



ANNUAL REPORT

# NORTH YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT 1990

## Library Board

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Vice Chair Linda Abrams

Members Lindley Massiah

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## **Executive Staff**

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Linda Mackenzie

Director Public Services
Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Gordon Thomson

Director Public Services

Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Sid Mowder

Director Administrative Services

Jock Bryce

Director Human Resources

North York

Public Library

COVER PHOTO: NYPL's 40th Anniversary celebrations in June drew hundreds to the annual book sale.

## From the Board Chair

The first year of the new decade passes, and it is another year of change. Why do we see such change year after year? Does this mean we did things wrong in the past? No. We live in a community with changing information needs, and what was right for the past may not be appropriate for the present.

As a public library, part of our mandate is to respond to these changes. Our users know that information today is provided not just in books, but on computers, compact discs, videos and more. The technological age has given us new ways of doing things. North Yorkers expect to discover them at their library. And so we change.

Change can be difficult, especially in the face of a tightened economy. The easier road is often the one most travelled. It is a tribute to our staff and Library Board that again in 1990 North York Public Library cleared a new path, delivering the best in library service and collections. This is a community that thrives on change and looks to its library for guidance. We will continue to provide that guidance.

Councillor Barry Burton

Chair, North York Public Library Board

Barry Burton

## From the Chief Executive Officer

In 1990, our 40th anniversary year, we celebrated a library system that dwarfs the original collection begun in the 1940s. Where 2,500 volumes in a church basement once served 60,000 inhabitants, today 1.9 million items in 20 branches serve more than half a million people.

This growth shows no signs of slowing. Our ability to respond to it with appropriate library service continued in earnest in 1990 with the implementation of our 'Working Together' Five Year Strategic Plan, 1990-1994. We now have reporting systems, task forces, workshops, work programs and computerized monitoring systems in place to implement this plan. They will ensure that we continue to provide leading-edge library service that meets our community's ever-widening range of needs.

Staff has responded to our planned objectives with more of the resourceful service delivery that is a hallmark of our system. The Board has responded to the needs of the public and staff with considered and progressive guidance. And City Council has responded to our funding requirements with unflagging support and confidence.

I applaud the continued dedication of one and all, for the public has received these efforts with the highest circulation and usage in our history.

sephine Bryand

Josephine Bryant

Chief Executive Officer

## 1990 in Review

Countless specific improvements and projects were undertaken in 1990 in all branches and departments, but a number of highlights deserve mention in the areas of service delivery, outreach and automation.

## **Service Delivery**

- non-book formats such as videos, compact disks, cassettes and software programs comprised 23% of collection purchases in 1990
- videos were made available at all regional branches
- after-hours book drop boxes were installed at all regional branches
- North York Public Library's sixth and seventh Literacy Offices opened at Flemingdon Park and Jane Sheppard Community Branches
- author and journalist Carole Giangrande critiqued manuscripts and met with aspiring writers during a three-month term as Writer-in-Residence
- materials were purchased in 31 languages
- York Woods Regional Branch experienced a 13% circulation increase, Woodview Park Community Branch a 14.1% increase
- Central Library circulation exceeded 1 million items; visits surpassed 700,000

### **Community Outreach**

• 3,300 North York Public Library 'Born to Read' packages promoting reading to children were given to mothers of newborns by North York Public Health Nurses



Flemingdon Park opens a Literacy Office.



Circulation is up again.

'Born to Read' starts them young.



- visits to retail outlets by York Woods, Don Mills and Victoria Village branch staff, and a summer outreach program by York Woods staff increased library visibility to potential new users
- the new 'Dial-a-Story' program averaged 2,732 calls monthly in its first year of operation
- 2,000 people attended the 40th Anniversary celebrations at Mel Lastman Square

### **Automation**

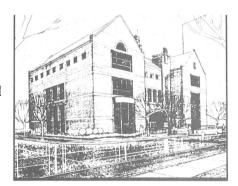
- 210 CATNYP CD-ROM terminals replaced the microfiche system to automate North York Public Library's catalogue of library holdings
- a second arm of the CD-ROM project at Central, Fairview and Downsview provided a computerized information retrieval service containing periodical indexes and encyclopedia text
- the Children's Computer Centre opened at Central Library, helping children as young as preschool age to learn about computers and practise math and creative drills
- continued automation in such support areas as Accounting, Human Resources and Publicity helped North York Public Library maintain effective and cost-efficient business, administrative and public relations practices

CATNYP: using the catalogue is easier than ever.



