolve into as a “place.” The Friends provided input from drawings and discussion at the same meetings (I would like to thank Mary McBride and Claire Grant for their work).

This Christmas past saw the First Annual Library Board / Staff Tree Decorating Party. We purchased a new Christmas Tree (a six-and-a-half foot pre-lighted tree) and everyone was invited to bring baking and ornaments to place on the “Holiday Tree.”

In conclusion I would like to thank everyone for all of their hard work in 2008. We start 2009 with a better idea about this building functions, and like everything else life there are good things and bad things and the dynamic between the two keeps it all interesting.

Thank you!

Mark C. Gagnon, CEO

Financial Report 2008
(subject to audit)

LIBRARY SERVICES AT A GLANCE

Library Services

- access to the library database from home via the Internet
- request and renewal of material via the Internet or TeleCirc
- library workstations to search the Internet at no cost
- interlibrary loan service for titles not in the library's collection
- staff assistance in finding the material you need
- Visiting Library Service delivery, if you are unable to visit the library in person
- Gallery exhibitions, Third Thursday, Gallery Programmes, The Write Way and other Book Discussion Groups and special programs
- Children's story times, craft programs and special events
- Rental of the Meeting rooms for meetings, projection equipment for business or personal use
- photocopiers in the library

Library Collections

- 44,600 Reference books, government publications and CD-ROMs
- 33,254 adult and 17,392 children's non-fiction books
- 18,044 adult and 2,837 children's fiction books, including 412 graphic novels
- 7,278 children's paperbacks, 8,688 children's picture books and 1,025 board books
- 6,298 large print books
- 6,317 adult paperbacks
- 785 high interest / low vocabulary books
- 2,428 adult and 579 children's talking books
- 1,746 adult informational videocassettes and 829 entertainment videos / DVDs
- 2,447 children's videocassettes / DVDs
- 4,193 adult and 125 children's current periodical issues
- 626 adult and 1,061 children's French books
- 753 adult and 300 children's Chinese books
- 40 adult and 102 children's Spanish books
- 154 adult and 446 children's Korean books
- 137 Dutch, 152 German, 26 Polish, 41 Greek, 154 Vietnamese books

Statistical Report 2008

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|---------|
| • Memberships: | Non Resident | 637 |
| | Patron | 19,452 |
| • Circulation of library materials | | 308,315 |
| • Library adult programmes attendance | | 2,448 |
| • Library children's programmes attendance | | 2,050 |
| • Library visits and tour attendance | | 1,960 |
| • Art Gallery | | |
| | Attendance (including Opening) | 7,707 |
| | Facilities Rental - Events | 142 |
| | Facilities Rental - People | 2,401 |
| • Internet Home Page visitors | | 303,185 |

INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2008

This is an interesting time to be working in Information Services. Technology continues to advance, and our staff have been keeping up, through workshops and training sessions. An important development for Information Services and Reader's Advisory staff was Belleville's participation in askON (Ask Ontario) when the pilot project expanded to include 22 Ontario public libraries. Preparation and the training of 7 staff occupied much of the summer, so we could be ready for the launch on September 8. Belleville patrons can now click on the askON logo on our website, and engage in real-time chat with reference staff, 12:30-8:30 Monday to Thursday, and 12:30-5:30 Friday and Saturday, to get help with finding online information on any subject for school or personal interest.

Information Services/RA staff benefited from workshops on Website Makeover; Collections: From Evaluation to Action Remedies; and Helping Genealogists Climb Family Trees. As a result, we were able to provide input into what our redesigned website should look like, we are doing a major weeding and updating of the adult nonfiction, and we have increased our knowledge of genealogical resources in print and online.

Another technological improvement in 2008 was the conversion of our database of Birth, Marriage and Death records to Excel, with much help from people at the OGS Quinte Branch. It is now easily accessible to staff at the desk when answering questions and we hope that this, along with our newspaper index, will be available to the public on our website in the near future.

