



**Aurora Public Library Board**  
**MEETING**  
**Thursday, November 12, 2020**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
Via Zoom video conference

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## **AGENDA**

1. Adoption of Agenda
2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest
3. Minutes of:
  - .1 October 21, 2020 Meeting *(enclosure)*
  - .2 November 6, 2020 Finance Sub Committee Meeting
4. Reports
  - .1 2021 Budget Plan Report SR2020.28 *(enclosure)*
5. Items for Consideration
  - .1 Library Service Hours Report SR2020.29 *(enclosure)*
6. Library CEO Updates
  - .1 CEO Updates *(verbal report)*
7. General Business Information/Questions *(enclosure)*
  - .1 APL Updates (Media clips)
8. Member Announcements
9. Date of Next Meeting: **Wednesday, December 9, 2020**
10. Adjournment
  - \*\* *Please advise Maida Rae of regrets for attendance, by noon on November 12<sup>th</sup> at [mrae@aurorapl.ca](mailto:mrae@aurorapl.ca).*



## Aurora Public Library Board

### MINUTES of MEETING

**Wednesday, October 21, 2020**

The Aurora Public Library Board held its regular meeting on Wednesday, October 21, 2020 via video conference call.

Present: John Clement, Tom Connor (Chair), Councillor Sandra Humfries, Councillor Harold Kim, Adam Mobbs (Vice Chair), Marie Rankel, Ken Turriff

Chief Executive Officer: Bruce Gorman

Staff: Mario Baleno, Manager, IT; Reccia Mandelcorn, Manager, Community Collaboration; Jodi Marr, Manager, Customer Opportunity; Ashley Nunn-Smith, Manager, Content, Access & Innovation; Maida Rae, HR Coordinator/EA (recorder), Julie Rocca, Business Manager

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The Chair called the meeting to order at 07:03 p.m.

#### 1. **Adoption of the Agenda**

MOTION: **20.08.70**

Moved by: J. Clement

Seconded by: Councillor H. Kim

CARRIED

**THAT** the Agenda be approved

#### 2. **Disclosure of Interest**

#### 3. **Approval of Minutes:**

.1 Regular meeting of September 16, 2020

MOTION: **20.08.71**

Moved by: A. Mobbs

Seconded by: K .Turriff

CARRIED

**THAT** the Minutes of the September 16, 2020 meeting be approved

#### 4. Reports

**.1 *Third Quarter Operations Report SR2020.24***

A staff report was issued prior to the meeting.

MOTION: **20.08.72**  
Moved by: M. Rankel  
Seconded by: A. Mobbs  
CARRIED

**THAT** the Third Quarter Operations Report dated October 21, 2020 be approved

*Councillor Sandra Humfryes joined the meeting at 7:07 p.m.*

It was noted that there will be some items that carryover to 2021 or that have pivoted/changed as a result of the pandemic.

**.2 *Third Quarter Use Indicators Report SR2020.25***

A staff report was issued prior to the meeting.

MOTION: **20.08.73**  
Moved by: K. Turriff  
Seconded by: J. Clement  
CARRIED

**THAT** the Aurora Public Library Board receives the Third Quarter Use Indicators DRAFT Report to September 30, 2020 as information

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to significantly impact the Library's usage statistics. The increased focus on virtual programming and social media has boosted those metrics and created new services and associated metrics that will be continue to be tracked once the Library returns to normal operations.

It is noteworthy in this environment that Library memberships are increasing, and staff have developed a virtual renewal process. The transfer from curbside to in-Library pick up has not impacted numbers, but there may be an impact once the Library Square construction project begins with the associated parking lot closure.

J. Clement noted with surprise that the streaming and downloads statistics are flat for the year or have slightly decreased. These library services were regularly promoted by staff when interacting in person with customers and may not be as well known to the majority of customers as available library services.

**.3 *Financial Statement for Period Ending September 30, 2020 SR2020.26***

A staff report was issued prior to the meeting.

MOTION: **20.08.74**  
Moved by: M. Rankel  
Seconded by: A. Mobbs  
CARRIED

**THAT** the Aurora Public Library Financial Statement for the period ending September 30, 2020 be received

As previously approved by the Board, any surplus will be returned to the Town this year.

The Library has spent approximately 59% of the approved annual budget.

## 5. Items for Consideration

### .1 ***Library Workers Day Letter from the Board Chair***

A draft letter was issued prior to the meeting.

MOTION: **20.08.75**

Moved by: K. Turriff

Seconded by: A. Mobbs

CARRIED

**THAT** the Library Board approve the letter to APL staff to recognize their efforts on Library Workers Day

### .2 ***Aurora Public Library Board Terms of Reference Report SR2020.27***

A staff report was issued prior to the meeting.

MOTION: **20.08.76**

Moved by: K. Turriff

Seconded by: M. Rankel

CARRIED

**THAT** the Aurora Public Library Board approves the Terms of Reference documents for the APLB Executive Committee, Finance Advisory Committee and CEO Performance Review Committee

## 6. Library CEO Updates

### .1 ***CEO Updates***

A verbal report was provided at the meeting.

MOTION: **20.08.77**

Moved by: J. Clement

Seconded: A. Mobbs

CARRIED

**THAT** the Library CEO Updates verbal report be received as information

The Library has introduced new procedures for daily staff screening per provincial requirements. The Library continues to regularly communicate with staff and have accommodated staff wherever possible to support them during these difficult times.

It is anticipated that the Library Square construction project will have a major impact on in-Library pick up of materials, as the parking lot will close immediately and the primary entrance/staff entrance and material drop box will no longer be accessible. We are working with the Town to ensure the Library remains operational, but there is no project schedule available at this time to confirm when the construction will begin. Temporary parking spaces on Yonge Street in front of the Library have been created for customers to pick up materials, and the door beside the café will become our main entrance. B. Gorman has requested that the Library work be frontloaded on the project since we are not fully operational at this time and this will minimize impact on our customers. The Library is working with the Library Square governance committee to avoid program

duplication. The Library continues to work with the Library Square team to ensure key developments are communicated to our customers. Signage for the project site is co-branded between the Town and APL.

B. Gorman has met with Town of Aurora staff to address accessibility concerns raised with changes to parking lot and library entrance as a result of Library Square construction. A temporary accessible parking space will be created in the upper parking lot, and staff will maintain curbside service (including collecting materials to be returned) for customers with accessibility needs.

APL is offering 42 hours per week of customer service, more than any other N6 library. The impact of the construction project and the ongoing pandemic will need to be evaluated prior to extending those hours or shifting hours to offer evening service/access. The current computer usage rates are low, and the construction impact is still unknown. Library management will continue to monitor and evaluate to determine how best to offer library services and access to the community.

As part of the three-year budget cycle, the Board approved the Library budget for 2020, 2021, and 2022 in 2019. B. Gorman will present to the Town Finance Committee in November to confirm budgetary needs for 2021 and 2022 in light of the pandemic.

## **7. General Business Information/Questions**

### **.1 APL Updates**

Articles and photographs were issued prior to the meeting.

MOTION: **20.08.78**  
Moved by: M. Rankel  
Seconded by: K. Turriff  
CARRIED

**THAT** the APL Updates be received as information

Newspaper articles and media coverage from mid-September to mid-October were provided that highlight APL's programs and services.

## **8. Member Announcements**

## **9. Resolution to Move Into Closed Session**

- .1 A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of real property by the Board
- .2 Personal matters about an identifiable individual

MOTION: **20.08.79**  
Moved by: K. Turriff  
Seconded by: J. Clement  
CARRIED

**THAT** the Board move into Closed Session to discuss a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of real property and personal matters about an identifiable individual

*At 8:05 p.m., the Board moved into Closed Session.*

MOTION: **20.08.80**  
Moved by: Councillor H. Kim  
Seconded by: J. Clement  
CARRIED

**THAT** the Board return to Open Session

*At 10:23 p.m., the Board returned to Open Session.*

MOTION: **20.08.81**  
Moved by: A. Mobbs  
Seconded by: Councillor H. Kim  
CARRIED

**THAT** the Board concurs with the design elements of the Growth Accommodation Study

MOTION: **20.08.82**  
Moved by: A. Mobbs  
Seconded by: M. Rankel  
CARRIED

**THAT** the Library Board terminate the lease with the Library Café operators

MOTION: **20.08.83**  
Moved by: K. Turriff  
Seconded by: M. Rankel  
CARRIED

**THAT** the Library Board confirms the CEO receives the recommended step increase after completing the second year of service at Aurora Public Library

## **10. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 18, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

## **11. Adjournment**

MOTION: **20.08.84**  
Moved by: M. Rankel  
Seconded by: J. Clement  
CARRIED

**THAT** the meeting be adjourned at 10:47 p.m.

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T. Connor  
Chair

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B. Gorman  
Chief Executive Officer



## **Aurora Public Library Board Finance Sub-Committee**

### **MINUTES of MEETING**

**Wednesday November 6, 2020**

The Aurora Public Library Finance Sub-Committee held a meeting on Friday November 6, 2020 via video conference.

Present: Tom Connor, Adam Mobbs, Marie Rankel

Chief Executive Officer: Bruce Gorman

Staff: Julie Rocca, Business Manager

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The meeting was called to order at 05:02 p.m.

**1. Adoption of Agenda**

The meeting agenda was adopted.

