



The Corporation of the County of Wellington Information, Heritage and Seniors Committee Agenda

May 11, 2016

Library Portion 6:00 pm

Terrace Boardroom

Members: Warden Bridge; Councillors Black (Chair), Anderson, Driscoll, Watters; Lucia Costanzo, Jennifer Dixon, Janice Sheppard, Walter Trachsel

	Pages
1. Call to Order	
2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest	
3. Library Board	
3.1 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest	
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3.8 Items for Information	
3.8.1 The History of 9 Station Street, Hillsburgh	19 - 25
3.8.2 Architect Presents Two Innovative Design Concepts for New Hillsburgh Library Article, Wellington Advertiser, April 2016	26 - 26
3.8.3 Keeping the Past Alive, Article, Wellington Advertiser, April 2016	27 - 27
3.8.4 Bev Picken Retirement Tea Invitation	28 - 28
4. Closed Meeting	
5. Rise and Report	
6. Adjournment	
Next meeting date June 8, 2016 or at the call of the Chair.	



County of Wellington
Library Services
Statement of Operations as of
30 Apr 2016

	Annual Budget	April Actual \$	YTD Actual \$	YTD Actual %	Remaining Budget
Revenue					
Grants and Subsidies	\$157,500	\$78,876	\$78,876	50%	\$78,624
Municipal Recoveries	\$27,000	\$0	\$0	0%	\$27,000
Licenses, Permits and Rents	\$35,000	\$1,458	\$12,009	34%	\$22,991
User Fees & Charges	\$83,900	\$8,808	\$28,688	34%	\$55,212
Sales Revenue	\$7,900	\$732	\$2,958	37%	\$4,942
Other Revenue	\$0	\$204	\$1,660	0%	\$(1,660)
Total Revenue	\$311,300	\$90,077	\$124,191	40%	\$187,109
Expenditures					
Salaries, Wages and Benefits	\$4,011,900	\$328,414	\$1,306,454	33%	\$2,705,446
Supplies, Material & Equipment	\$812,500	\$50,105	\$302,343	37%	\$510,157
Purchased Services	\$908,600	\$79,498	\$388,657	43%	\$519,943
Insurance & Financial	\$24,000	\$(3)	\$25,265	105%	\$(1,265)
Minor Capital Expenses	\$83,000	\$0	\$0	0%	\$83,000
Debt Charges	\$690,200	\$6,174	\$255,098	37%	\$435,102
Internal Charges	\$800	\$350	\$1,590	199%	\$(790)
Total Expenditures	\$6,531,000	\$464,537	\$2,279,408	35%	\$4,251,592
NET OPERATING COST / (REVENUE)	\$6,219,700	\$374,460	\$2,155,217	35%	\$4,064,483
Transfers					
Transfers from Reserves	\$(269,900)	\$0	\$0	0%	\$(269,900)
Transfer to Capital	\$176,000	\$0	\$176,000	100%	\$0
Transfer to Reserves	\$1,200,000	\$0	\$1,200,000	100%	\$0
Total Transfers	\$1,106,100	\$0	\$1,376,000	124%	\$(269,900)
NET COST (REVENUE)	\$7,325,800	\$374,460	\$3,531,217	48%	\$3,794,583



County of Wellington

03-May-2016

Library Services

Capital Work-in-Progress Expenditures By Departments

All Open Projects For The Period Ending April 30, 2016

	LIFE-TO-DATE ACTUALS						
	Approved	April	Current	Previous		% of	Remaining
	Budget	Actual	Year	Years	Total	Budget	Budget
Aboyne Facility Improvements	\$820,000	\$0	\$0	\$106,166	\$106,166	13 %	\$713,834
Palmerston Branch Exp	\$3,500,000	\$105,769	\$647,370	\$2,848,562	\$3,495,932	100 %	\$4,068
Palmerston Br Coll Enhancement	\$50,000	\$199	\$47,210	\$8,764	\$55,974	112 %	-\$5,974
Self Check out Drayton & MtFor	\$70,000	\$0	\$2,440	\$30,256	\$32,697	47 %	\$37,303
New Hillsburgh Library	\$1,000,000	\$12,578	\$817,892	\$259,451	\$1,077,343	108 %	-\$77,343
Marden Branch Outdoor Sign	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0 %	\$50,000
Palm Branch Outdoor Sign	\$30,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0 %	\$30,000
eBook Collection Enhancement	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0 %	\$50,000
Two Self Check-Out Terminals	\$31,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0 %	\$31,000
Interactive Programme Equip	\$45,000	\$4,241	\$4,654	\$0	\$4,654	10 %	\$40,346
Rkwd Branch Int Lighting	\$25,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0 %	\$25,000
Total Library Services	\$5,671,000	\$122,787	\$1,519,566	\$3,253,199	\$4,772,765	84 %	\$898,235



COUNTY OF WELLINGTON

COMMITTEE REPORT

To: Chair and Members of the Library Board
From: Murray McCabe, Chief Librarian
Date: Wednesday, May 11, 2016
Subject: Summary of Library Activities, April 2016

Background:

To provide the Library Board with a brief overview of events and activities from across the library system.

Staffing:

An open house and tea will be held on May 28th for Bev Picken, Erin Branch Supervisor to wish her well in her retirement following 23 years of service in the library system. The tea will be held at the library and a notice of the event has been given to the public.

Barb Burrows, Palmerston Branch Supervisor has also just announced her plan to retire following a 34 year career in library service. The library has June 18th circled on the calendar for this retirement tea which will be held at the newly renovated library. Invitations for Barb's send-off are forthcoming.

We have a number of staff moving around the system at the moment a result of retirements and maternity leaves which create new opportunities for staff looking to further their careers. This situation mirrors the transition taking place in all municipalities. The County's Human Resources department does an excellent job in helping the library system track and fill positions in a timely manner.

Monthly Library Statistics:

Our package of statistics this month shows how use of the new Fergus library skyrocketed after it opened last year with inspiring attendance and circulation. Following a year of activity the branch seems to have reached a more normal level of use. The new Palmerston library not unlike Fergus has witnessed a significant increase in use and circulation of materials in its first month of operation. Other libraries in the system have also witnessed a steady growth in use, attributable to dedicated and welcoming staff and a move to highlight our collections more prominently based on our work with library vendor Whitehots of Aurora, Ontario.

Hillsburgh Library Plans:

Following the April board meeting +VG Architects have been sent a few more public comments cards staff have received regarding wants and wishes for the project. The Chief Librarian has also forwarded more comments and suggestions regarding the design presented by Mr. Sapounzi in April.