Our patrons benefit from our online subscription databases. Ancestry Library Edition, only accessible inside the library, is by far the most popular, with an average of 69 sessions and over 1500 searches recorded each month. Other databases, accessible through our website as well as in the library, still require more promotion.

Overwhelming response to our computer classes indicated that our patrons are keen on updating their computer skills. Classes filled rapidly as soon as they were announced. We offered instruction on Basic computer use, E-mail, Internet searching, Word processing, Genealogy (Ancestry.com), and Online health resources. Reader's Advisory staff encourage use of our fiction collection by offering afternoon and evening Fireside Book Clubs. Write Way draws a small but enthusiastic group of writers to share their work monthly, and an Evening Authors series promotes the work of local authors who welcome the opportunity to talk about and sell their books.

Our staff complement this year remained the same as last, with a total of 11 Information Services and Reader's Advisory staff, including 1 full-time and 1 part-time Professional Librarians, 4 full-time Library Assistants, and 5 part-time Library Assistants. Besides helping patrons at two service desks find what they want, our staff are kept busy with behind-the-scenes work. This includes interlibrary loans, answering Ask a Librarian and other e-mailed requests for information, materials selection, weeding outdated materials, cataloguing electronic (online) documents, periodical collection maintenance, shelving and filing, local scrapbook maintenance, newspaper indexing, updating our births-marriages-deaths database, arranging book displays, and more.

For the future, we hope to do more adult programming as time permits, and offer volunteer-run homework help for students. Through all the changes in technology and in the ways we deliver information, our

Information Services and Reader's Advisory staff remain committed to providing the best possible service in meeting the needs of our patrons.

Elizabeth Mitchell,
Head of Information Services

STATISTICS REPORT

Service Area	Information Services	Month / Year	Annual 2008
COLLECTIONS :		Microform volumes added	59
PROGRAMMES :		# of programmes	# of people
Computer classes		96	251
Research visits		15	151
Tours		8	105
Fireside Book Clubs		17	65
Write Way		6	35
Evening Authors series		6	197
DATABASE USE :		# of sessions	
Ebscohost		853	
Facts on File		86	
World Book		138	
Grolier		142	
Ancestry Library Edition		595	In-library use only. May, June, August statistics not available.
Knowledge Ontario		2001	
Library Blog visits		2606	

SUMMARY :

Genealogy and local history paid requests answered: 20 (33 in 2007). Of these, 13 were initiated by e-mail, 1 by phone, and 6 by letter or fax.

Questions received through Ask a Librarian totalled 175 (179 in 2007). Of these, 105 were from Belleville, 36 from other places in Ontario, 9 from the rest of Canada, and 25 from the U.S. and other countries.

Computer instruction sessions: Information Services staff gave a total of 73 computer lessons in 2008 (96 in 2007). Attendance was 325 people (251 in 2007). Cutting back the number of classes, but phoning to remind people paid off in having all 6 places filled for most sessions.

Interlibrary loans : Interlibrary loan requests for Belleville patrons were down significantly compared with last year, with 1,952 requests sent out on behalf of our patrons (2,463 in 2007), and 1,638 items received for our patrons (2,174 in 2007). This was mainly the result of the reciprocal borrowing agreement with Quinte West; previously, our patrons had to use interlibrary loan to get materials from Quinte West. We received significantly more requests from other libraries compared to last year, getting 4,347 requests

(2,742 in 2007); however, the number of items we sent out was only slightly higher, with 1,771 items sent to other libraries (1,628 in 2007).

Research visits and tours –

Class visits continued to decline in 2008, with only 2 class visits for research in the Information Services department, and no other groups coming for research periods or instruction from staff. Now that the new library has been open for over two years, fewer groups have come for tours; there were only 4 tours in 2008: one group of Red Hat Ladies, and 3 school classes (Sir John A. Macdonald, Trenton High School, and Sagonask

Elizabeth Mitchell,
Head of Information Services

READER'S ADVISORY DESK ANNUAL REPORT 2008

2008 has been a year of change and innovation in the Reader's Advisory Department. Over the course of the year it has been our mission to improve adult programming and our commitment to customer service. Existing programs have been expanded and new programs were created to address community needs and to increase patronage at the Belleville Public Library & John M. Parrott Art Gallery.