Moved by: M. Rankel

Seconded by: T. Connor

CARRIED

**2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

There were no disclosures of conflict of interest.

**3. Approve previous Meeting Minutes**

The minutes were approved.

Moved by: T. Connor

Seconded by: M. Rankel

CARRIED

**4. Multi Year Operating Budget for Fiscal Years 2020-2022**

To receive and accept the 2020-2022 revised operating budget report for distribution at the next Aurora Public Library Board meeting.

Moved by: M. Rankel

Seconded by: T. Connor

CARRIED

5. **2021 Revised Line Account Operating Budget**

To review 2021 line account details.

Moved by: T. Connor

Seconded by: M. Rankel

CARRIED

6. **Other Business**

None.

7. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

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Adam Mobbs

Chair

Finance Sub-Committee

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Bruce Gorman

Chief Executive Officer





## Aurora Public Library Board

### REPORT SR2020.28

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**SUBJECT:** 2021 Budget Plan Report

**FROM:** Bruce Gorman, Chief Executive Officer

**DATE:** November 12, 2020

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the *Aurora Public Library 2021 Operating Budget redistribution between budget categories dated November 12, 2020* be approved.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Aurora Public Library budget now occurs on a three-year cycle. The current cycle was approved in 2020. If there is a requirement to return to the Town Finance Committee prior to the end of this cycle, there is a process in place to accommodate this. For 2021-2022, with the COVID-19 pandemic at hand, the Town summoned the Library to the Committee to better inform them of the related impacts. The Library did not seek any changes to the 2021 budget above what was approved by Council.

On Friday, November 6, 2020, the Aurora Public Library Board Finance Sub-Committee consisting of Adam Mobbs, Tom Connor, Marie Rankel, Bruce Gorman and Julie Rocca met to review in detail the budget line items. The committee subsequently refer their recommendations to the Board for approval.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Aurora Public Library 2021 Budget Plan, dated November 12, 2020
2. Aurora Public Library Multi Year Operating Budget Summary for Fiscal Years 2020-2022

***Assisted by: Maida Rae, HR Coordinator/EA  
Julie Rocca, Business Manager***

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*Bruce Gorman  
Chief Executive Officer*

# AURORA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Budget Plan 2020 -2022



# About Aurora Public Library

Aurora Public Library supports innovative technology, vibrant literary and cultural experiences, multi-discipline online learning, newcomer initiatives, access to digital collections and collaborations with community organizations to assist them in realizing their objectives.



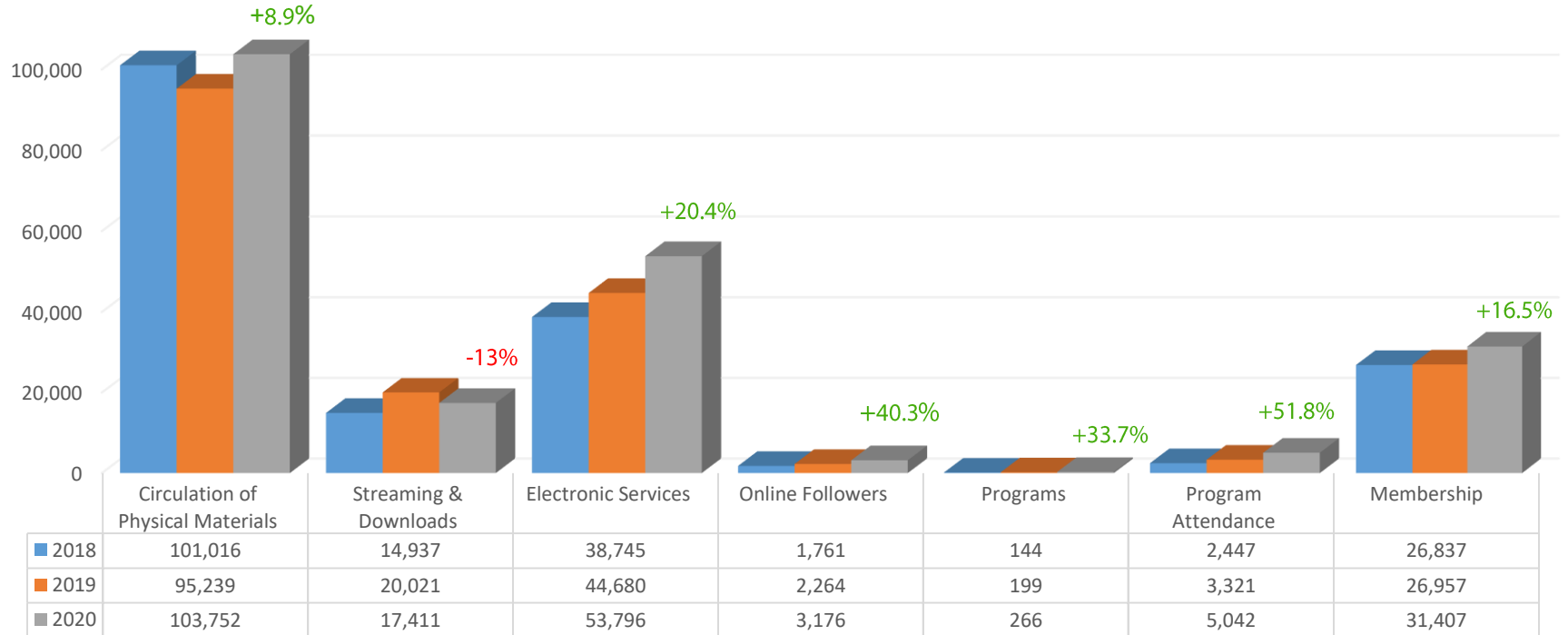
# Place of Possibilities

Aurora Public Library builds community by sparking connections, enriching lives and contributing vibrant spaces for discovery.



# Key Performance Indicators

January and February 2020 enjoyed exponential growth across most metrics.

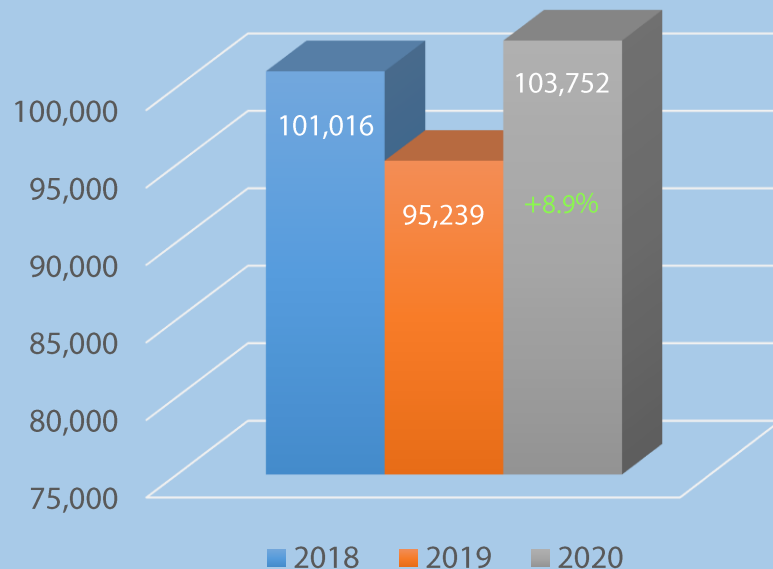




# Key Performance Indicators



Circulation of Physical Materials  
(Jan – Feb)



8.9% increase in physical circulation (2019 - 2020)

# Key Performance Indicators

rb digital

zinio™

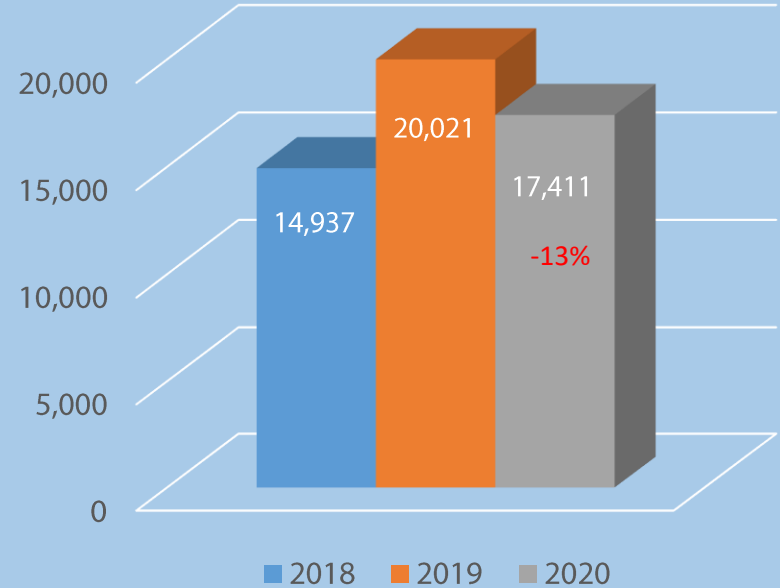
freegal music

hoopla

CL  
cloudLibrary™

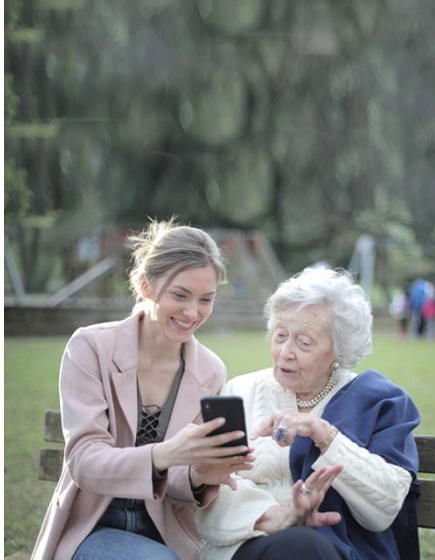
TUMBLE  
BOOK LIBRARY

Streaming & Downloads (Jan – Feb)

