

# A YEAR IN REVIEW



Ah-Ha!

**G!**  
Georgina  
PUBLIC LIBRARY



## Message from the Board Chair

2023 was a transformative and inspiring year for Georgina Public Library (GPL). As the library began its new mission to foster a shared path of growth, discovery, and connection, we celebrated several remarkable achievements and milestones. From unveiling innovative services to advancing our strategic priorities, 2023 was a year of growth, resilience, and laying the foundation for an exciting future.

One of the year's most significant accomplishments was the launch of our 2023–2027 Strategic Plan. This plan, developed through extensive consultation with community members, staff, and stakeholders, sets a clear direction for the library's future. Its priorities reflect our commitment to community connection, inclusivity, and leveraging technology to meet the evolving needs of Georgina's diverse population.

GPL also opened its highly anticipated Lendery, a revolutionary service that allows patrons to borrow tools, appliances, and recreational equipment. This new initiative demonstrates our commitment to sustainability, resource sharing, and removing barriers to access for our patrons. The response from the community has been overwhelmingly positive, with 644 items borrowed since its launch.

In May, we celebrated the grand opening of the Teen Space at the Keswick Branch, a vibrant area designed for youth to explore, create, and connect. With features like cozy seating, gaming systems, and a welcoming atmosphere, teens have quickly embraced this space.

Throughout the year, we continued to provide diverse programs and services that foster lifelong learning and connection. Highlights included the first-ever Ukuleles Unplugged event, which brought together 74 attendees, and our highly successful National Day for Truth and Reconciliation program, delivered in partnership with the Chippewas of Georgina Island and the Friends of the Library. These events exemplify our commitment to offering meaningful, culturally relevant programming for all.

Behind the scenes, the leadership team worked diligently to prepare for the upcoming opening of the Discovery Branch within the MURC. This state-of-the-art library, set to open in Q1 2024, represents a bold step forward in our ability to serve the Georgina community with cutting-edge technology.

Finally, none of these achievements would have been possible without the dedication and passion of our staff, board, and volunteers. From hosting our first Staff Development Day to enhancing technology infrastructure like the improved internet connection at the Pefferlaw Branch, every member of our team played a vital role in our success. The staff's tireless efforts ensured that GPL continues supporting, empowering, and inspiring our evolving community.

As we reflect on 2023, we are proud of what we've accomplished and excited about what lies ahead. Thank you for your continued support of the Georgina Public Library. Together, we are building a brighter future for our community.

**Bobbi Sabatini (Board Chair)**

## 2023 Library Board

Bobbi Sabatini, Chair

Nancy Rodrigues, Vice-Chair

Naomi Davison, Regional Councillor

Dave Neeson, Council Representative

Leslie Johnstone

Rita Beechey

Madalyn Calzavara

## 2023 Management Team

Valerie Stevens, CEO/Director of Library Services

Sarah James, Manager, Library Customer Experience

Amy Butcher, Manager, Library Community Engagement

Becky George, Manager, Library eServices

Karolina Roussakis, Manager, Library Collections

Lori Puckett, Supervisor, Library Branches

## 2023 Staff

Our branches are staffed by:

11 Full-time staff

11 Part-time staff

13 Students

...with the support of:

8 Casual staff

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## Key Accomplishments

### **STRATEGIC PLAN 2023–2027**

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After an extensive community consultation, the 2023-2027 Strategic Plan was launched. The plan focuses on strengthening connections, advancing digital literacy, and enhancing inclusivity, setting a clear vision for Georgina's evolving needs.

### **LAUNCH OF THE LENDERY**

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In 2023, GPL introduced the Lendery, a growing collection of tools, appliances, recreation equipment, and more, loanable through all branches. While the initial launch included a variety of items, the collection continues to expand in 2024, with even more additions planned. This initiative reflects GPL's commitment to sustainability and accessible community services.

### **OPENING OF THE KESWICK TEEN SPACE**

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GPL unveiled the new Teen Space at the Keswick Branch, featuring cozy seating and TV equipped with a gaming station. The May 5th grand opening was a hit, establishing a welcoming hub for teens to connect and create.