With a rapidly changing local economy the dependence on our internet computers has never been greater. Patron demand has led to a greater dependence on the Reader's Advisory staff to provide support and guidance for our internet users. This means we are frequently attempting to troubleshoot equipment and internet connectivity issues while minimizing downtime. In 2009 we hope to begin work on implementing a technology plan in order to expand and improve the internet services at the Belleville Public Library & John M. Parrott Art Gallery.

We continue to take advantage of the relationship that has been developed with the Belleville Intelligencer. The library has a weekly column that runs on each Monday promoting our expanding array of events as well as providing information and newsworthy library related information.

We have reorganized portions of our circulating fiction collections in order to improve circulation and patron use of these collections. The video and music collections have been moved to a central location in order to highlight these rapidly growing collections. This has allowed expanding the area for our Audio Book collections which has eliminated the issue with overcrowding that collection. In addition we have continued to grow and develop the Large Print and Fiction collections.

In 2008 we expanded the Fireside Book club to include both evening and daytime sessions. The daytime sessions take place on the third Tuesday at 1:30pm of each month and the evening sessions take place on the last Monday of the month at 6:30pm. Attendance has continued to grow as more of our patrons find out about the book clubs.

The Evening Author Series was added over the last year. This program was instituted to promote new, local and established authors at the library. In connection with the Gallery we have had authors such as Richard Dominico (Tarp Shack), Steve Mercer (Claiming Nunavut), David Carpenter (Twelve Trees), Vicki

Delany (In The Shadow Of The Glacier), and Gerry Boyce (Belleville: Popular History) . This program continues to be promoted and new authors are being sought to participate.

The Write Way program was also initiated in 2008. This program provides a safe environment for authors to give and receive constructive criticism of their work. This is a registration event with the maximum number of spaces available set at 10 members. Membership has been reasonably consistent with new space becoming available for 2009.

Finally new programming was established for teens. A series of monthly Coffee Houses was established in order to encourage positive teen participation in the Library. A different theme and activity are planned monthly and a Teen Advisory Group has been established in order to facilitate continued interest from our teenaged patrons. In 2009 the Children's department will be taking over this program.

Reader's Advisory is committed to developing Adult Programming, community outreach and improved customer service for 2009. We look forward to the challenges in the coming year.

Joel Nash
LA 1 Reader's Advisory Department

CHILDREN'S & YOUTH SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT 2008

It was another wonderful year for the children's and youth services staff to see how our services and programs had rapidly grown to reach out to more of the children and their families in the community. Thank to the endeavor to build a kid-friendly children's area and to build strong teamwork in the previous year, we started to grow in every aspect of our programs, services and collection in 2008. Overall, the children's book circulation was up 5,000 more than the previous year, and there were 1,500 more people attending our programs.

Throughout the year, the collection for kids from newborns to teens has been updating continuously. Various reading materials for each age group were introduced and poorly maintained non-fictions were strengthened. A constant weeding process has been carried on to make the new collection visible, and endless staff effort and time has been involved to make them easy to access.

For the March Break week, we could accommodate more families with kids in different age groups by offering programs one for older kids and the other for younger kids at the same time. 450 people attended the whole week program. T.V Turn off week was another successful week to bring families to the library.

Sold out tickets for Family concert "Rhythm and Stomp", hosted by CFUW, proved once again that the library is a crucial place for the whole family, and helped us to see the needs of family related programs and services in the library.

Summer Olympics in China inspired us to have a game and competition oriented 2008 summer program. To win Gold or Silver or Bronze medals, kids had to participate in programs and to read more. 320 kids

participated in the summer reading program to win prizes donated from businesses. The Beach party in the library courtyard was a fun-filled day for the kids, their family and even for us.

Every P.A day through the year, we offered special programs or workshops to kids and families who were looking for extra-curricular activities.