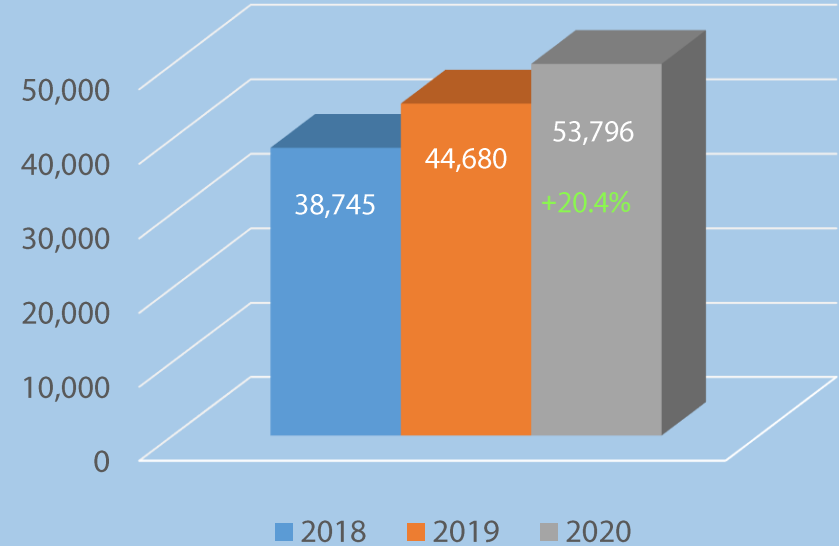


**-13%** decrease in steaming & downloads (2019 - 2020)

# Key Performance Indicators



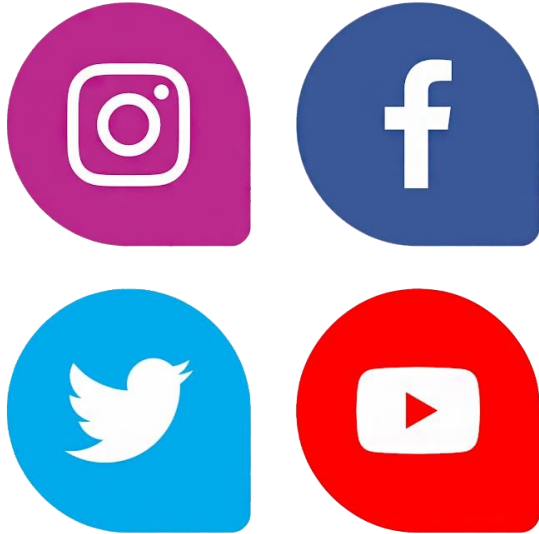
Electronic Services (Jan - Feb)



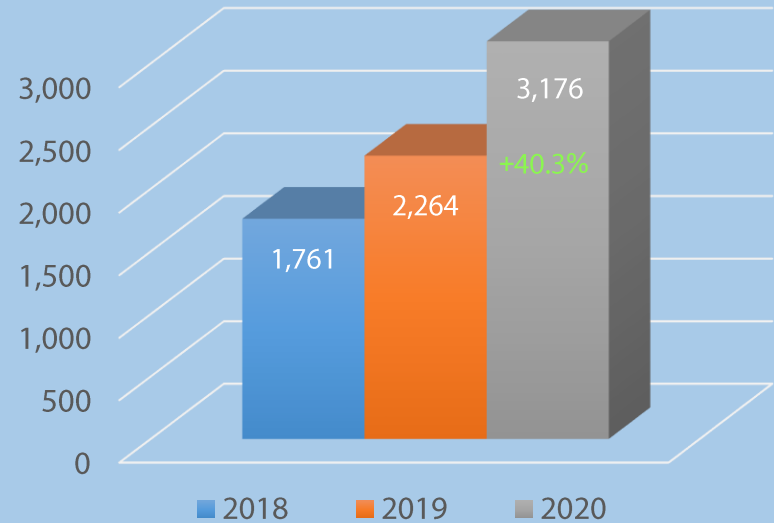
**20.4%** increase in electronic services (2019 - 2020)



# Key Performance Indicators



Online Followers (Jan - Feb)

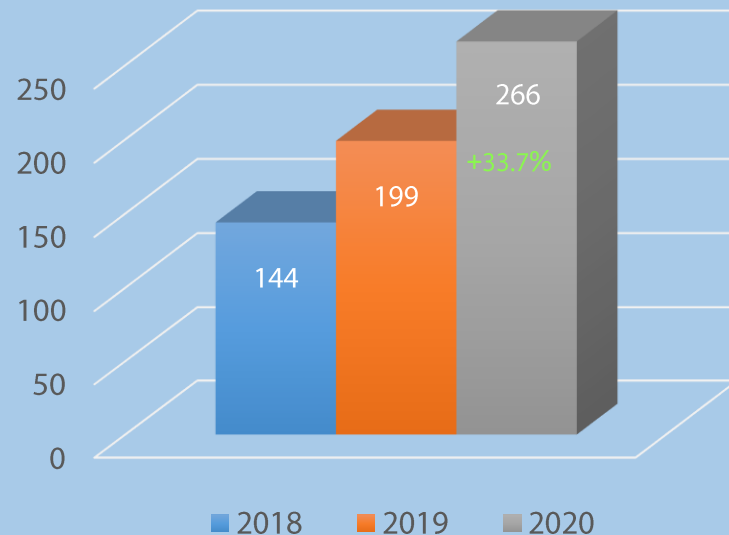


**40.3%** increase in online followers (2019 - 2020)

# Key Performance Indicators



Programs (Jan - Feb)

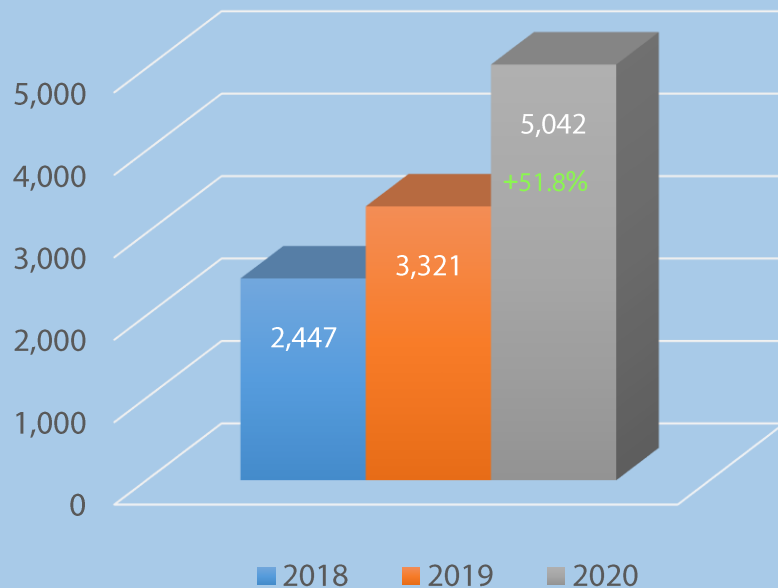


**33.7%** increase in programs (2019 - 2020)

# Key Performance Indicators



Program Attendance (Jan - Feb)

