



Stirling-Rawdon
Public Library

2021 - 2025

**STRATEGIC
PLAN**

MISSION STATEMENT

The mandate of our Library is to serve the community of Stirling-Rawdon and area by providing access to resources and programs for personal and educational enrichment.

We consider the Library to be one of the cornerstones of the community, and as such we promote the spirit of exploration, the joy of reading and the pursuit of knowledge.

VISION STATEMENT

The Stirling-Rawdon Public Library is a leader in celebrating reading and transforming lives through knowledge and information.

The Library provides accessible services through current technology and contemporary facilities. The Library is a recognized contributor to the high quality of life in the community through exceptional services and valued partnerships.



CORE VALUES



ACCESSIBILITY:

THE STIRLING-RAWDON PUBLIC LIBRARY VALUES FREE PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION RESOURCES AVAILABLE IN A BARRIER-FREE ENVIRONMENT

INTELLECUAL FREEDOM:

WE RECOGNIZE THE PUBLIC'S RIGHT TO INFORMATION WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF ESTABLISHED LAWS AND STRIVE TO PROVIDE REQUESTED ACCESS IN AS MANY FORMATS AS PRACTICAL

RESPECT AND INCLUSIVITY:

WE RECOGNIZE AND RESPECT DIVERSITY OF CULTURES, OPINIONS, LEARNING STYLES, AND AGE.

ACCOUNTABILITY:

WE PROMOTE A WORK ENVIRONMENT WHICH EMBRACES OPEN COMMUNICATION, HONESTY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONAL ETHICS, RESPECT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

CUSTOMER SERVICE:

WE SERVE EVERY PATRON WITH COURTEOUS, KNOWLEDGEABLE AND SUPERIOR SERVICE

PRIVACY:

WE RESPECT AND PROTECT THE PRIVACY OF OUR PATRONS AND THEIR INFORMATION

A LINK TO THE PAST:

WE ARE COMMITTED TO PRESERVING THE HISTORY OF STIRLING-RAWDON IN ALL FORMATS

LITERACY AND LOVE OF READING:

WE ARE COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING AND NURTURING ALL FORMS OF LITERACY AND LIFELONG LEARNING.

INTRODUCTION

The Stirling-Rawdon Public Library is firmly committed to providing quality services to the residents of Stirling-Rawdon. It is our belief that Libraries play a critical role in their communities. Libraries are far more than “repositories of collections” and offer a level playing field to people of diverse backgrounds and socio-economic sectors. They strive to offer services in a non-judgmental manner to all, regardless of beliefs and values. They are increasingly seen as places “to be”; a space where people can pursue their individual goals and interests, as well as where they can meet and interact with others. At the same time, Libraries are growing as a virtual presence, offering a wide array of resources online and through social media.

This Strategic Plan reflects the collective input of our library staff, the dedicated members of the Stirling-Rawdon Public Library Board, and the response from patron and community members through a survey launched in the spring of 2021. The results of the survey showed a wide range of valued services and priorities and from it, four strategic directions have been identified which will form the basis of this plan over the next four years.

We look forward to working closely with staff, Board members and community partners to meet the identified needs of the vibrant and growing community of Stirling-Rawdon.

STRATEGIC FOCUS #1: PUBLIC SPACE

The Stirling-Rawdon Public Library will aim to provide a functional, accessible, welcoming and comfortable facility



Public Space Objectives

#1

Objective 1: The library will provide fully accessible public washrooms by creating two gender neutral-single use washrooms free from barriers and inclusive to all

Actions:

- Research options to install accessible door locks, remove stalls, relocate accessible toilet, relocate grab bars, update sink/vanity, replace flooring, paint
- Seek quotes
- Raise funds and/or apply for grants

#2

Objective 2: The library will provide public spaces to meet the varying needs of users

Actions:

- Minimize the size of the non-fiction section and rearrange shelving to open up areas to be used for quiet reading space and work stations
- Install additional electrical outlets including floor outlets
- Purchase new furnishings as appropriate
- Retrofit the computer station to a mobile unit to create open space when needed