## Infrastructure and Technology Updates

### **PEFFERLAW BRANCH INTERNET UPGRADE**

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The installation of a coaxial internet connection dramatically improved reliability for both staff and patrons, ensuring smoother operations and enhanced digital access.

### **DISCOVERY BRANCH**

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GPL's leadership team worked diligently to curate collections, procure state-of-the-art technology, and prepare for a grand opening set for Q1 2024.





## Programming Highlights

### STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

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GPL hosted its first-ever Staff Development Day, bringing employees together for team building, skill enhancement, and culture enrichment.

### SUMMER READING & LEARNING CLUB

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The launch party on June 17 drew over 100 attendees, kicking off a summer of literacy and discovery for children and families.

### NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

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Partnering with the Friends of the Library and the Chippewas of Georgina Island, GPL hosted a deeply impactful program to honor the day. The event received glowing feedback from participants.

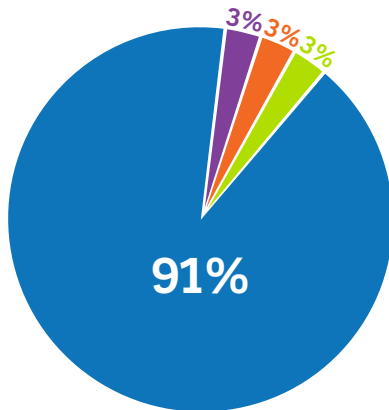
### UKULELES UNPLUGGED

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GPL introduced ukuleles to its collection and hosted several Ukuleles Unplugged events, bringing together patrons of all ages to celebrate and enjoy music.

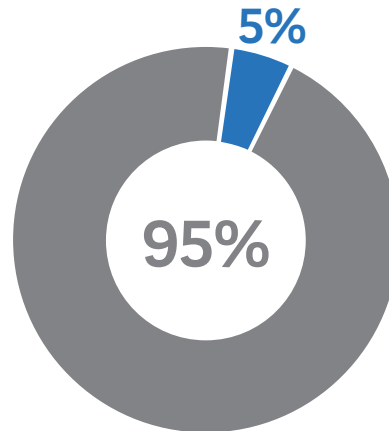


## Financial Summary



**2023 Revenue**

- Town of Georgina (91%)
- User fees, lease, and rental (3%)
- Provision from reserve (3%)
- Donations and grants (3%)



**2023 Town of Georgina Budget**

5% of the Town's total budget was allocated to Georgina Public Library.

- Georgina Public Library (5%)
- Other Town Services (95%)