Enclosed in this month's board package is a well-researched and interesting report from the Museum and Archives on the history of 9 Station Street and the Hillsburgh pond. The report includes a good overview of how the Hillsburgh area was associated with the Gooderham and Worts Distillery in Toronto. As most will be aware, the distillery district has become a significant attraction in that city. I

am hopeful that we can find a way in the future of linking the cooperage that once existed in Hillsburgh and its supply of barrels to the distillery in Toronto.

With the able assistance of the County's communication's group I'm arranging for some filming of the 9 Station Street property and pond. A drone equipped with a camera will be used to provide a different perspective of the property and how it relates to the pond and surrounding area. Ironcloud Productions of Hillsburgh has been hired to do the filming.

American Library Association Conference:

I was fortunate to attend the ALA Conference in May which was held in Denver, Colorado this year. A small contingent of Canadian chief librarians was present along with some frontline staff from large urban library systems. This annual conference attracts over 10,000 library workers in addition to a slew of library vendors.

I attended a number of sessions related to space planning for libraries and was pleased to see that Wellington is among the leaders in combining community space with physical collections. We are the community hub many municipalities are now being encouraged to develop. Libraries have provided community rooms for years but now more libraries like ours are providing versatile event space. Progressive library systems are also jumping into lending internet hotspots and iPads. These types of services keep library services relevant to our users and ensure equitable access to information and leisure resources.

During the conference I visited Denver's central library and found that visit very informative. The children's library was well appointed with beautiful artwork that enhanced the space. The entire library was filled with wonderful art and special collections of historical materials. An upper floor offered an astounding 120 public computers arranged in pods. All but three stations were in use. Most of the patrons in this space were males and most appeared to be struggling economically. In addition to library staff, there was an ever present compliment of security staff patrolling and monitoring the busiest floors of the library. The struggle of large libraries to balance the needs of a growing number of street people with those who are more prosperous in main stream of society in both the United States and Canada is proving difficult.

Recent news stories from Newmarket and Kingston, Ontario have highlighted the challenge library systems face in providing access to everyone in society. A number of large urban libraries now employ security guards and a number have added social workers to manage the complex relationship of welcoming everyone through their doors while ensuring a safe and welcoming environment for all. Smaller library systems are just as accepting of this challenge but in general can do it on a more manageable scale.

Recommendation:

That the Chief Librarian's report for April 2016 be received for information.

Respectfully submitted,

Murray McCabe

Murray McCabe

Chief Librarian



COUNTY OF WELLINGTON

COMMITTEE REPORT

To: Chair and Members of the Information, Heritage and Seniors Committee
From: Jessica Veldman, Information Services Librarian
Date: Wednesday, May 11, 2016
Subject: Rural Internet Hotspot Lending Programme Update

Background:

Wellington County Library launched our Rural Internet Hotspot Lending Programme on March 23, 2016. We added 70 hotspots to our circulating collection, allowing library patrons to borrow high-speed internet for a loan period of one week. Hotspots can be checked out on any adult library card in good standing, and features unlimited internet usage for up to 15 devices at a time. Funding was provided by the Ontario Libraries Capacity Fund for Research and Innovation, and the project will last for 2 years, ending in March 2018. Wellington County is one of the first libraries in North America to offer this service, and is the first in Canada to target rural populations.

The hotspots were purchased using our existing County of Wellington corporate plan, which provided discounted rates. Each device costs \$99.99, and has an associated flex-rate data plan that allows unlimited usage for \$50 per month. If a device is not returned on time, we can suspend the usage, effectively cutting off internet access until the device is returned. So far, we've had one device damaged, and one lost. We anticipated some loss, and have budgeted replacement costs for these devices.

The immediate response to this programme has been overwhelmingly positive. We have had a total of 275 circulations in the last 6 weeks, and have over 70 holds currently on the devices across the County. While the hotspot must be checked out to an adult, we are encouraging families to make use of the devices. The programme targets rural populations, and usage in our northern branches has been good. Mount Forest and Harriston have seen particularly high use so far. (See Appendix 1)

When a patron borrows a hotspot, we ask they fill out a brief survey as part of our commitment to reporting on the success of this grant. (See Appendix 2)

- To date, 35% of respondents said they currently have no internet access at home or at work.
- 71% said that multiple devices (laptops, tablets, smartphones, etc.) would be connected to the hotspot during the loan period.
- 96% indicated that they would be using the hotspot at home.
- The most common planned uses for their internet access are communication (77%), watching online videos (63%), accessing social media (44%) and accessing online library collections (34%).

We will be offering expanded digital literacy programming at all of our branches beginning in May, with partial funding provided by this grant. These programmes will teach basic technology skills to patrons, allowing them to make better use of mobile devices and online resources. Topics include Computer Basics, Internet Basics, and iPad Basics. These courses will work in conjunction with the 70 iPads that were also purchased as part of this grant.

As part of our reporting responsibilities for the grant, two session proposals have been submitted to the Ontario Library Association Super Conference 2017. If approved, one session will focus on the project here in Wellington, and the other will be a combined session with Kitchener Public Library and Toronto Public Library, and will compare our 3 approaches to the problem of lack of internet access and how we've developed programmes to overcome them. We will know the result of our application in July.

We anticipate that it will take us a year to collect enough data to evaluate the project and make recommendations for the future.

Comments from patrons and staff:

"I thought you might appreciate hearing this feedback from a family concerning the new Hot Spots. The patron was waiting at the branch door at 9:45 last Wednesday to be the first to sign out a Hot Spot. His in laws live in Timmins and have limited to no internet service. His own cell phone is unable to stay connected to service. The result was fabulous, he said they had 5 devices hooked up at once and used the Hot Spot all weekend. They are so impressed! They have asked me to pass along their thanks! Well done team!"

"I have just spoken to one of patrons who checked out a Hot Spot yesterday. She live is an internet dead zone between Hwy 6 and Jones Baseline. For 10 years she has only been able to connect to dial up, all internet providers gave up getting her a decent connection. Guess what? Last night she activated the Hot Spot and was able to receive Wi-Fi. She is over the moon thrilled, can't believe it. She has asked me to pass along her thanks to the brilliant staff who put together this project! She is tickled pink that it is so fast. No endless fingers crossed waiting to download pictures of her grandchildren."