Saturday programs starting from September surely have brought more families to the library for family concerts, movies, and programs tied into a story.

To draw teenagers to the library, Teen Coffee House was open in September as Lara Kinnear who has teens in her mind was willing to take a job as a host. Her wonderful fresh ideas have made each program fun and successful.

Storytime for kids ages 2-5 was offered in Spring, Fall and Winter three times a week. To make each storytime fun and interesting, we always looked for fresh and creative craft ideas, did room decoration and book displays on the theme of each storytime. It has been our great pleasure to see new kids and their parents show up and to see our displays emptied quickly.

Recognizing the value of class visits as a way to reach out to school age kids, we have been offering various theme based programs and activities like learning book genres and DDC.

Over the year, Janna Colton, Lori Cantelo, and Beverly Kay, always had to run on their feet to make every single program worth attending and to make each library visit pleasant for our patrons.

I would like to thank all of them for their hard work and for our teamwork based on one vision to see today's little ones grow to be our future patrons and life long readers. Also I am so thankful to work with Mark Gagnon, C.E.O, who is sharing the same vision and supporting our work.

Thank you.

Soyoung Lee
Children's and Youth Services Librarian.

CIRCULATION SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT 2008

2008 was a particularly busy year for Circulation. We circulated a total of 308,307 items, in which 218,194 were Adult material and 90,113 were Children material. 3,097 new patrons were registered and \$40,234.09 in fines (including lost and damaged material) was collected. 106 seniors enrolled in our popular Visiting Library Service, made possible by 8 volunteer drivers who delivered a total of 9,369 items to these homebound patrons in the Belleville area.

In September, two General Assistants left us to pursue higher education: Erik Yao (recipient of the 2008 Olive Delaney Award), and Alanna Williams. Although we were sad to see them leave, we wished them success in their university endeavour. We were lucky to have three new members join our staff: Brenda Weaver, who transferred from Gallery to circulation part-time clerical; Kathy Bortolin and Dave Berkers as General Assistants. Welcome to Circulation!

Our team currently consists of 3 full-time and 4 part-time clericals: Cheryl, Sheila and Maureen are full-time; Marnie, Lynda, Marie and Brenda are part-time. Maureen devotes over 70% of her time selecting books for the 106 Visiting Library Service patrons. We also have 4 part-time General Assistants on board: Jenna, Sharlene, Dave and Kathy. Together, we are responsible for the entire library's circulation. With varying schedules, looking after circulation is a huge undertaking and often extremely hectic; we work together to provide reception, registration, renewals, signing in and out materials, and we attend to queries from the public and resolve record and monetary issues pertaining to their library cards. In addition, we try our best to ensure that materials can be efficiently checked-in and re-shelved in a timely manner.

It was exciting to see positive changes to our work environment. Ergonomics in the workplace is an ongoing concern to the health and safety of staff. The height of certain sections of the Circulation Desk has been lowered to allow for better face to face interaction with the public and to ease the exchange of materials. After two years since the new library's inception, we look forward to improving the book drop in 2009 as it is causing repetitive muscle overuse in staff and potentially increasing the risk of lower back injury.

Our caring, friendly and knowledgeable Staff look forward to another enthusiastic year at the Belleville Public Library.

Fanny Tom
Circulation Supervisor

TECHNICAL SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT 2008

The Technical Services Department of the Belleville Public Library is responsible for processing the new and donated material that comes into the library. Each item needs a bibliographic record and an item record to make it accessible to the patrons. The items then require labels and protection. Many types of items are available in our library. There are hard and soft cover books - fiction and nonfiction; music and audio CDs; DVDs - fiction and non-fiction; videocassettes and talking books (audio tape). The library

provides both circulating material and reference material. Each type of media requires unique record formats and processing methods. There are many steps needed to produce the finished product.