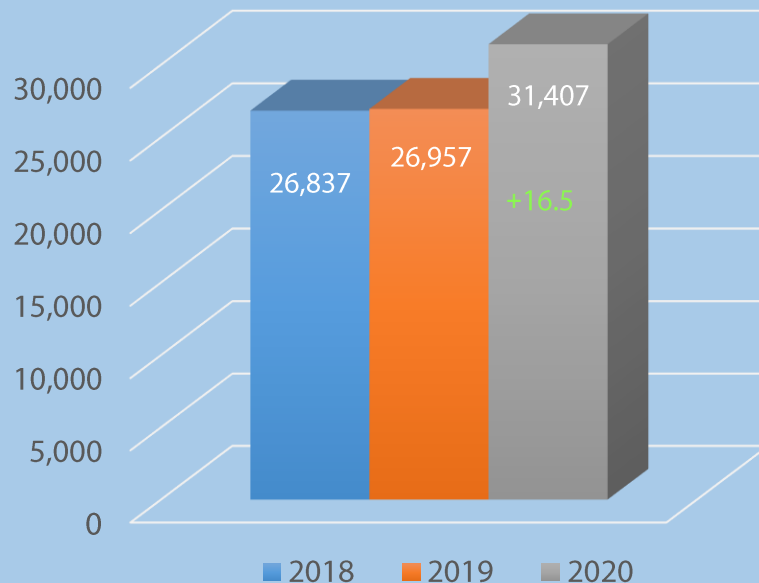


**51.8%** increase in program attendance (2019 - 2020)

# Key Performance Indicators



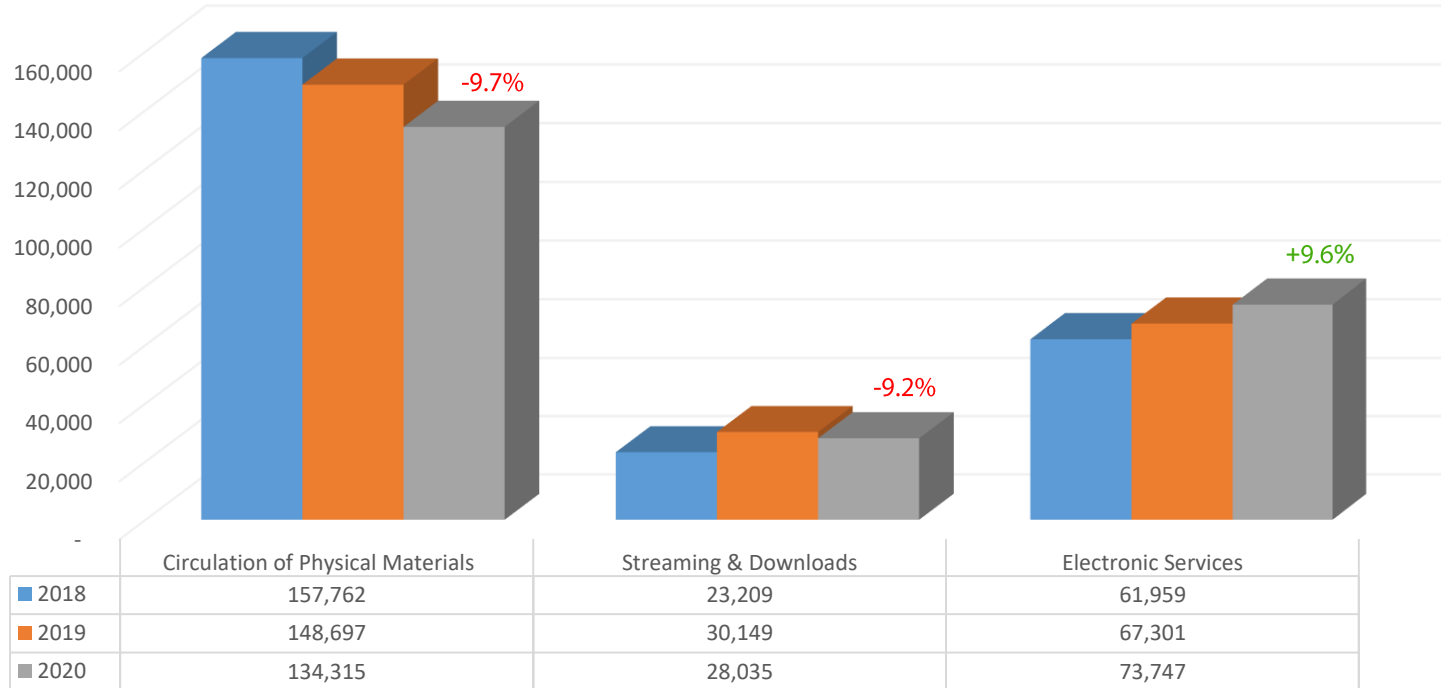
Library Membership (Feb)



**16.5 %** increase in Library membership (2019 - 2020)

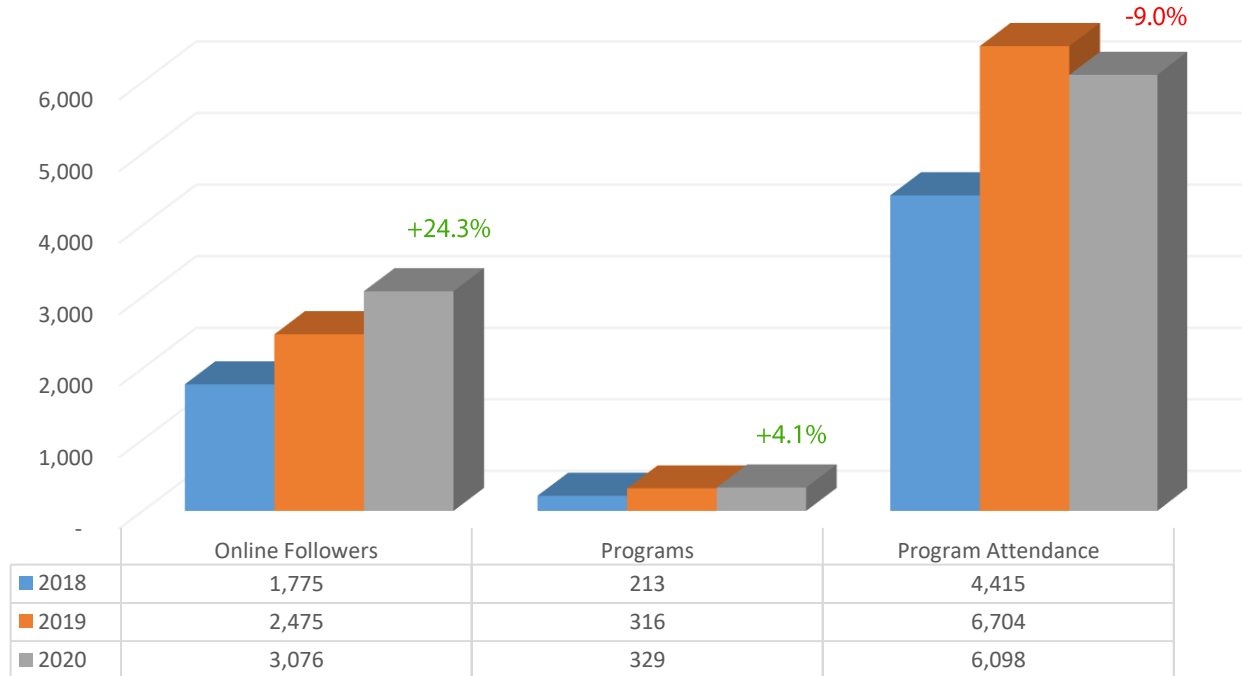
# Key Performance Indicators

Although the Facility was closed March 17-31 due to the pandemic, APL's strong performance in Jan & Feb 2020 was reflected in the Jan - March Q1 metrics.



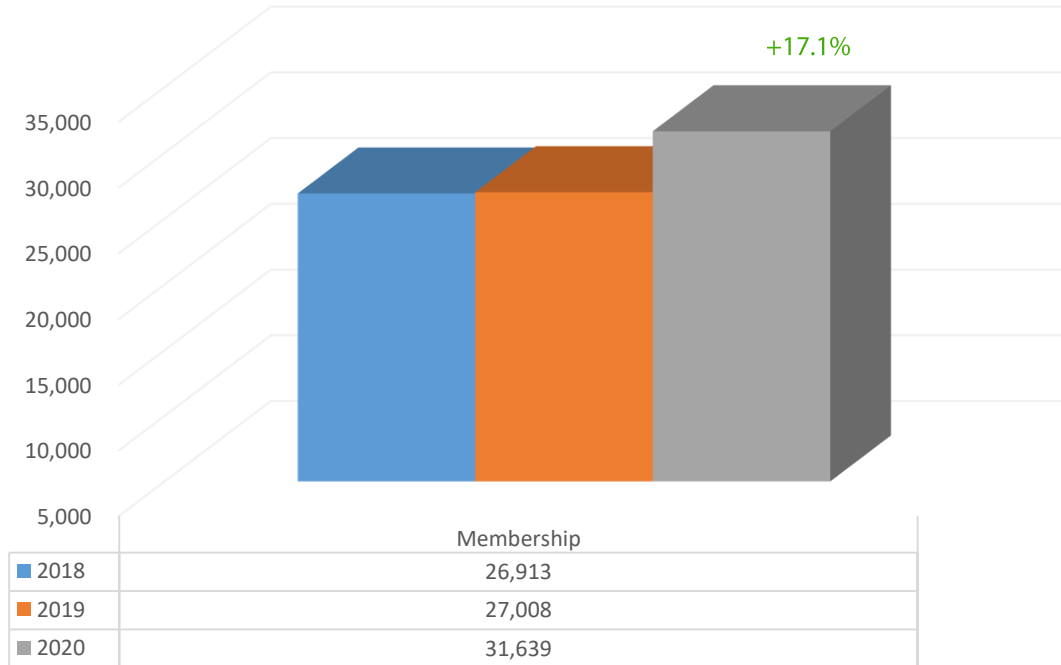
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# Impacts of COVID-19

When COVID-19 forced the closure of our Facility, we were faced with some difficult challenges, but also opportunities to serve our community in innovative ways.



**Welcome to APL's  
Digital Bingo @ Home**

Play **APL DIGITAL BINGO**  
for a chance to win!



**Learn something new  
everyday!**

Acquire New Skills.  
Advance Your Career.  
Expand Your Mind.

Learn new business, creative  
& tech skills with online video  
tutorials.

Anytime, anywhere.

**LinkedIn** LEARNING

GALE **COURSES**

**Get Started  
Today!**



**freegal**  
music

**STREAM  
MUSIC**

daily for free from  
over 30,000 labels  
**Available 24/7**

All you need is  
your library card.

