



# **Strategic Plan 2023-2025**



**Our mission:**  
**Hazelton District Public Library**  
**inspires literacy, discovery and**  
**lifelong learning.**

The Hazelton District Public Library (HDPL) is located on the bank of the Skeena River in historic downtown Old Hazelton. Although the population of the Village of Hazelton is only 300 people, the HDPL provides library services to a great number of communities scattered across our region. Residents of the Kispiox Valley living up to 40 kilometres north of the library, those in Witset 40 km to the east, all the way west to Gitwangak and Gitanyow, 75 km away, and all points in between are members of our library.

#### LIBRARY OBJECTIVES

- To serve as a center for information.
- To assemble, preserve and administer print and digital organized collections for the enjoyment of all.
- To share materials and resources with other libraries and community organizations.
- To provide educational, civic, cultural and innovation and creative activities.
- To support programs that provide literacy opportunities within the library and within the communities of the Upper Skeena.
- To create a welcoming environment.

#### PRIORITIES AND GOALS

The Board of Trustees of the Hazelton District Public Library have identified three key priorities and goals for each that will guide our decisions and operations for 2023 - 2025.

**Literacy priority:** Programming, Partnerships, Collection

**Community priority:** Participation in community events, Networking

**Our Space priority:** Welcoming interior, Accessibility, Local and Indigenous art display space

#### IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

This strategic plan identifies the goals and strategic directions for the HDPL over the next three years. Based on these strategic directions, staff will develop a detailed workplan with timelines, deliverables and responsibilities. Progress on the strategic plan will be assessed and reported to the Board on a quarterly basis, indicating the actions delivered towards accomplishing the strategic directions and moving towards the goals. Key performance indicators will be identified and will be monitored and reported on an annual basis, where possible. The strategic plan will be reviewed annually to assess changes to the current situation, including internal and external factors, and strategic directions will be updated if required. We will also find ways to engage with the community to report on and check in on how we're doing. We welcome feedback from the community at any time!

## PRIORITY 1 - LITERACY

Provide literacy opportunities to the public.

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### GOALS:

1. Programming
2. Partnerships
3. Collection

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### LITERACY PROGRAMMING ACTIONS

- Re-start preschool story times as we have re-opened our space after the pandemic.
- Having our young community members read to our elders to increase literacy for both participants.
- Staff and patrons produce podcasts or short video clips for library services and community events. This adds the dimension of technology literacy to reading / writing literacy.

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### LITERACY PARTNERSHIP ACTIONS

- Francophone community partnerships – AFFNO, local francophone organizations and families, etc.
- Continue to prioritize indigenous librarianship in partnership with Canadian and Global indigenous librarians. This will, in turn, allow us to ensure our collection research tools work effectively with local indigenous knowledge and language.
- Create or enhance partnerships with schools and education societies in our communities. Provide resources and assistance as they request.

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### LITERACY COLLECTION ACTIONS

- Increase our non-English language collection for children and adults
- Enhance our Large Print collection
- Enhance our Audio Book collection as these items are still in demand but no longer easily available for patrons to purchase. The collection also serves patrons who have sight or print difficulties.

## PRIORITY 2 - COMMUNITY

The library is a public, non-partisan resource and partner: working with other organizations, sharing resources, and providing support, collaboration, guidance, and leadership through programs, services, activities and collections.

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### GOALS:

1. Participation in community events
2. Networking

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### COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION ACTIONS

- Increase library attendance at local community events such as Pioneer Day, Christmas celebrations, Indigenous Peoples Day and other events put on by our communities and partners.

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### COMMUNITY NETWORKING ACTIONS

- Include a literary fact and/or a “Did you know?” type entry in the Browser on a weekly basis.
- Create library information pamphlets such as; “Local art at the Hazelton library”; History of libraries in Hazelton, create interior signs such as “Where do I find information on the tough questions?”. Distribute as appropriate.
- Increase our library profile in major social media platforms – Each platform connects with a certain demographic, and we want to make sure all groups are covered.

## PRIORITY 3 – OUR SPACE

Patrons will have welcoming physical spaces for social interaction, calm activity and exchange of information. They will have open and accessible spaces that support networking using current technologies.

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### GOALS:

1. Welcoming interior
2. Accessibility
3. Local and Indigenous art display space

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### OUR WELCOMING SPACE ACTIONS

- Upgrade our interior signage – use multiple languages where appropriate, use icons or pictures to identify collection areas.
- Upgrade furniture and equipment to allow more prominent book display and storage.

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### OUR SPACE ACCESSIBILITY ACTIONS

- Change and/or increase our opening hours to provide library access to those who require early evening hours to be able to attend the library. Discussions with patrons on future open hours changes that they would like to see.
- Participation in the accessibility committee with the Village of Hazelton

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### OUR ART DISPLAY SPACE ACTIONS

- Request proposals from local artists to provide interior mural art for the library
- Use vacant wall space to exhibit an art and media display of local talent when not required for library displays.