Before the items come into the library the department is responsible for entering records reflecting the new items being ordered. Once the items arrive at the library, they are unpacked and marked 'received'. Materials no longer needed in the collection come back to the department to be deleted from the system and physically marked for discard. Repairing damaged items and re-cataloguing items that have disappeared from the database (too many to count) are also part of the Department's responsibility as well as making changes due to new procedures in the library.

This year with over 10,000 new items entering the system and over 2000 items leaving the library for sale at the Friends of the Library bookstore the Technical Services Department was kept very busy! An admirable job was done by everyone in the department. Many thanks go to Marilyn Bennett and Elizabeth Sceviour for their dedication and hard work.

Cheryl Bough
Technical Services Supervisor.

JOHN M. PARROTT ART GALLERY ANNUAL REPORT 2008

In 2008, the Art Gallery welcomed 10,150 visitors to our opening receptions, exhibitions, regular programs, co-operative programs and tours.

The work shown varied each month and included: fibre art, paintings, needlework, clay, glass, photography, sculpture and prints, in a mix of solo and group shows. We also exhibited a variety of craft, collections and community group displays throughout the year in our Corridor Gallery. Our annual exhibitions included The Belleville Art Association and the Secondary School students show, as well as our own 6th annual Juried Show themed "At My Age" and the Quinte Arts Council Juried Show.

A particularly important exhibition was held in Gallery 2 in September. "Celebrating Elders" was women's torsos, cast in clay, an instillation by Peta Hall. This exhibit not only increased our numbers and brought many new faces into the gallery, but also served as an educational and experiential tool for the public.

We sold 52 pieces of artwork generating \$2,100.00 in commissions. Other revenue in the amount of \$1,200.00 was generated by the entry fee for our juried show.

Our school groups totaled 1,200 students in 56 visits. We continue to add new school visits and are exceptionally pleased to introduce these children to a variety of visual experiences and to promote discussion about what they have seen, and how they see it!

The meeting rooms saw quite a bit of activity with internal meetings, programs and Library Board and committee meetings. We rented the facilities 161 times in 2008 with 2,800 people attending.

The John M. Parrott Art Gallery got a new logo in '08 and we distributed 5,000 new rack cards both locally and out of town. This marketing tool will continue to help to raise the profile of the gallery and to attract art

lovers from near and far. Our new website will serve to attract the techno-savvy art lovers as well! With the possible installation of display cabinets in the foyer, we can reach more visitors.

Looking ahead to 2009, we have planned a diverse schedule of exhibitions and hope to attract even more of the community this coming year. We have a good balance of well known, experienced artists and newer emerging artists. It seems that the John M. Parrott Art Gallery is an ideal setting for Fibre Art Exhibitions and we have had many inquiries from groups from other cities who are interested in bringing their work here. As we hosted the Kingston Fibre Artists in 2008, we will bring in other groups bi-annually to complement our local fibre groups.

At the end of 2008 we retired our long running program, the Brown Bag Lunch due to falling numbers and many similar activities in the community. We intend to expand our programming with more arts related events such as workshops, art talks, films and much more! We're very excited to be able to provide more art in the galleries! As is evident by the comments of our visitors and the requests of artists both near and far to exhibit their work here, the John M. Parrott Art Gallery is a real gem in this community. It serves as the only public art gallery in the Quinte region and is cherished by those who love art.

Susan Holland, Curator

MAINTENANCE ANNUAL REPORT 2008

There were two major highlights this year: The first was having a second janitor in our building that has done a colossal job in insuring that dust is neutralized in the Library. We are seeing the difference every day and the air quality has improved tremendously. The second was having the siding of the building removed and getting the color that was originally meant to be there. It has had a major and positive impact on staff and patrons alike.

Our setting up for functions due to room rentals and events continues to keep us very busy and we are continually improving in making our facility pleasant to be in and user friendly.

Attendance at the library fluctuates between six and eight hundred patrons a day and we can see that our Library is a very popular place to be on a daily basis in downtown Belleville.

We look forward to yet another year that will see some improvements building wise.

Bernard C Noel

Building Superintendent
Belleville Public Library and
John M. Parrott Art Gallery