## Looking to 1991...

- Bathurst Heights Regional Branch will move to a modern new facility to be built at Saranac Boulevard and Covington Road
- two feasibility studies will determine the need for redevelopment at Don Mills and Downsview Regional Branches



Bathurst Heights will get a new branch in '91.

# Statistical Highlights 1990

542,742 Population served: Registered patrons: 333,486 20 Number of libraries 4,227,704 Number of visits:

1,933,218 Items held: Items circulated: 4,878,894 4,264,711 Items used in-house:

1,362,863 Number of reference requests:

Items delivered to shut-ins: 47,789 4,859 Database searches performed:

> 421 Full-time staff: 152 Part-time staff: 259 Pages: Volunteers: 301

# Financial Highlights 1990

## Received

\$30,373,693 City of North York: 1,663,730 Grants: 266,158 Fees, fines: 297,895 Photocopies:

107,773

Equipment & facility rentals: 620,189 Interest:

243,347 Other sources: Previous surplus: 305,375

1989: \$30,410,750 Total revenues 1990: \$33,778,160

**Spent** 

\$21,749,558 Salaries and benefits: 3,286,262 Library materials: 30,940 Library programs: Purchase of services: 4,359,151 325,366 Equipment and furnishings: 1,109,977 Supplies and sundries: Taxes, licenses, unrecovered:

177,084 2,416,258 Debt charges:

Total expenditures 1990: 1989: \$30,105,375 \$33,454,596

## Friends of the Library

In 1990, North York Public Library established the *Friends of North York Public Library*, a non-profit, charitable organization dedicated to helping the library achieve its goals and objectives through volunteer activities, programming and fundraising. North York Public Library offers its special thanks to these founding members of the Friends:

### **Board of Directors**

Phyllis Chisvin (Chair) Gerry Tomany (Vice Chair) Josephine Bryant (ex officio)

Margaret Higgins

Barbara Hooper Kathleen Hopton Bill MacDonald Pat Patterson
Pat Robertson
Deborah Whatley

### Members (to December 31, 1990)

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Eileen Allen
Irene Arkin
Virginia Atkins
Hilda L. Bailey
Barbara Barak and Family
Deborah Berman and Fam

Deborah Berman and Family Jeannette Bourgoin

Christopher Brands Arnold E. Brill

Josephine Bryant and Family

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**Edward Murray Higgins** 

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Councillor Jim McGuffin and Family

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Ian Ross
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Catherine Siemens
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Kurt Stiegwardt
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Gordon Thomson
Marthina Thomson
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Magdalena Vander Kooy
Germaine Velvart
Richard Velvart

Richard Velvart
John V. Wigham
Malcolm Wilkinson
Mary Wilkinson
Lorraine Williams

# North York Public Library Branches

Amesbury Park Community Branch 1565 Lawrence Ave. W. 395-5420

Armour Heights Community Branch 2140 Avenue Rd. 395-5430

Bathurst Heights Regional Branch 3170 Bathurst St. 395-5440

Bayview Community Branch 2901 Bayview Ave. 395-5460

Black Creek Community Branch 2141 Jane St. 395-5470

Centennial Community Branch 578 Finch Ave. W. 395-5490

Central Library 5120 Yonge St. 395-5700

Executive Offices 5120 Yonge St. 395-5500

Don Mills Regional Branch 888 Lawrence Ave. E. 395-5710

Downsview Regional Branch 2793 Keele St. 395-5720 Fairview Regional Branch 35 Fairview Mall Dr. 395-5750

Flemingdon Park Community Branch 29 St. Dennis Dr. 395-5820

Hillcrest Community Branch 5801 Leslie St. 395-5830

Humber Summit Community Branch 2990 Islington Ave. 395-5840

Jane Sheppard Community Branch Jane Sheppard Mall 395-5966

Pleasant View Community Branch 575 Van Horne Ave. 395-5940

Victoria Village Community Branch 184 Sloane Ave. 395-5950

Woodview Park Community Branch 16-18 Bradstock Rd. 395-5960

York Woods Regional Branch 1785 Finch Ave. W. 395-5980

Yorkdale Community Branch Yorkdale Shopping Centre 395-5970