#3

Objective 3: The library will create a warmer, more colourful, refreshed atmosphere in the Adult Department

Actions:

- Display rotating pieces of artwork on the walls to add colour to the room
- Provide display shelves to highlight various mediums of art
- Improve signage

#4

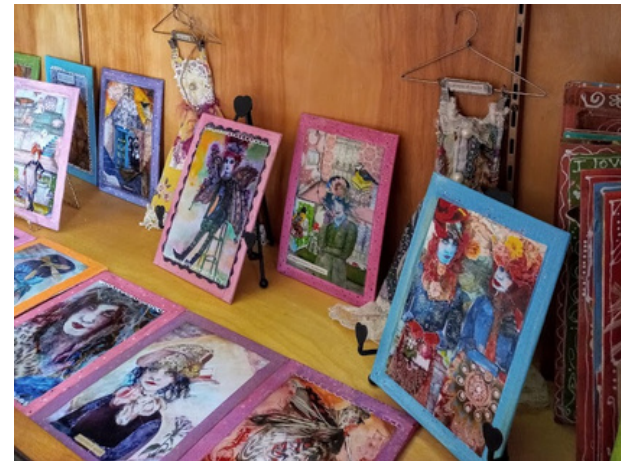
Objective 4: The library will provide additional space outside

Actions:

- Continue to work with the Public Works department and the Stirling Horticultural Society in creating a space on the corner of Emma and West Front streets that provides work space and seating for users
- Ensure that the outdoor spaces include wireless access and that the service is promoted to the community
- Utilize the community bulletin board to promote library services and announcements

STRATEGIC FOCUS #2: ART GALLERY

The Stirling-Rawdon Public Library will foster an appreciation for arts and culture by providing a contemporary venue to showcase the talent of local artists and meaningful art experiences for our community



Art Gallery Objectives

#1

Objective 1: The library will utilize as much available space as possible to expand the collections on display

Actions:

- Upgrade art hanging system to take full advantage of the available wall space
- Display artwork in the adult department of the library
- Acquire a display cabinet for the adult department to showcase diverse pieces of artwork (i.e. sculptures, textiles etc)

#2

Objective 2: The library will highlight details of each featured artist to promote their work

Actions:

- Create an 'Artist Biography' to prominently display with each show which details the artist's training, qualifications, influences, achievements, contact details etc.
- Produce a video of the artist and their work to be shared on the library's social media pages and website
- Share information about featured shows with other organizations in the Quinte area (i.e. Quinte Arts Council, Arts Quinte West, Prince Edward County Arts Council)

#3

Objective 3: Increase the number of exhibitions throughout the year

Actions:

- Recruit additional volunteers to assist with exhibition changeovers
- Promote the Stirling Art Gallery in the region to present opportunities for artists to display their work

#4

Objective 4: Update the physical space of the Art Gallery to create a contemporary atmosphere through fundraising, grant applications, and municipal support

Actions:

- Replace flooring with new carpet, laminate or vinyl
- Mount lighting fixtures that can be adjusted to effectively highlight the artwork and create a warm ambiance in the Gallery
- Install blinds in the windows

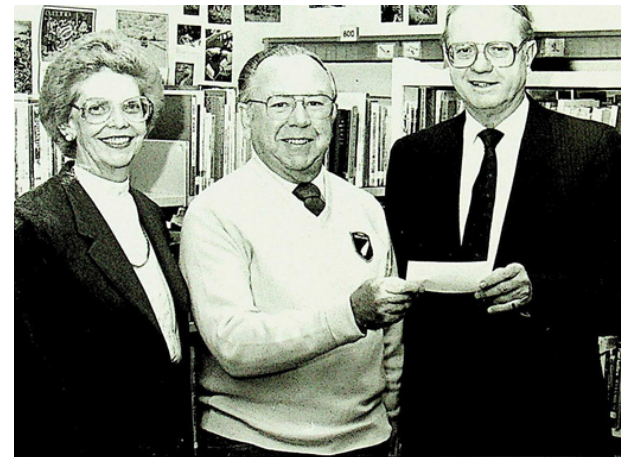
STRATEGIC FOCUS

#3: LOCAL HISTORY

The Stirling-Rawdon Public Library Local History Department is a repository containing materials of enduring value that represent the documented history of Stirling-Rawdon. The Stirling-Rawdon Public Library will promote the resources and records available, to provide visitors, both virtually and in person, a deeper understanding of the area, its people, as well as its roots and traditions. Emphasis will also be placed on encouraging understanding of Stirling-Rawdon's historic associations within the region and province, as well as its ongoing connections with local neighbours, including Indigenous cultures.