**A-Z Resources**



**ancestry**  
Library Edition  
Available 24/7

**A-Z Resources**



**Aurora Public Library**

**ONLINE RESOURCES**

Available 24/7

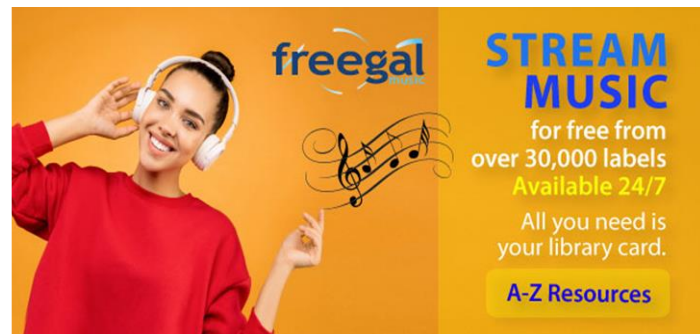
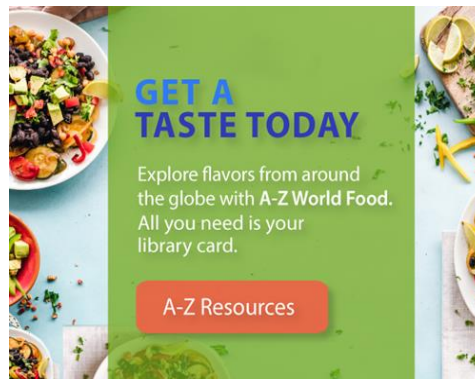
**A-Z Resources**



# Virtual Resources

As our community responded to the global pandemic, Aurora Public Library was here for them.

While we were not open, we provided a wealth of online resources they could enjoy at home.



# Adapting Library Services

When the economy has a downturn, libraries are one of the first places communities turn to.

To remove possible barriers to access, APL:

- Went “fine-free” for 2020
- Extended current memberships so they would not expire
- Provided temporary digital memberships with the opportunity to extend them to full borrowing through video conferencing
- Provided free high-speed Wi-Fi 24/7 in our parking lot and on the benches and stepped seating
- Expanded and supported access to eResources through the creation of online videos and “Ask a Librarian Live Chat”



# Virtual Programs

APL adapted in-person programs for online delivery through Facebook Live Stream, YouTube, Google Classroom, podcasts, videos and Zoom.

**The Right to Housing**



**Thinking Globally | Acting Locally**

**THURSDAY OCT 15 | 7:00 PM |  zoom**

The Social Planning Council of York Region has been working with non-profits, sector leaders, municipal staff/politicians and community members to discover together the opportunities to increase affordable housing stock across York Region.

A discussion on what could be possible if we work together as a community.

Facilitated by Yvonne Kelly, Social Planning Council York Region

Reserve your tickets at [bit.ly/3ftkQnm](https://bit.ly/3ftkQnm)  
Tickets available Aug 1  
For information visit: [OneBookOneAurora.com](https://OneBookOneAurora.com)



**f LIVE**

Aurora Public Library  
**SCIENCE LAB**



**f LIVE**

Aurora Public Library  
**VIRTUAL STORYTIME**

**DRAG QUEEN STORY HOUR**

**SAT MAY 30**  
11:00 - 11:30 am

Join us for a magical story hour experience hosted by Eva Lasting!

Please dress up. We'd love to see you in your amazing costumes on Zoom.

 **zoom**

Fun for all ages!



**IMAGINE THE possibilities**



**TO Summer Reading Club Join the Club!**

[tdsummerreadingclub.ca](https://tdsummerreadingclub.ca)  
[clubdelecturetd.ca](https://clubdelecturetd.ca)



**OUT OF THE ASHES**

Lillian Michiko Blakey






# Take and Make

Although the Creative Studio was closed,  
the community was kept busy with fun  
Take and Make Kits for all ages.



# Community Partnerships

APL collaborated with community partners to provide support during the pandemic.






## APPS To Earn Cash Back

**TUESDAY NOVEMBER 17**  
**10:30 AM - 12:00 PM**

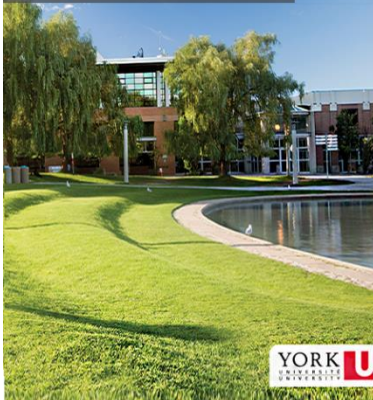
A virtual seminar for women 18+ years

In partnership with

## Broaden your mind with the Scholars' Hub @ Home speaker series

[alumniandfriends.yorku.ca/scholarshub](http://alumniandfriends.yorku.ca/scholarshub)



**YORK UNIVERSITY**

## MEAL PLAN ON A BUDGET

Learn how to meal plan using simple money saving techniques, tools and apps to help you maximize your budget and groceries.

**WEDNESDAY MAY 27 | 1:00 - 2:30 pm**



## MANAGING FINANCES DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS

**TUESDAY APRIL 28, 2020 | 1:00 - 2:30 PM**

A virtual seminar for women 18+ years.

Topics include:

- Government support, eligibility, condition and how to apply.
- How insurance and utility companies are helping individuals.
- Ways the major banks are supporting customers.

In Partnership with

Register at: [bit.ly/3bjkwiQ](http://bit.ly/3bjkwiQ)



## Q&Gay: A pride - inspired sexual health event

CAYR Community Connections and Aurora Public Library invite you to an open and non-judgmental conversation about safe sex and harm reduction as it relates to communities in York Region.

Ask questions in a safe virtual space moderated by CAYR Community Connections.



Questions can also be submitted anonymously at [bit.ly/2XntkF8](http://bit.ly/2XntkF8)

**FRIDAY JUNE 19**

**SESSION 1**  
Ages 17+ years  
12:00 - 1:30 PM  
Register at [bit.ly/2XnuqKG](http://bit.ly/2XnuqKG)

**SESSION 2**  
Ages 12 - 16 years  
4:00 - 5:30 PM  
Register at [bit.ly/2BmUKD4](http://bit.ly/2BmUKD4)

We reserve the right to assess and manage circumstances and situations in the best interests of our collective vision towards creating "liberation and safer" spaces.

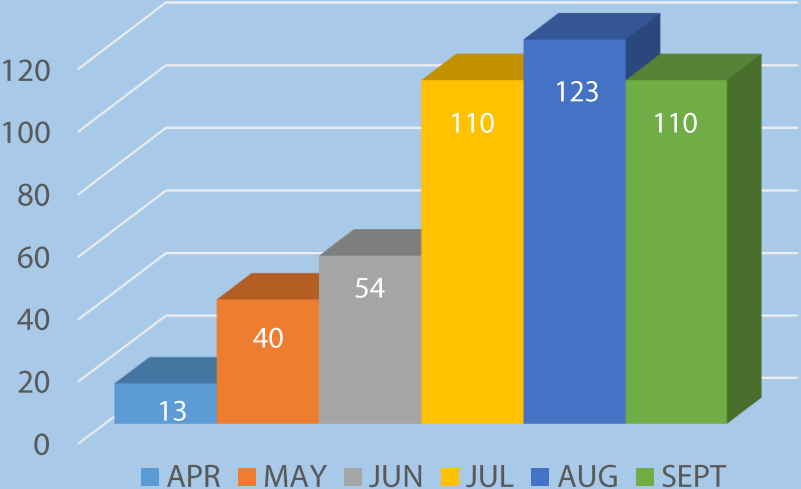
 



# Key Performance Indicators



Virtual Programs (April – Sept 2020)



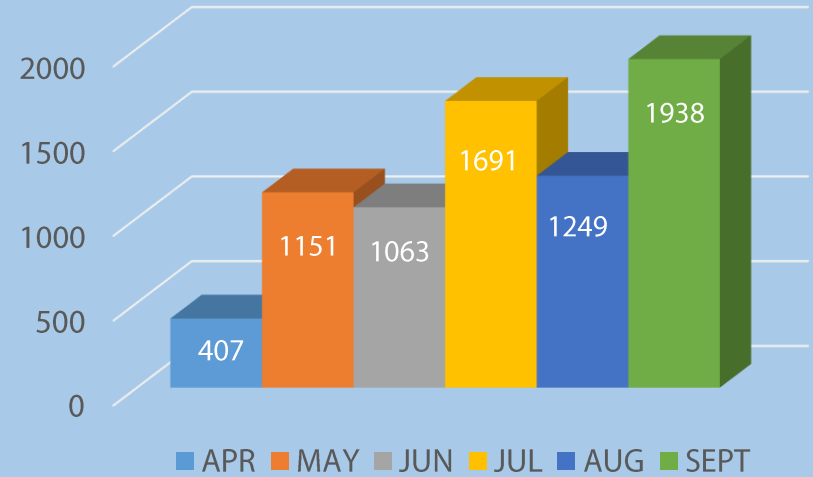
**450** total virtual programs



# Key Performance Indicators



Virtual Attendees (April – Sept 2020)

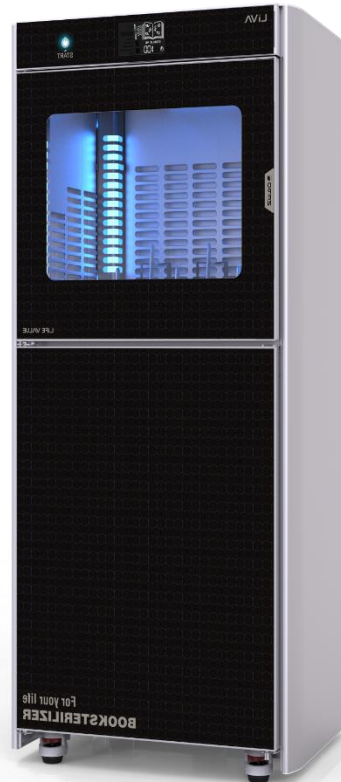


**7499** total virtual attendees

# Health & Safety Procedures

In anticipation of being able to resume borrowing of physical materials, APL invested in the health and safety of staff and customers. Procedures were developed to quarantine all physical returns for 72-hours.