## Library Statistics



**5,560**

Public Access Computer Sessions



**12,949**

WiFi Uses



**19,014**

Program attendees



**2,026**

New cardholders registered



**242,123**

Physical borrows



**1,660**

Interlibrary Loans



**75,272**

Digital borrows



**517,134**

Database searches

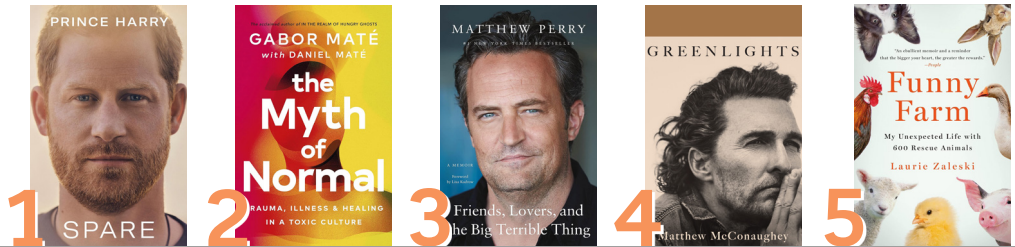


# Most Popular Checkouts of 2023

## Adult Fiction



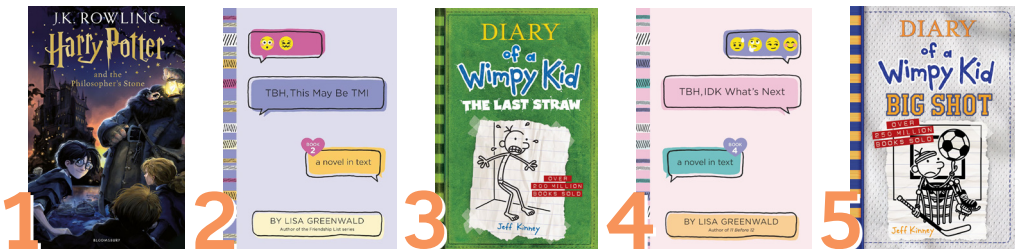
## Adult Nonfiction



## Adult Movies



## Kids Fiction

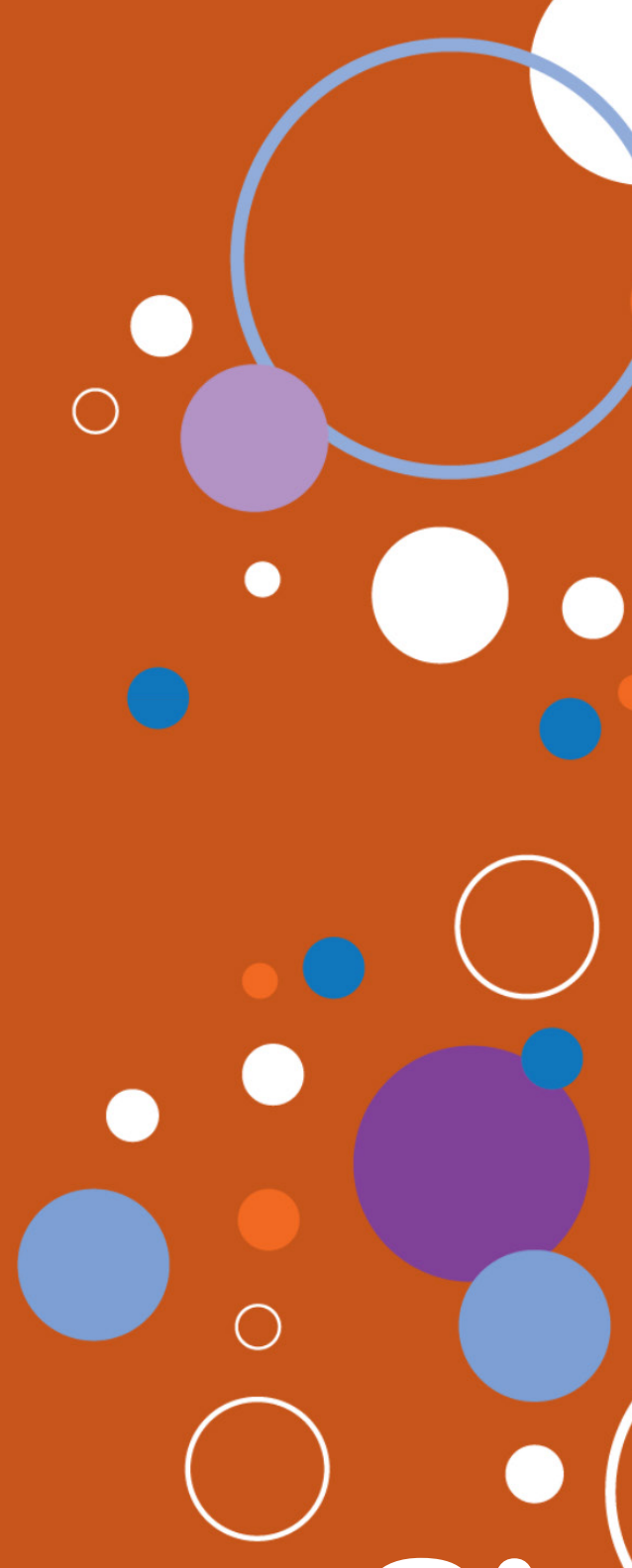


## Kids Nonfiction



## Kids Movies





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 GeorginaPL

[georginalibrary.ca](http://georginalibrary.ca)

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**Keswick Branch**  
90 Wexford Drive  
Keswick, ON L4P 3P7  
Phone: 905-476-5762

**Peter Gzowski (Sutton) Branch**  
5279 Black River Road  
P.O.Box 338  
Sutton, ON L0E 1R0  
Phone: 905-722-5702

**Pefferlaw Branch**  
76 Pete's Lane  
P.O.Box 220  
Pefferlaw, ON L0E 1N0  
Phone: 705-437-1514