"A patron borrowed the device for a few days because they were moving and knew that there would be a few days that they wouldn't have internet in either house. "Made moving more bearable"

"A mom borrowed one so that she could have Wi-Fi at her daughter's gymnastics competition to check her scores. She commented "All of the other parents (from Hanover area) were jealous that our library offers this amazing FREE service"

"So fast. I'm in a spot with no satellite, it's just amazing"

"We have a lot of people who do not have internet at home because it is not worth it for the connection issues they have. One patron returned a hotspot yesterday afternoon and was absolutely gushing over it! Her family was affected by the power outages caused by the ice storm last week and they used the hotspot to connect their mobile devices (charged in their car when necessary) so that they could watch some videos and check messages as well as check the Storm Centre website to see when their power was expected to be back on. She said this really helped them get through the extended power outage with young children and has already put a hold on another hotspot!"

Recommendation:

That the Rural Internet Hotspot Lending Programme update be received for information.

Respectfully submitted,



Jessica Veldman
Information Services Librarian

Appendix 1

Circulation by branch to date:

Aboyne	13
Arthur	23
Clifford	15
Drayton	11
Elora	13
Erin	26
Fergus	31
Harriston	29
Hillsburgh	10
Marden	23
Mt. Forest	34
Palmerston	5
Puslinch	29
Rockwood	13



HOTSPOT SURVEY

This hotspot is funded by a grant from the Government of Ontario. As part of our commitment to provide feedback about this project, we ask that users complete the following brief survey.

1. Do you have access to the internet in your home or at work?
☐ Yes, at home
☐ Yes, at work
☐ Yes, both at home and at work
☐ No
2. If no, how have you been accessing the internet?
☐ Free public Wi-Fi (library, school, restaurants, etc.)
☐ Public computers in the library
☐ Other
☐ I don't access the internet on a regular basis
3. Will multiple people be using this hotspot while you have it checked out? (Each device can have up to 15 devices connected at the same time.)
☐ Yes ☐ No
4. How do you intend to use the hotspot? (Check all that apply.)
☐ Communication: email, Skype, online chats, etc.
☐ Social media: Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, etc.
☐ Online videos, including YouTube
☐ Online gaming
☐ For business
☐ For school
☐ Accessing library collections, including ebooks and databases
☐ Other
5. Where do you intend to use the hotspot? (Check all that apply)
☐ At home ☐ Vacation
☐ At work ☐ Other
☐ At school



Wellington County Library

APRIL 2016

Use Statistics

Prepared for: Wellington County Library Board

Meeting Date: May 11, 2016

Prepared by: Chanda Gilpin, Assistant Chief Librarian

Date: May 4, 2016



Use Statistics

	2016	2015	
System wide circulation:	April	April	Year over Year Change
Print, eBooks, cds, dvds, magazines and audiobooks:	90,034	92,346	-3%
Inter-library loan, material loaned:	395	373	6%
Public computer usage within the libraries:	5,925	7,432	-20%
Programme attendance:	3,716	3,495	6%
Database usage:	8,061	11,110	-27%
Public wireless users:	7,746	5,480	41%

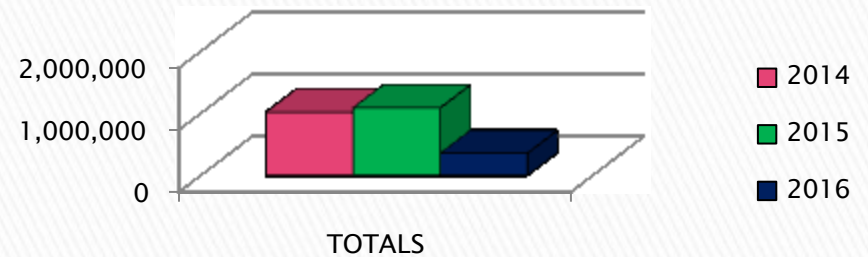
Circulation Statistics

		JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTALS
ABOYNE	2014	12,479	10,993	14,565	11,264	12,268	12,391	16,870	13,469	10,593	11,634	10,940	11,188	148,654
	2015	12,132	11,457	14,956	9,453	9,059	10,358	11,656	10,619	9,498	9,240	8,837	8,460	125,725
	2016	9,598	8,849	9,183	8,547	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	36,177
ARTHUR	2014	4,587	4,321	4,716	4,768	4,506	4,762	6,459	5,209	4,493	5,137	4,440	4,430	57,828
	2015	4,413	4,689	5,220	4,780	4,911	4,621	6,049	5,482	5,389	5,204	4,833	5,065	60,656
	2016	4,905	5,271	5,831	5,103	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21,110
CLIFFORD	2014	1,372	1,264	1,623	1,264	1,392	1,534	2,056	1,544	1,440	1,433	1,053	1,078	17,053
	2015	1,306	1,124	1,336	1,339	1,249	1,173	1,711	1,644	1,459	1,507	1,188	1,404	16,440
	2016	1,458	1,377	1,704	1,645	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,184
DRAYTON	2014	9,908	9,502	10,947	9,314	8,648	9,901	13,317	10,716	9,503	9,266	8,430	8,401	117,853
	2015	9,235	9,067	10,613	9,449	8,724	10,919	12,528	10,357	8,699	8,597	8,204	8,039	114,431
	2016	8,900	9,731	9,811	10,304	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	38,746
ELORA	2014	5,520	4,759	5,988	5,791	5,498	4,790	6,699	6,056	5,318	5,598	5,173	5,390	66,580
	2015	5,513	4,870	6,082	6,043	5,924	6,581	7,708	7,383	6,612	6,749	6,084	6,568	76,117
	2016	6,961	7,176	7,264	6,815	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28,216
ERIN	2014	4,214	3,793	4,766	4,285	4,198	4,226	6,107	4,765	4,521	4,604	4,361	4,585	54,425
	2015	4,593	4,443	5,175	4,932	4,710	5,064	6,195	5,688	5,115	4,851	4,382	4,097	59,245
	2016	4,519	5,410	5,617	5,181	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20,727
FERGUS	2014	10,052	9,000	10,803	11,077	10,023	8,008	13,506	11,435	10,249	10,272	9,285	9,397	123,107
	2015	9,376	8,588	7,186	18,267	16,066	18,003	20,087	17,721	15,944	15,440	15,196	13,086	174,960
	2016	14,728	16,746	17,776	16,537	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	65,787
HARRISTON	2014	3,879	4,026	4,652	4,062	3,825	4,154	5,633	4,585	4,207	4,428	3,902	4,060	51,413
	2015	4,238	3,969	5,039	4,544	4,444	4,303	5,310	5,026	4,648	4,232	4,372	4,028	54,153
	2016	4,186	4,267	4,581	3,931	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16,965
HILLSBURGH	2014	3,547	2,845	3,440	3,632	3,147	3,370	4,271	3,524	2,835	2,923	2,473	3,009	39,016
	2015	2,956	2,770	3,364	3,372	2,826	3,261	3,932	3,477	2,994	2,905	2,788	2,772	37,417
	2016	3,120	3,257	3,510	3,195	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13,082
MARDEN	2014	3,887	3,267	4,276	3,843	3,502	3,905	5,040	4,634	3,841	3,943	3,704	3,813	47,655
	2015	3,668	3,554	4,246	4,191	4,002	4,208	4,450	3,948	3,692	3,684	3,465	3,602	46,710
	2016	4,146	3,543	4,274	4,203	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16,166
MT FOREST	2014	7,392	7,539	8,416	7,486	7,476	7,246	10,308	8,180	7,949	8,120	7,236	7,596	94,944
	2015	7,746	7,388	8,570	8,461	7,881	8,044	8,773	8,613	8,112	8,454	7,683	8,278	98,003
	2016	8,633	8,816	9,233	9,215	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35,897
PALMERSTON	2014	2,100	1,944	2,239	2,410	2,188	2,403	3,270	2,707	2,411	2,801	2,236	2,325	29,034
	2015	2,756	2,318	2,734	2,384	2,628	2,891	3,800	3,458	3,239	2,942	2,646	2,697	34,493
	2016	2,612	2,530	3,504	3,977	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12,623
PUSLINCH	2014	3,234	2,777	3,269	3,343	3,317	3,878	3,905	3,140	2,937	3,010	3,065	2,800	38,675
	2015	2,918	2,781	3,364	3,292	2,777	3,025	3,738	3,196	2,954	3,035	2,675	2,585	36,340
	2016	3,312	3,171	3,767	3,343	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13,593
ROCKWOOD	2014	5,942	5,473	6,930	6,867	6,236	6,997	8,758	7,191	6,339	6,553	6,428	5,889	79,603
	2015	6,088	5,839	6,978	6,875	6,599	7,500	9,605	8,440	7,892	7,788	7,037	6,719	87,360
	2016	7,397	7,863	8,576	8,038	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	31,874
TOTALS	2014	82,483	75,324	91,148	83,629	80,544	82,606	110,806	91,661	80,875	84,169	77,130	78,420	1,018,795
	2015	82,297	77,827	90,281	92,346	86,649	95,072	111,491	101,493	92,177	90,395	85,014	83,337	1,088,379
	2016	84,475	88,007	94,631	90,034	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	357,147
Annual Change		3%	13%	5%	-3%									5%