We purchased a book sanitizer that uses high-powered UV-C rays, providing APL members with additional safety and peace of mind.



For added peace of mind,  
your APL checkouts have  
been quarantined and  
then sterilized using  
high-powered UV-C rays.

[www.aurorapl.ca](http://www.aurorapl.ca)





# Curbside Pick-up

On May 19, the Province announced that libraries were permitted to offer pick-up of physical materials. We launched our Curbside Pick-up service on May 25.

This new service allowed members to place holds on materials from our physical collections. When the customer's items were ready to be picked up, they received a phone or email notification. Convenient and touchless.

Week	Total customers	Customer / hour	Total items CKO	Items / hour
Aug 31 – Sept 5	767	18.3	2210	52.6
Sept 8 - 12	704	20.1	2001	57.1
Sept 14 - 19	838	23.9	2643	75.5



# In-Library Computer Access

Libraries continue to play an essential role in our communities, especially as an equalizer to economic barriers.

On August 17, residents were able to book a 60-minute computer session on 10 public workstations through a reservation system. Computers were also available for drop-ins.

With the introduction of some in-library services, the following safety precautions were put in place.

**Roles and Responsibilities in COVID-19 Emergency**

The infographic features three large hand icons pointing down, each representing a different level of government: York Region (blue), Ontario (dark blue), and Canada (red). Below each hand is a list of responsibilities and contact information.

York Region	Ontario	Canada
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ambulance</li><li>• Policing</li><li>• Public health</li><li>• Public housing</li><li>• Winter maintenance for regional roads</li><li>• Seniors housing</li><li>• Shelter support</li><li>• Transit (YRT, VIVAnext)</li></ul> <p><b>Business Information:</b> york.ca/business <b>York Regional Police:</b> 1-866-876-5423 info@yrp.ca   yrp.ca <b>York Region Public Health Health Connection Line:</b> 1-800-361-5653 <b>Information:</b> 1-877-464-9675 accessyork@york.ca</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Business support and closures</li><li>• Colleges and universities</li><li>• COVID-19 testing</li><li>• Health care</li><li>• Hospitals</li><li>• LCBO</li><li>• List of non-essential businesses</li><li>• Schools</li></ul> <p><b>Telehealth Ontario:</b> 1-866-797-0000 <b>Business Information:</b> 1-888-444-3659 ontario.ca/business <b>Local representative:</b> cta.org <b>Medical supply donations:</b> 1-888-777-0554 ontario.ca/OntarioTogether</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Access to credit</li><li>• Business support</li><li>• Canada Child Benefit</li><li>• Canada Emergency Response Benefit</li><li>• Canada Student Loans</li><li>• Employee support</li><li>• Employment Insurance (EI)</li><li>• Foreign travel and support for Canadians abroad</li><li>• Income tax</li></ul> <p><b>Support for individuals:</b> canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan.html <b>Business and employee support:</b> canada.ca/business <b>Support for Canadians abroad:</b> 1-800-387-3124 travel.gc.ca   sos@international.gc.ca <b>Local representative:</b> parl.gc.ca</p>

At the bottom of each column are the respective COVID-19 websites: [york.ca/COVID19](http://york.ca/COVID19), [ontario.ca/COVID19](http://ontario.ca/COVID19), and [canada.ca/COVID19](http://canada.ca/COVID19).

Health screening for visitors and staff	Plexiglas barriers at all service desks
Compulsory wearing of masks at all times	Enhanced cleaning protocols
Physical distancing signage	Sanitization stations
Stanchions to assist with traffic flow	Contact tracing

# In-Library Pick-up

To adapt to the Town's Library Square construction and the pending winter weather, all holds pickup moved inside the Library to the Magna Room.

The transition followed all cleaning and safety procedures to continue our efforts to keep our community safe from transmission.

Week	Total customers	Customer / hour	Total items CKO	Items / hour
Oct 13 - 17	721	20.6	2062	58.9
Oct 19 - 24	798	19.0	2535	60.4
Oct 26 - 31	769	18.3	2063	49.1

# Aurora Public Library

## COVID-19 Operating Pressures

- Reduced service levels
- Reduced operating hours
- Reduced staff
- COVID related staff absences
- Additional COVID related staff tasks
- Enhanced safety protocols & procedures for staff
- Offering of virtual programs
- Reduction of community partnerships
- No public collection browsing
- Contactless holds pickup
- Virtual card renewals





# Aurora Public Library

## Financial Summary

	2020 Budget		2021 Budget		2022 Budget
Personnel Costs	\$	3,140,742	\$	3,007,505	\$ 3,040,005
Other Expenditures	\$	872,200	\$	949,000	\$ 955,000
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>4,012,942</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,956,505</b>	<b>\$ 3,995,005</b>
General & Grant Revenue	\$	144,842	\$	54,405	\$ 60,905
Municipal Requisition	\$	3,868,100	\$	3,896,100	\$ 3,934,100
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>4,012,942</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,950,505</b>	<b>\$ 3,995,005</b>

# Aurora Public Library

## Budget Plan 2020 – 2022

**Thank you**

Bruce Gorman, CEO



**Aurora Public Library  
Multi Year Operating Budget Summary  
for Fiscal Years 2020-2022**

	<b>2020 Approved Budget</b>	<b>2021 Proposed Budget</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>2022 Proposed Budget</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
<b>Operating Expenses</b>				
Salaries & Benefits	\$3,140,742	\$3,007,505	-4.2%	\$3,040,005
Collections	365,000	379,000	3.8%	393,000
Cataloguing and Processing Services	63,000	49,000	-22.2%	49,000
IT Contracts, Equipment & Licenses	147,000	210,000	42.9%	221,500
Programs	30,000	30,000	0.0%	30,000
Community Relations & Marketing	25,000	17,500	-30.0%	24,000
Office Supplies, Equipment & Telephone	47,000	50,000	6.4%	50,000
Staff Development & Board Training	24,500	25,500	4.1%	25,500
Professional Fees, Initiatives & Contingency	40,700	52,000	27.8%	32,000
	<b>3,882,942</b>	<b>3,820,505</b>	<b>-1.6%</b>	<b>3,865,005</b>
<b>Contribution to Capital Reserve</b>	130,000	130,000	0.0%	130,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>4,012,942</b>	<b>3,950,505</b>	<b>-1.6%</b>	<b>3,995,005</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>				
<b>General Revenue</b>				
Rental	24,900	5,000	-79.9%	7,500
Fines	40,000	1,000	-97.5%	1,000
Fees	26,320	2,280	-91.3%	3,780
Sales	7,500	0	-100.0%	2,500
Interest and Other	700	700	0.0%	700
	<b>99,420</b>	<b>8,980</b>	<b>-91.0%</b>	<b>15,480</b>
<b>Grant Revenue</b>				
Operating Grant	44,138	44,140	0.0%	44,140
Pay Equity Grant	1,284	1,285	0.1%	1,285
	<b>45,422</b>	<b>45,425</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>45,425</b>
<b>Total General and Grant Revenue</b>	<b>144,842</b>	<b>54,405</b>	<b>-62.4%</b>	<b>60,905</b>
<b>Municipal Requisition</b>	<b>3,868,100</b>	<b>3,896,100</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>3,934,100</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$4,012,942</b>	<b>\$3,950,505</b>	<b>-1.6%</b>	<b>\$3,995,005</b>
<b>Additional Municipal Request Previously Approved -&gt;</b>		<b>\$28,000</b>		<b>\$38,000</b>



## Aurora Public Library Board

### REPORT SR2020.29

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**SUBJECT:** Library Service Hours Report

**FROM:** Bruce Gorman, C.E.O.

**DATE:** November 12, 2020

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#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board approve the following change to Library service hours as follows:

1. Closed December 24 and December 31, 2020

#### **BACKGROUND**

Like many businesses and services, Aurora Public Library operational hours have adjusted as a result of the ongoing global pandemic.

On March 17, 2020, Aurora Public Library complied with the provincial decree to close to the public to help stop the spread of COVID-19. A condition of reopening in May was a reduction of public operating hours and significant changes to how we provide library services. Library staff have successfully adapted existing programs to a virtual environment and revised processes to ensure materials continue to circulate safely.

The Aurora Public Library Collective Agreement for CUPE Local 905.02 employees includes Article 21.01 (a), specifying that unionized employees shall not work past 12 p.m. on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. Due to the pandemic, the Library currently opens at 11 a.m.

This year, in addition to addressing an operational inefficiency, closing on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve would convey to Library staff an appreciation and an acknowledgement of their dedication to Aurora Public Library and this community from the Board.

