

# Elliot Lake Public Library

## Library Services

### Information Report

**To:** Budget Ad Hoc Committee  
**From:** Pat McGurk  
Chief Librarian  
**Date:** January 29, 2025  
**Subject:** Library Operations and Library Use Fees 2025

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This report is for the information of the Budget Ad Hoc Committee

#### Service Levels

The library is an information and cultural centre supporting a wide range of community activities and objectives. It is also a place where people come together to gather information and exchange ideas. One of its functions is to offer recreational, informational and educational materials in printed or electronic formats to adults, seniors, teens and children. Included are books in regular and large print, e-books, e-readers, talking books periodicals, movies and educational films, public access computers and wireless capabilities, community information, local history/genealogy, library services, user education and resource sharing.

#### 2024 Highlights

- 41,127 people visited the library
- 35,200 items were borrowed
- 13,206 e-books and e-audiobooks were downloaded
- 355 new registrations
- 109 programs were held with a total of 996 participants

Numbers through the door shows an overall increase of 3% over the same time in 2023. This further demonstrates the importance of ELPL as a place to access collections, information, technology and community space. It also reflects the growing role of the public library as a community hub.

Circulation of all formats of library materials remained strong through 2024. New reads and DVD collections has been embraced eagerly and demand continues to grow. ELPL circulated 35,200 items in 2024, an increase of 3,000 checkouts or 9% from the same period in 2023.

E-resource usage continued to grow with 13,206 virtual checkouts of eBooks and e-audiobooks in 2024. This is an increase of 10% from 2023. ELPL staff have been promoting Overdrive tutorials, a database that provides free e-books and e-audiobooks through a Tech Tuesday program.

Staff continue to successfully promote the library in the community and local schools, 355 new library cards were created in 2024 representing a 20% increase over the same time period last year. Elliot Lake Public Library has 2,436 active cardholders. The Library also has partnerships with some local organizations – Elliot Lake Historical Society, North Channel Literacy Council and RAFO.

Programming is an integral part of Elliot Lake Public Library and continues to support the library's mission. ELPL saw an increase of 25% over last year in participants.

## **Library Programs**

One on one technology lessons

Book Club

Children's programs – these include Summer Reading, March Break, Easter, Halloween, Christmas and Classroom visits

Adult/Senior Programs – these include Craft and Colouring, Afternoons at the Movies – English movie – Wednesday and French movie – Thursday, Author reading and book signing

## **Beyond Books**

Items that can also be borrowed with a library card include:

Fishing tackle and rods

Ontario Provincial Park day passes

Bird watching kits

DVDs and CDs

E-books and e-audiobooks

E-readers

I-pads with wifi

Digital newspapers on i-pads – in library use only

## **Library User Fees 2025**

Libraries are one of the few places left where people can go without having to spend money. One of our main goals is to be accessible as well as inclusive. With everything becoming less and less affordable I feel what we are charging for our services is adequate. I looked at several other libraries (see attached chart) and what they are charging for similar services our library is in line with these. Library revenue generated more than covers the expenses we incur.