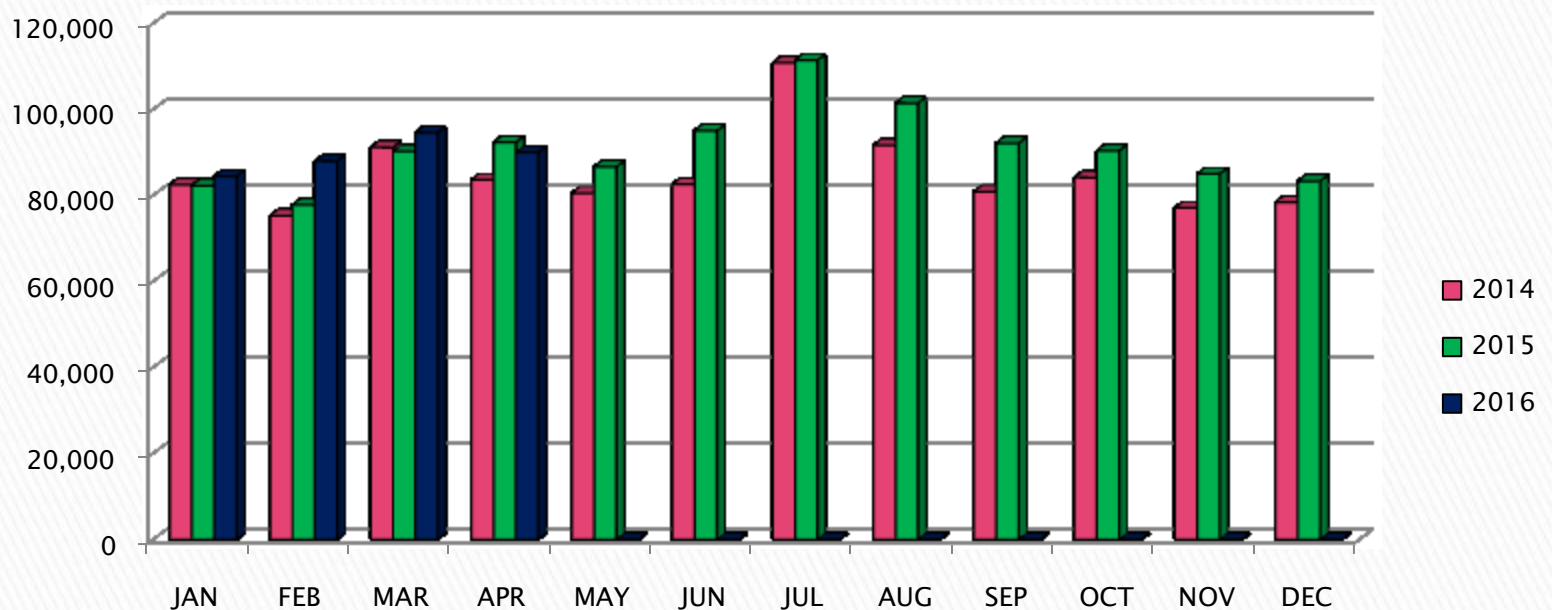
Numbers now include eBook circulation and in-house usage of material.
Circulation of traditional materials increased by 8%.