Stirling High School 1911
A portion of the original high school building was retained but it is hard to find any similarities in the old and the new. The school was renamed King George School, building was demolished in 1960. The present Stirling Junior School sits on this site. Visible at the right are St. Paul's United Church and its carriage shed.



Local History Objectives

#1

Objective 1: The library will develop programs, workshops, and presentations that will assist individuals with their genealogy research and offer information about the history of Stirling-Rawdon

Actions:

- Provide research and reference services to the public at specified times during the week or by appointment
- Host Local History programs aimed to provide information about Stirling-Rawdon's history (ie. guided walking tours, guest speakers etc)
- Continue to subscribe to Ancestry for patron use

#2

Objective 2: The library will actively seek to expand the 'Stirling-Rawdon Past and Present' digital database and promote the value of the resource to the community

Actions:

- Continue to establish a virtual presence online
- Celebrate Stirling-Rawdon's history through the use of displays in the library and out in the community
- Acquire municipal, public and private records for the digital or permanent collection

#3

Objective 3: The library will engage the community to raise awareness and involvement in the Local History Department

Actions:

- Establish varied roles for volunteers
- Expand relationships with the educational community, researchers, historians, genealogists, cultural organizations, service clubs and the business sector

#4

Objective 4: Strive to offer a functional, comfortable and convenient space for the Local History Department

Actions:

- Explore ways to provide increased accessibility to the Local History Department
- Increase staff presence and assistance in the Local History Department during regular library hours
- Maintain a comfortable room temperature for visitors

STRATEGIC FOCUS #4: PROGRAMMING

The Stirling-Rawdon Public Library will offer ongoing programs for personal, educational, recreational and cultural enrichment for patrons and community members of all ages.



**Apps and Games to Learn
Math, Science, Reading, and more.**



Programming Objectives

#1

Objective 1: The library will offer programs both in person and virtually to accommodate as many patrons and community members as possible

Actions:

- Offer 'Take & Make' kits as a permanent program
- Explore and create fun and engaging virtual programming opportunities to share on social media platforms
- Utilize the space outside to offer outdoor programming
- Create and offer ongoing active and passive teen programs utilizing the dedicated teen space
- Continue the library's tradition of diverse in-person programs for all ages

#2

Objective 2: The Library will promote library programs by

- Encouraging patrons to subscribe to our monthly newsletter
- Continuing to utilize existing Social Media sites
- Exploring other Social Media platforms to ensure all demographics are being reached
- Accessing local television, radio, and print publications

#3

Objective 3: The library will collaborate with partners and engage with the community to both broaden the range and build awareness of programs, events and resources that support lifelong-learning interests for all ages.

Actions:

- Cultivate new partnership opportunities with local institutions, cultural organizations, and individual community members to enhance our programming offerings
- Participate in local events within the community and surrounding areas (Stirling Fair, Farmers Markets, Community Expo, Stirling Public School Fun Fair, High School Library events, Stirling Parade, Front Porch Shenanigans etc)

#4

Objective 4: The Library will seek to establish a 'Makerspace' passive programming area within the library to provide resources to patrons looking to learn in new and creative ways.

Actions:

- Utilize the Cricut® machine for programming purposes
- Acquire new and emerging technological materials through fundraising efforts
- Develop in-person events for all ages to encourage participation and use of the space

Stirling-Rawdon Public Library

43 West Front St.

Stirling, ON

K0K 3E0

613-395-2837

info@stirlinglibrary.com