*Assisted by: Maida Rae, HR Coordinator/EA*

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*Bruce Gorman  
Chief Executive Officer*



# Claim The Vote, Claim The Country: York's Scholar's Hub and Library to dissect U.S. Election

BY BROCK WEIR  
EDITOR  
LOCAL JOURNALISM  
INITIATIVE REPORTER

When it comes to the upcoming United States Presidential Election, the only thing that is certain at the moment is uncertainty – and that might still be the case after Election Night itself.

Nobody knows what the outcome will be at this point, but York University and the Aurora Public Library will be on hand – virtually – the following morning to dissect the outcome in the latest installment of York's Scholars' Hub program.

On November 4, from 12 noon – 12.45 p.m., Scholars' Hub will welcome Dr. Anna Agathangelou, Professor in York's Department of Politics and PHD Candidate Adam Churchard in "Claim the vote, claim the country: On the question of 2020 US elections and the commons."

The presentation will look at how the US political system functions, examples of voter suppression "against people of colour, the poor and women voters – and critical contestations by different populations to claim the vote."

The speakers will also examine the impact of the US Presidential Election on Canada and the world, as well as concepts of democracy within and beyond the United States.

"I am doing a bit of a wait-and-see approach before finalizing the topics I will be discussing," says Churchard. "I think it has really gotten to the point where this is an American election unlike any before it. So much is happening and so much keeps changing in such unpredictable ways. Even over the last few weeks with the debates, Trump's COVID diagnosis and his ramped up attacks on the illegitimacy of the election it will be hard to say exactly how the next several weeks is going to go down, but at the same time I think having this talk the day after Election Day is a really good time to take stock of where we are."

"The big question is going to be, 'What is going to happen on Election Night? What are the candidates going to say? What is the voting process going to look like going into November?'" Americans are very used to having their presidential race decided on Election Night, so what is going to be the reaction when that doesn't happen and how are the campaigns and the public going to respond?"

Churchard isn't prepared to venture any bets on what the outcome might be. While he says Democratic candidate Joe Biden has a "very commanding lead" over Republican Donald Trump,

even more than Hillary Clinton had when facing the same rival in 2016, "there is still so much volatility" in the race and voter suppression tactics, including attacks on mail-in voting, continue to be amplified.

"That is going to effect the results in ways polling isn't really going to capture," says Churchard. "While the polling should be making Biden confident, what the result is going to be when the votes are counted, and what votes are counted, is still very much up in the air."

Uncertainty regarding the outcome, however, is not solely an issue for the United States. Churchard says Canada has seen nationalist groups become emboldened since the last time Americans went to the polls and, in his view, a Trump victory could keep that trend marching on.

"In the event of a Trump victory, that should be extremely concerning to people and what that would mean for emboldening the white nationalists and conspiracy theory movements," he says. "There is a caveat I want to put on that because we can't just say it is all coming from the United States. We saw a recent report that was backed by Public Safety Canada that saw on [white nationalist forums] Canadians actually punch above their weight in terms of contributing to that."

In the lead-up to the November 3 election and the virtual discussion hosted by York University and the Aurora Public Library the following afternoon, Churchard urges attendees – and, indeed, the public at large – to sit up, gather your information and think critically about the state of the world.

"Watch the news and think critically about what is going on in the U.S.," he says. "If you're registered for Scholars' Hub, come prepared to ask critical questions about both candidates, about the state of the race, and also about the wider political and social implications of whatever is happening [in the next few weeks]," he says. "Come with an open mind about how you feel about the election, and come informed, ready to learn and have a discussion."

The Scholars' Hub @ Home Speaker Series features discussions on a broad range of topics with engaging lectures from some of York University's best minds. Every Wednesday at noon, a different topic will be presented. All are welcome and you do not have to be a student or alumni of York to participate.

To register, visit [aurorapl.ca/events/2020-11-04-120000-2020-11-04-124500/claim-vote-claim-country-question-2020-us-elections-and](https://aurorapl.ca/events/2020-11-04-120000-2020-11-04-124500/claim-vote-claim-country-question-2020-us-elections-and).

Advertorial

## How Many Is Too Many?

Although the majority of new cases of COVID-19 are surfacing in the 45 year old + age range, the numbers in our school age children are increasing dramatically as schools have reopened. Are the social, economic and other benefits of children attending school worth the risk of our kids contracting the virus given the possible long term complications we are currently aware of and perhaps more concerning, the unknown long-term risks we do not yet know about? Are we making the right decisions for those who are unable to choose for themselves?

This ethical dilemma will be one for the textbooks 20 years down the road when our 20-20 vision frames the perspective by which we will approach it. But how do parents, teenagers and children reconcile their decisions today,

tomorrow or next week? Is covid-fatigue governing our decision making? Are economic factors forcing improper governance over our vulnerable?

Like our elders in long-term care homes, our children often do not have decision making powers about many choices. According to the Ontario.ca, as of October 19, 736 children in Ontario schools have contracted COVID-19. Ontario curriculum encourages independent, critical thinking. Are the voices of children and teenagers being heard in the noise of increased economic and social stress? In many cases, premature deaths and long term complications from coronavirus can be prevented. So, how many is too many?

*ASKOnlineCanada.ca provides accredited, fully online high school courses, Aurora based.*

# The solution to COVID-19 starts with keeping your distance.

- Wear a face covering.
- Keep 2m apart from anyone outside of your household.
- Limit your close contact to your household only.
- Wash your hands often.



**Stopping the spread starts with you.**  
Visit [ontario.ca/coronavirus](https://ontario.ca/coronavirus)  
to learn more

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**Ontario** 





## CHRISTINE'S CHRONICLES

Christine Elliott, MPP  
Newmarket-Aurora

### The Ontario Spirit in Newmarket—Aurora:

*Thankful for the members of our community*

COVID-19 has had a significant impact on everyone. Now more than ever, it's important that we all continue to do our part to stop the spread of COVID-19 and keep each other safe. Thank you to each and every one of you for helping to keep our Newmarket—Aurora community safe.

I want to extend a special thank you to some of the members of our community who have gone above and beyond during this time. From small acts of kindness to extraordinary generosity to help our frontline workers, we have found new and safe ways to come together and support each other.

Over the past few months, I have had the pleasure of meeting with some of these members of our community, both residents and businesses, who have positively impacted the lives of people here in Newmarket—Aurora.

I would like to share with you some of the local heroes I have had the pleasure of meeting.

- **Sport Aurora All Kids Can Play (AKCP)**, with support from ME and ANG Real Estate, collaborated with Aw, Shucks in Aurora to provide family dinners to four AKCP families.
- **Pita Pit** in Aurora provided first responders and frontline workers at Southlake Regional Health Care with over 600 meals during the pandemic.
- **The Aurora and Newmarket Chambers of Commerce** found new and innovative ways to support local businesses with webinars and initiatives like the Shop Local gift card program.
- **Eight local Tim Hortons in Newmarket** provided coffee and doughnuts to Southlake Regional Health

Centre employees during the month of April.

- **Newmarket Hyundai** delivered 25 vehicles to frontline health care workers at Southlake Regional Health Care who were in need of an alternative means of transportation.

- **Design Plastics International** accepted the call out for businesses to retool and produced COVID-19 shields with Health Canada approval.
- **Andrea Lynn Lewis**, a resident of Newmarket, set up a fundraising initiative to raise money for the Newmarket Food Pantry by cutting her long hair. She surpassed her original goal of \$800 and raised \$13,500 so that others in need will have food.
- **George Markow**, a 99-year-old World War II veteran in Newmarket, set a goal to walk 100 km to raise a \$100,000 for Southlake Regional and Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre. As of October, George has completed his 100 km walk and has raised \$68,000.
- **Market Brewing Company** pivoted their beer making operation to begin producing Bare Hands, a Health Canada approved hand sanitizer. Their first batch of 1,000 bottles was donated to Southlake Regional Care Centre to assist our frontline workers.

These are just some of the amazing stories of people and businesses that have gone above and beyond. The Ontario Spirit is alive and well in Newmarket-Aurora and I am proud to be part of this amazing community. Thank you for supporting our frontline workers and making a difference to those in need.

Stay safe and continue to take care of one another.

# "We need to do everything we can to avoid a very severe second wave": York Region returns to "modified" Stage 2

From page 1

removed, such as makeup applications and beard trimming.

York Region's return to Stage 2, albeit modified from what the community experienced this past summer, was announced by Premier Doug Ford, alongside Ms. Elliott, in Mississauga on Friday afternoon.

It was a decision both agreed was not taken lightly.

"By all accounts, the indicators are going in the wrong direction," said Premier Ford. "We're seeing a rapid increase in the rate of infection. With the positivity rate of 2.77 per cent above the high alert threshold of 2.5 per cent, cases per 100,000 in York are now nearly 39, well above the provincial average. Similar to what we have seen in the worst hotspots, most concerning of all, critical care admissions are reaching alarming levels.

"This was not an easy decision to make and I know this will be very, very difficult for many people to hear, but we can't allow this virus to get into our long-term care homes. We need to protect our schools and our communities. We need to keep performing vital surgeries in our hospitals. We need to stop the spread before things get worse. We need to avoid a full lockdown. We took the same decisive action with Toronto, Ottawa, Peel Region, when we saw the same alarming trends."

The Province, he added, will "spare no expense" to help business owners get through the duration of Stage 2.

"They have done everything right," he said. "They deserve our support as we do what is needed to get the spread of COVID-19 under control and I ask all the people in York Region [to] please support your local businesses, please support each other through this, because together we will get through this."