Circulation Activity

Wellington County Library Total Circulation of Materials by Year



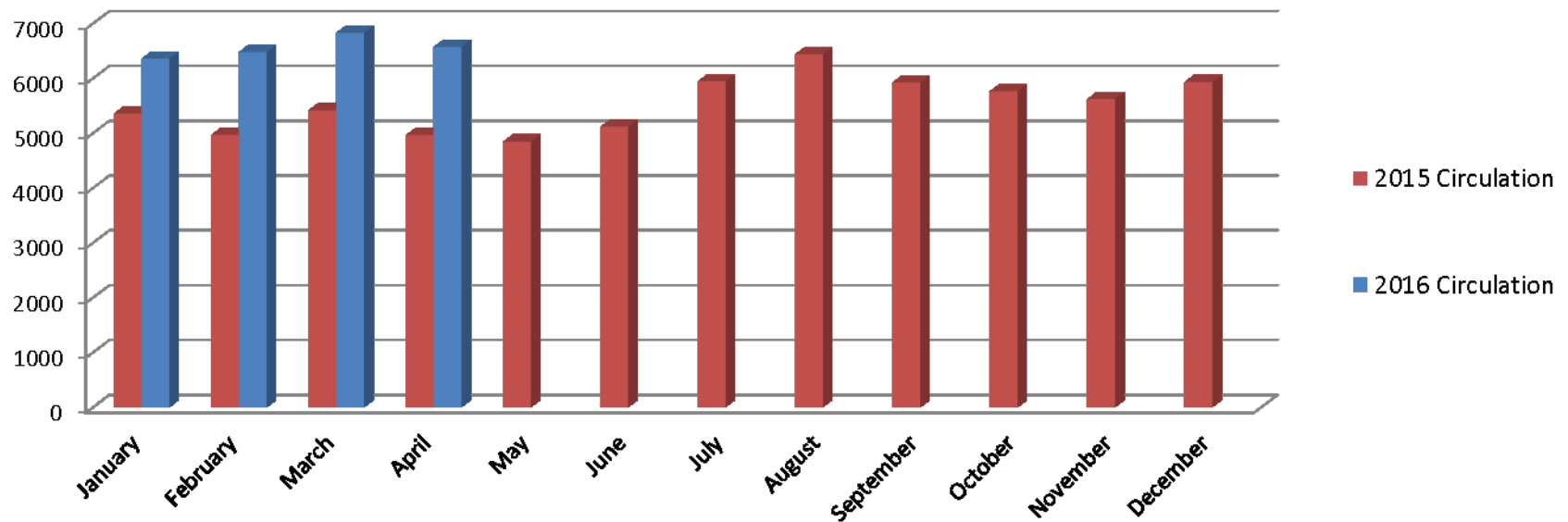
Circulation
Count



Monthly Circulation by Year

eBook Circulation Activity

eBook Circulation by Month*



*includes eBooks, eAudiobooks, eVideo and eMusic circulation from OverDrive.

Website Statistics

April 2016

Top Pages Visited

Library Home Page	8,642
Online Resources	2,136
Borrowing	1,887
eBooks and More	1,056
Branch Locations	757

Our website was accessed in a variety of ways including 2,128 visits through Mobile Devices.

Mobile devices include Apple iPad, Apple iPhone, LG D852, Blackberry Playbook and Samsung Galaxy S5.

Visits to Library Website

# of total visits	10,975
# of pages viewed	20,576

Location of people accessing our website:

Canada, U.S., U.K., India, Cuba, South Korea, Australia, Egypt, France, Ireland and The Netherlands.

The majority of visitors were within Canada:

Fergus, Guelph, Toronto, Elora, Minto, Halton Hills, Clifford, Waterloo, Orangeville, Kitchener, Hamilton and Milton.

Of the visitors 71% were returning and 29% were new visitors to our website.

Programming Report

April 2016

BRANCH	TOTAL NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES OFFERED	ATTENDEES			
		CHILDREN/ TEENS	PARENTS/ CAREGIVERS	ADULTS	
ABOYNE	18	150	74	62	
ARTHUR	17	159	48	79	
CLIFFORD	12	65	9	3	
DRAYTON	31	304	109	19	
ELORA	12	135	14	64	
ERIN	21	287	61	47	
FERGUS	29	187	126	63	
HARRISTON	17	60	24	59	
HILLSBURGH	25	215	85	55	
MARDEN	19	99	13	47	
MT FOREST	23	170	44	88	
PALMERSTON	15	162	25	46	
PUSLINCH	14	42	32	60	
ROCKWOOD	24	149	66	55	
	280	2217	752	747	3716
	Total Programmes				Total Participants

April 2015

BRANCH	TOTAL NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES OFFERED	ATTENDEES			
		CHILDREN / TEENS	PARENTS/ CAREGIVERS	ADULTS	
ABOYNE	15	194	85	52	
ARTHUR	18	145	61	57	
CLIFFORD	13	49	25	5	
DRAYTON	33	318	138	18	
ELORA	8	47	17	33	
ERIN	25	292	98	23	
FERGUS	31	412	96	161	
HARRISTON	20	107	8	69	
HILLSBURGH	19	201	54	49	
MARDEN	17	135	15	54	
MT FOREST	18	73	12	93	
PALMERSTON	6	46	28	0	
PUSLINCH	14	57	36	40	
ROCKWOOD	13	29	22	41	
	250	2105	695	695	3495
	Total Programmes				Total Participants

Ministry of Citizenship,
Immigration and International
Trade

Minister
6th Floor
400 University Avenue
Toronto ON M7A 2R9
Tel.: (416) 325-6200
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Ministère des Affaires civiles,
de l'immigration et du Commerce
international

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Toronto ON M7A 2R9
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April 2016

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to invite you to submit a nomination for the **Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship**.

Established in 1973, the Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship honours Ontarians who, through exceptional, long-term efforts, have made outstanding contributions to community life.

Recipients will be presented with their medal by the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario at a special ceremony at Queen's Park.

To make a nomination:

1. Visit ontario.ca/honoursandawards and click on the Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship link.
2. Download the appropriate PDF nomination form.
3. Read the eligibility criteria and instructions carefully.
4. Fill out the form and submit it with your supporting material. Instructions for submitting your package can be found on the website.

The deadline for nominations is July 17, 2016

Please take this opportunity to acknowledge an outstanding citizen in your community. The men and women we honour stand as shining examples to us all.

If you have questions or require a copy of the nomination form to be mailed to you, please send an email to ontariohonoursandawards@ontario.ca or call 416 314-7526, toll free 1 877 832-8622 or TTY 416 327-2391.

Thank you for taking the time to consider a deserving Ontarian for the Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Chan", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Michael Chan
Minister

Dear Palmerston Public Library. Thank you so
so so much for having Mrs. Hortons and Mrs.
Williams class at the library on April 7th.
I can tell you I loved it there. There was so
many cool things. The whole library looks beautiful.
The walls the furniture, bookshelves. Just everything
looked like a house show. The Scavenger hunt
the techy room down stairs, and the game
room upstairs. It was all just so much fun.
The green screen the gadgets was so interesting
to use. I wish that 2 hoursish turned into all
day. I would like to thank all the staff members.
You were all such great help. So nice. My
favourite part of the whole day was playing
chads and just looking at how cool everything
was there. I wish my house was that nice. So
I would just like the point to be that
I love the library. I want to spend my time
there. So thank you so much Palmerston Public
Library.

Sincerely Erin Hamilton

County of Wellington

History of the Property at 9 Station Street, Hillsburgh



Elysia DeLaurentis
Wellington County Museum and Archives

History of the property at 9 Station Street, Hillsburgh
Research undertaken by Elysia DeLaurentis,
Wellington County Museum and Archives, revised 04 May 2016

The area known today as 9 Station Street, Hillsburgh, was once part of a 50-acre property legally described as the northeast quarter of Lot 24, Concession 7, Erin Township. That 50 acres remained Crown Land until 1839 when the Crown granted it to William Everdell. Two years later, on 29 May 1841, Everdell sold the property to Nazareth Hill, who was instrumental in the founding of Hillsburgh. In 1845, Hill subdivided the property, selling 45 acres John Viner, and a year later, just over 3 acres to Elias Smith (who subsequently sold it to John Viner).¹

On 05 June 1851, John Viner sold just over 49 acres of the land to William Gooderham and James Gooderham Worts.² Gooderham had emigrated from England to Toronto with his wife (nee Worts) and their family in 1832, following her brother, a different James Worts, who had arrived there the year before. Together they operated a flour mill on the Don River at Lake Ontario until James' death in 1834. William Gooderham continued the mill on his own, adding a distillery in 1837 to "to dispose of waste products from milling." James Gooderham Worts was William Gooderham's nephew. He'd worked for his uncle for several years before becoming a full partner in 1854. At that time, the firm's name changed to Gooderham & Worts. Their expansion into Hillsburgh was one of many new business ventures. Over the next few years they also leased an existing mill in Norval, bought a mill and store in Meadowvale, and bought two mills in Streetsville.³

A County map from 1861 shows, with the exception of land along Main Street in Hillsburgh, the whole of the rest of the east half of Lot 24 (approximately 100 acres) belonged to Gooderham & Worts. They built their grist mill on Lot 24 in 1852, and it was known locally as "the Gooderham Mill", and they also operated a store.⁴ It was the construction of the mill dam for their mill that created the upper and lower ponds in Hillsburgh. The map of 1861 indicates that by that time, Gooderham & Worts owned a tract of land that included John Viner's saw mill upriver, and their grist mill along the river at the end of Cedar Lane, not far from where the 9 Station Street house would later be built. The company then built a cooperage beside the grist mill.⁵ The barrels created there were used by Gooderham & Worts' distillery in Toronto. The Gooderham grist mill in Hillsburgh burned down in 1870, and remained a neglected ruin for the next

¹ Land Abstract Index: Erin Township, Volume 1, part 1, page 118.

² Land Abstract Index: Erin Township, Volume 1, part 1, page 118.

³ Hillsburgh's Heyday by Patricia Kortland, 1983, page 21.

⁴ W.F. Mackenzie's history of Hillsburgh, Guelph Mercury, 16 October 1906.

⁵ "A Brief Summary of the History of South Hillsburgh" by Bennet & Dianna Root, 2001; Hillsburgh's Heyday, pages 21-22. W.F. MacKenzie's history of Hillsburgh (Guelph Mercury, 16 Oct. 1906) refers to this as a stave factory.

twenty years.⁶ George Worts, who'd run the mill until its destruction, continued to live in town where he kept a shop.⁷

After William Gooderham's death in 1873, his son, George Gooderham, signed an agreement with the Credit Valley Railway Company in 1875, likely in relation to the station grounds and tracks that were to be built across the property. The Gooderham family were investors in and supporters of the Credit Valley Railway. On 21 February 1877, Gooderham and Worts sold just over 48 acres of the property to George Gooderham (the size difference likely reflects the portion allotted to the railway two years earlier).⁸

George Gooderham had plans for Hillsburgh and conceived of a subdivision on part of Lots 24 and 25, Concession 7, Erin Township. These were to be small village lots with new streets, and he commissioned Charles Wheelock, PLS, to draw up plans of the proposed subdivision in 1879. This became Registered Plan 276. In the 1890s, Gooderham began to sell off small parcels of land from Lot 24, Concession 7, on the edge of town, many of them only half an acre in size.

By 1880, Plan 276 had been amended to become Registered Plan 280. A map from that date shows the area that now comprises 9 Station Street conceived as several small village lots bisected by Worts Street north to south down the centre of the property (approximately through the present house), and exiting onto Station Street, which on the map had been christened "Bungy Street".⁹ A second, unnamed street ran perpendicular to Worts Street near the pond, and exited onto the railway station grounds. An undated but later inscription over these streets reads "Closed by Order".

Land Abstracts show that on 21 September 1891, George Gooderham deeded the lots that currently comprise 9 Station Street, as well as neighbouring property, to brothers John Cawthra Awrey (1851-1930) and Isaiah Awrey. They were Erin Township boys, the sons of David Smith Awrey (1820-1912) and Nancy Cawthra (1825-1902), part of a long-established Erin Township family.

John C. Awrey (1851-1930) married Elizabeth Wilson (1857-1929) of Gueph Township on 07 June 1883. She was the daughter of William Wilson and Mary Ireland. After their marriage, John C. and Elizabeth Awrey farmed at Lot 22, Concession 2, Erin Township, and had several children between 1884-1899, five daughters, and two sons. In December 1890 when their daughter Ruth was born, John C. Awrey was listed on her birth registration as a farmer at Hillsburgh. The couple's son John Jr. died as an infant around 1891, leaving William Wilson Awrey their only surviving male child.

⁶ "A Brief Summary of the History of South Hillsburgh" by Bennet & Dianna Root, 2001; "The Business Men & Women of Wellington County" by Dorothy McKinnon, WCHS essay contest submission #19, 1980.

⁷ Hillsburgh's Heyday, page 22.

⁸ Land Abstract Index: Erin Township, Volume 1, part 2, page 362.

⁹ MAP 744.

A 2004 architectural inventory undertaken by the Town of Erin Heritage Committee reports that a plaque at 9 Station Street indicates that the building was constructed in 1892. A photograph taken by Jeff Duncan on 20 April 2016 shows a gold-toned (possibly bronze) painted rectangular metal plaque with raised numerals mounted to the brick wall beneath and between a pair of windows. It's only visible text is the date "1892". As 19th-century homes would traditionally embed a datestone into the masonry of the structure itself, the plaque appears to be an add-on which may date to the latter part of the 20th century.