Funds, he added, are also available for impacted business owners through a \$300 million pot allocated for "fixed costs" such as property taxes, hydro and gas bills, in addition to Federal supports.

The Premier's words were echoed by his Deputy who said health trends in York Region are "going in the wrong direction."

"Numbers have jumped and we need to do everything we can to avoid a very severe second wave," said Ms. Elliott. "This was not an easy decision and I say this as a member from York Region. However, that is how fast this pandemic is progressing through a second wave.

I know that we are asking very real sacrifices of Ontarians, but this is about potentially preventing something much worse. We need to act now to keep our schools open, to protect our seniors and loved ones in long-term care, and to avoid the need for harsher measures in the future."

In addition to the restrictions above, tour and guide services are reduced to 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors, real estate open houses are limited to 10 people indoors where physical distancing can be maintained. In-person teaching and instruction are now limited to 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors, with exemptions for schools, child care centres and universities and most colleges.

Sports teams are now once again limited to training sessions, with no games or scrimmages allowed for the duration of Stage 2.

In a joint statement following the Premier's announcement, York Region Chair Wayne Emmerson and Dr. Karim Kurji, York Region's Chief Medical Officer of Health, said it was not an announcement "any of us wanted to hear" but praised the Government for taking action.

"As positive cases of COVID-19 continue to rise across the province, York Regional Council and York Region's Medical Officer of Health acknowledge the provincial government and the Chief Medical Officer of Health for taking difficult but decisive action to help stop the spread of this virus in our communities," they said. "While this is not the news any of us wanted to hear, it is a grim reminder the virus is still a threat to the 1.2 million people who call York Region home. It also serves as a signal we all must continue taking steps to keep each other, our families and our communities safe.

"The impacts of COVID-19 continue to take a toll on everyone, including individuals, families and businesses across York Region. It is vital we all follow the public health measures in place, including staying at home when feeling ill, maintaining physical distancing, washing your hands frequently with soap and water, limiting gatherings to those in your immediate household and wearing a face mask or covering when physical distancing is not possible. York Region will continue to work with partners in the provincial government to monitor emerging COVID-19 trends within our communities."



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What does  
*Community*  
mean to you?

# One Book | One Aurora

# Photography Contest

In her novel *Scarborough* Catherine Hernandez offers a glimpse into a community that finds dignity in unexpected places. COVID-19 has made us look at community in new ways.

**The Challenge:** Submissions must respect the physical distancing we are currently practicing to keep our community safe. **Send your entry to:** [brock@ipcmedia.ca](mailto:brock@ipcmedia.ca) **Contest Deadline:** Friday October 30, 2020

## RULES, TERMS & CONDITIONS:

There are two categories:

Yough (Ages 14-17) and Adult (Ages 18+)  
Photographs can be raw or digitally enhanced, but must be high-res for print

Winning photographs will be published in **THE AURORAN**

Winners will be announced at OBOA **grand finale on November 14, 2020**

APL Employees/Board members/Judges and their immediate families are ineligible to win

**1st Place**  
in each category:  
**\$50 Gift Certificate**

**2nd Place**  
in each category:  
**\$25 Gift Certificate**



## **Claim The Vote, Claim The Country: York's Scholar's Hub and Library to dissect U.S. Election**

BR

By Brock Weir, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter The Auran  
Fri., Oct. 23, 2020 4 min. read

When it comes to the upcoming United States Presidential Election, the only thing that is certain at the moment is uncertainty – and that might still be the case after Election Night itself.

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- HOME
- LOCAL
- CANADA
- POLITICS



# Celebrate Hallowe'en with virtual "HalloKween!" Drag Storytime

**BY BROCK WEIR**  
EDITOR  
LOCAL JOURNALISM  
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Hallowe'en arrives on Saturday, and although present health restrictions encourage quiet celebrations, the Aurora Public Library and Pflug York Region are sashaying virtually right into the spirit of the things with HalloKween! Drag Storytime.

Hosted by Miss Eva Lasting, a mainstay of the Aurora Public Library's (APL) in-person Drag Queen Story Hours, kids and grown-ups are encouraged to dress in their very best costumes as she leads songs, stories and a celebration of all things Hallowe'en between 2 and 2.30 p.m.

HalloKween! Spirit with Pflag and the Aurora Center was developed by Pflag, in conjunction with the APL after Pflag President Tristan Coolman received an email from a parent encouraging the organization to come up with a fun event where kids could dress freely in the costumes of their choosing.

“It stemmed from a family with a son who wanted to dress as a princess,” explains Reccia Mandelcorn, Manager of Community Collaboration for the APL. “The family talked him out of it because they felt the school and his classmates might not be too accepting of the costume. They reached out to Tristan and he thought about having a Drag Storytime.”

Pflag had the idea, and APL had the experience of hosting three similar events in the past, and Eva Lasting pleased to join in from British Columbia.

“Miss Eva’s mandate is to celebrate who you are, but it is not just a performance: all events we have with them are family-

friendly, they promote social justice and community development and literacy,” says Ms. Mandelcorn. “With Hallowe’en this year, with Public Health and the direction to not have children going door to door for Halloween, I think there is going to be a lot more at-home Halloween parties with families. The HalloKween! story time is not just for preschoolers, it is for older kids, teens,

for adults with a sense of fun, and I think if there are more parties happening, it will actually open the event up to more people as opposed to our regular pre-school story times – and it is a nice add-on for a different kind of Hallowe'en celebration this year.

Miss Eva Lasting  
the Halloween  
g York Region  
Public Library.  
**Contributed photo**

“Drag Queen  
story hour events  
are happening all  
over the world,  
they are happening in libraries, schools,  
bookstores, and all kinds of community  
spaces. These events are so important to  
everyone in the community because they  
teach individuality, they teach empathy, they  
teach acceptance and they let our kids know  
that it is okay to be yourself and to love who  
you are – and for all kids, it teaches them to  
welcome the diversity of everyone in their  
lives and their communities. I hope that  
everyone in the community will come out,  
people who are already participating, who  
want to have fun, who want to show off their  
costumes...even those who are just curious.  
If you are curious it is a way to open up a  
new way of thinking and a new experience.  
If you have never come to one before, come  
to this one. It is going to be so much fun!”

To register for HalloKween! with Miss Eva Lasting on Saturday, October 31 from 2 – 2.30 p.m., visit [bit.ly/3kg4wIx](https://bit.ly/3kg4wIx). The virtual event will be presented over Zoom.



Drag Queen Miss Eva Lasting is getting into the Hallowe'en Spirit with Pflag York Region and the Aurora Public Library.

# Arthritis:

New Approach  
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Results



If you suffer from Arthritis you need to be aware of effective advancements that can eliminate years of pain, suffering, immobility and frustration.

You may have told your doctor you suffer with one or more of the following: sore, stiff knees, painful achy hips, low back pain, mid back pain, neck stiffness or pain, hand stiffness, shoulder pain or elbow pain.

You may find that your pain or stiffness affects your work, housekeeping, leisure activities, exercise, sports or other activities. You go to the drug store or to your doctor and get pills to help relieve your pain. But you find the pain keeps returning. Alternatively, the doctor may refer you to a specialist who may tell you that surgery is needed or is an option for you.

However, many people are hesitant to have surgery given its invasive nature. It is important to know that although surgery is sometimes necessary, it is considered a last resort in most cases.

Also, you may have heard that there are serious health risks associated with chronic use (or overuse) of pain pills or anti-inflammatory drugs that include damage to the liver, kidneys and gut.

There is a new, natural, safe and highly effective approach that has helped many sufferers improve their

lives dramatically: Laser therapy uses light to favor and accelerate the body's natural healing processes. The innovative Multiwave Locked System (MLS) Laser produces a safe, efficient and simultaneous effect on pain, inflammation, swelling and water retention, exceeding the limits of traditional LLLT (Low power) and concerns of HP (High power) laser therapy.

### What does this mean for you?

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“This new, natural, safe and highly effective approach has helped many sufferers improve their lives dramatically”.

*Come in and allow us to help you achieve the results you deserve! Call (905) 773-2225 to book your FREE consultation and examination at King West Wellness Centre 141 King Rd., Unit 10, Richmond Hill (In the Home Hardware Plaza)*

# RICHMOND HILL RETIREMENT RESIDENCE

INSPIRED SENIOR LIVING WITH

UPCOMING  
**VIRTUAL  
EVENTS**  
AT RHRR

## The Holiday Feast: A History of Special Foods *with Lianne Harris* WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4 | 2:30 PM

Join Lianne Harris as she looks at the symbolic foods around the holiday times: Passover, Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas. We ask: what are these holidays, why do we eat certain foods, and why is it special that we are to celebrate them? Make your favourite holiday drink and put on your fanciest holiday outfit while we go through each holiday in depth! **Call to RSVP.**

## Holiday Wreath-Making Event WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18 | 2:30 PM

There is always something about the scent of cinnamon and fresh pine that makes everyone feel so cozy during the holiday season. It's the most wonderful time of the year! Traditions are what make this season so special, as are the memories we make. Please join Disree and Brooke online for this fun holiday event. We will provide the supplies as we make our own holiday wreath. **Call 905-770-4704 to RSVP.**

PLEASE CALL TO RSVP 905-770-4704 | 70 BERNARD AVE. RICHMOND HILL, ON L4C 0W7 | [verveseniorliving.com](http://verveseniorliving.com)