Tax records have not survived from the early 1890s to confirm the 1892 construction date, but the house appears to have been built around that time for John C. Awrey and his wife Elizabeth. An Erin Township tax assessment for 1895 lists John C. Awrey and his brother Isaiah as joint farmers of 117 acres on Lots 24 and Lot 25, Concession 7, 40 of which were cleared. Census records and directories for the early 20th century indicate his occupation alternately as a farmer and/or miller.

Local histories state that around 1894, John C. Awrey and his brother Isaiah restored / rebuilt with limestone, the old burned-out Gooderham grist mill just south of Station Street, and added a cider press.¹⁰ Dorothy McKinnon, in her 1980 essay about the history of Hillsburgh that was submitted to the Wellington County Historical Society's essay contest, stated that after the Awreys had the grist mill running, "a cider press was added to the mill. Men who have operated this mill were Donald McGill, Hughie McLachlan, [and] Miles Bacon... This mill is now a home for an artist." The location of the mill is shown on several plans of the bridge, dam, and ponds.

A photograph of Hillsburgh that is dated on one copy as 1900, and on another as 1902, clearly shows the house at 9 Station Street already constructed, and with little vegetation around it.¹¹ Other photos in the WCMA identify Isaiah Awrey's house nearby, on the Main Street end of the Station Street bridge, behind the church.¹²

The 1906 Historical Atlas of Wellington County offers two views of the area in question. Its map of Hillsburgh village shows the parcel of land between the pond, Station Street, and the railway divided into several lots with two closed streets running through them.¹³ The larger map of Erin Township shows the location of the streets, ponds, and railway at Hillsburgh, and the borders of each farm in the township.¹⁴ On farm properties, driveways have been indicated with a dotted double line, and farmhouses have been represented by black squares. This map does show a house on Station Street in the approximate location of the 9 Station Street house.

On 23 June 1909, Isaiah Awrey and his wife quit their claim on the lots to John C. and Elizabeth Awrey. A datestone on the current garage indicates that that building was

¹⁰ Hillsburgh's Heyday, page 22.

¹¹ ph 31952.

¹² ph 31951 and ph 36458.

¹³ 1906 Historical Atlas of Wellington County, page 80.

¹⁴ 1906 Historical Atlas of Wellington County, page 94.

added to the property in 1913. Photographs from the 19teens and 1920s show a clear view across the pond with the 9 Station Street property increasingly obscured by trees that border the shore by the house.¹⁵ These were likely planted around the shoreline in the early 1900s.

The ponds on either side of the Station Street bridge, which originally formed as a result of milling enterprises, were by 1902 owned by the Caledon Mountain Trout Club who stocked them with trout and maintained fishing rights to them.¹⁶ The 1906 Atlas indicates that the Caledon Mountain Trout Club also owned property in Erin Township, just north of Hillsburgh, along with that which they continue to own in Caledon Township. The Caledon Mountain Trout Club has donated their early records, including information relating to their properties in Erin Township, to the Archives of Ontario.

John C. Awrey worked at the mill, farmed land with his brother, and in 1926, also served the Township of Erin as poundkeeper.¹⁷ Three years later, his wife Elizabeth passed away in Hillsburgh. Her obituary notes that she had lived in the village since 1890, and that her adult children were by 1929 scattered throughout the United States and Canada, with the exception of Wilson, who was living at home with his parents. Elizabeth died of complications relating to Influenza and Pneumonia.

John C. Awrey passed away due to the same illnesses the following year, on Easter Sunday, 20 April 1930. His death notice specifies that he died at home, which his death registration explains was on Station Street. His obituary described him as one of Hillsburgh's oldest resident for he was 79 years old. In his will, John C. Awrey left money to his daughters, and unspecified real estate holdings to his son William Wilson Awrey. It took five years before his executors transferred the land to W.W. Awrey in 1935.

William Wilson Awrey was born and raised at his parents' homes in Erin Township and Hillsburgh. His obituary notes that he spent some time as a young man in New Ontario, and was living in Harris, Saskatchewan in 1917 when he was drafted into service during the First World War under the Military Service Act of 1917.¹⁸ Back home in Ontario, in 1924, William Wilson Awrey married Elena Maud McCullough of Guelph, but the marriage took place in York County, and I found no reference to a celebration having occurred at the house in Hillsburgh where he had grown up. They afterwards raised a large family in Hillsburgh of five sons (Milton, Woodrow, Roland, Orval, and Eden) and one daughter (Merel). Old photographs of the house and grounds are likely now in the possession of the descendants of these children.

William Wilson Awrey maintained the house in Hillsburgh, but in January 1943 began commuting to Brantford to help with "war work," likely in a factory. After an accident at work, he was taken to the Brantford Hospital where he died at the age of 57 on 21

¹⁵ ph 14260 and ph 31948.

¹⁶ MAP 252.

¹⁷ Acton Free Press, 01 April 1926, page 4.

¹⁸ Erin Advocate, 30 September 1943, page 5; WWI Service files at Library and Archives Canada.

September 1943. His obituary noted that he was a member of the Orange Lodge of Hillsburgh. His Estate paid off the mortgages on the Hillsburgh property in 1945. His wife continued to live in Hillsburgh,¹⁹ but further research is required to determine if she lived at 9 Station Street, and to determine subsequent owners and occupants in the ensuing years.

The ponds that give the property at 9 Station Street its picturesque location had existed in the village since the 1850s when the Gooderham Mill dam was first established. The bridge and dam at Station Street, which separate the upper and lower ponds, has over the years been beset by the various problems that aging structures face. Whether on purpose or by happenstance, around 1930 the upper pond was drained, as a photograph from the period shows women walking the tree-stump-lined lake bed.²⁰ There was also danger in the beauty of that area. In 1937, 10-year-old Robert Murray Barden drowned in the upper pond.²¹ Isaiah Awrey's daughter also recalled that in the early 20th century, "her father...rescued a boy pushed in at the mill race. He also pulled out Elmer, her brother, by the overcoat from the deep waters of the Upper Pond. When her brother Lloyd was three or four years old he had walked in up to his shoulders before her mother ran in and saved him."²²

An undated slide taken by geographer, Fred Dahms, likely in the 1970s, shows the addition of the two-storey collonade on the east side of the house.²³

Victor Bayko and his wife lived at 9 Station Street from at least 1995, though more research is needed. Online sources (see printouts) suggest that he and his wife were curling enthusiasts who contributed funds to the Georgetown Hospital. Bayko participated in a 2012 meeting to express his concerns regarding the Station Street bridge and dam. By June of that year, there were fears that both bridge and dam would need to come out, causing the mill pond to drain. The Erin Heritage Committee urged local government to preserve the pond for its historical significance, noting its longevity and historical importance as a place of local industry, recreation and tourism. They noted that the Awrey brothers had years before constructed a wharf, bandshell, and pavilion along the north shore of the upper pond.

The house was listed for sale in 2014, and the listing modified in April 2015. It describes a two-storey detached house of double brick construction with a living room, family room, dining room, two kitchens, three bedrooms, two bathrooms, and an office, with a full unfinished basement, and detached 3-car garage. It included a fenced swimming pool and gardens.

In the fall of 2015, the Corporation of the County of Wellington purchased the 9 Station Street property, likely from Victor Bayko, with a mind to using the site for a new

¹⁹ Federal rural list of electors, 1949, Wellington North, polling division 7, Erin Township (Hillsburgh).

²⁰ ph 36459.

²¹ Ontario death registrations, 1937; Hillsburgh's Heyday, page 12.

²² Hillsburgh's Heyday, page 12.

²³ ph 39818

Hillsburgh Library. They made a public announcement about the purchase which was celebrated in an article that appeared in the Wellington Advertiser.²⁴ It notes that “Wellington County has purchased an 1892 farmhouse along with the adjacent property and pond”, and that the pond, dam, and Station Street bridge were in the process of undergoing an environmental assessment.

At the end of April 2016, Erin Township Councillor, Jeff Duncan, ran into former owners, Vic and Mrs. Bayko. Jeff noted in an email of 30 April that, “They indicated the old bell that is on the end of the walkway on the porch was not original to the house. They bought it at an auction sale in Glen Williams several decades ago.” Jeff also noted that Mr. Lee Tocher owned the property before the Bayko family, and provided contact details for both.

²⁴ “County unveils location for new Hillsburgh library, Wellington Advertiser, 23 Oct. 2015.

Architect presents two innovative design concepts for new library

By Phil Gravelle, for the Advocate

The new Hillsburgh Library could have glass walls to enable attractive views of the millpond, while preserving the brick façades of the 1892 heritage house that Wellington County purchased last year.

Paul Sapounzi, a partner at +VG Architects, has presented preliminary concepts for the new branch, which will replace the existing facility in 2017.

"We're incredibly excited about this project," said Sapounzi. "It would be a great idea for us to use this entire peninsula as an event space for the local community, if not for all of Wellington County as a showpiece."

On April 13, he spoke to members of the County Library Board, meeting in the house at 9 Station Street to get a feel for the property. The project cost is estimated at over \$4 million, including acquisition of the land and pond.

An addition will be built, roughly twice the size of the house, but the library will still be relatively small, about 6,000 sq. ft. The interior walls and the floors of the second storey will likely be removed, creating a large, high open space. Having everything on one level eliminates the need for space-consuming stairways and elevators, and the difficulty of supervising activities in small rooms.

As Option 1, the entire addition could be on the pond side of the house, creating a long-shaped complex. Option 2 would be to add the new space on three sides of the house, creating more of a square shape.

Cont'd on page 4

The Advocate, April 20, 2016

Library could be a showpiece for the county

Cont'd from page 1

Arriving visitors would see the front brick façade, flanked by modern architecture. The attractive back façade would become an interior wall, with the brick exposed. "From the outside at night, the building would look like a warm lantern," said Sapounzi.

This option would also eliminate the need to insulate three of the old walls to modern standards.

Both options have a large "conservatory look" glass-walled room facing the pond. "I want people to feel like they are reading a book in a park by a lake - it could be one of the greatest rooms in Wellington County," said Sapounzi.

The room could be for meetings, events and performances. There would be sliding glass doors out to a patio that could be used as a stage, with the audience either inside the glass room,

or on the opposite side, out on the grass.

It has not been decided whether to preserve the tall white pillars - they were not part of the original house. The plan is to have a drop-off driveway at the front, and a parking lot for perhaps 50 cars on the other side.

The architect is incorporating public suggestions from comment cards and emails. The building will welcome users of the nearby Elora Cataract Trailway, possibly with convenient access to washrooms and a bicycle parking zone.

They are not sure what to do with the concrete pool. There is also a garage building, which could house a kitchen to serve events. There could be raised gardens and outdoor art displays.

The County hopes to have a trail around the pond, part of the Riverwalk

now being studied for Erin village and Hillsburgh.

There's also an Environmental Assessment in progress that will present options for improving the function of the dam and pond.

"This is a dream property," said Jana Burns, Wellington's Director of Economic Development. "It is an experiential site. We're trying to attract visitors and potentially new residents to Wellington County."

"We could have not just educational components linked to the library programming, but have bigger, tourism-related events."

+VG Architects (The Ventin Group) is known for its historical restoration work, including projects at the Wellington County building, Queen's Park, Toronto's Old City Hall, the Old Don Jail, Union Station and the Osgoode Hall Atrium.

Keeping the past alive at Puslinch library branch

by Mike Robinson

ABERFOYLE - Finding out about some of the successes of Puslinch residents will now be as simple as heading to the local library.

On April 20 Puslinch met with recreation committee member Daina Makinson and Puslinch library branch supervisor Neil Arsenault.

Makinson said when she started on the committee one of the first things discussed was the location of trophies formerly housed at the Puslinch recreation centre.

As a result of renovations,

many of those trophies had gone back to the original owners/organizations and questions were raised whether all of the trophies were able to come back to the community centre.

Makinson offered her services to create a photo book ... if someone could find the trophies and photograph them.

After a bit of investigation the trophies were located and photographed.

Makinson thanked those who assisted her in the process, especially the current trophy owners who welcomed volunteers into their homes to photograph the trophies.

Makinson also thanked the recreation committee for its input and assistance.

"Once the book was made, the question was where it was going to live," she said, adding it was suggested the Puslinch branch of the Wellington County Library be approached.

"It is my hope that this book will be enjoyed by many people for generations to come," she said.

Arsenault thanked those who took the time to contribute



Trophy - Puslinch library branch supervisor Neil Arsenault, left, and Puslinch recreation committee member Daina Makinson, centre, with Puslinch Mayor Dennis Lever for a presentation on the future location of the Township of Puslinch Trophy Book.

photo by Mike Robinson 27

lection.

"Our plan is to catalogue

to come in and look at."

Arsenault added the intent

Retirement Tea

After 23 years of
Library Service
BEV PICKEN
Erin Branch Supervisor
IS RETIRING

Please join us as we celebrate
Bev's many years of service with an
open house, at the
Erin Branch
of The Wellington County Library,
on Saturday, May 28
drop in from 11am-2pm
Cake Cutting at 12:30

