



CONNECT | LEARN | PLAY

STRATEGIC PLAN 2026-2030



Letter from the CEO and Planning Committee

The Douro-Dummer Public Library is pleased to present its new Strategic Plan, which will guide the governance, operation, and growth of your public library over the next four years. Each new initiative we undertake will reflect our strategic priorities – which were crafted in collaboration with community members, library staff, board members, and volunteers. The planning committee gratefully acknowledges how supportive and active our library community is: we received so much helpful feedback, time, and effort from many people of Douro-Dummer during this project.

At its core, the library as an institution has always been about access: whether to information, culture, technology, recreation, or simply space. In times of uncertainty or complexity, our community members' need for this access does not change – if anything, it only grows stronger.

As our township develops and grows, so does the use of the library: up to twenty new people sign up for library membership in Douro-Dummer every single month. Families, children, adults, and seniors come to the library with all kinds of social and information needs. They come to read, work, borrow free materials, attend group programs, use computers and WiFi, and print government forms. They come to charge devices, connect with loved ones, and check emergency updates during power outages. They come to ask questions, tell stories, warm up or cool down, ease loneliness, and engage in civil discourse. In these ways and more, the library is vital to so many pursuits which inform our quality of life in the township of Douro-Dummer.

We know people turn to the library for answers to social, technological, and economic challenges. Grounded in our values - which include service excellence, community connection, and intellectual freedom - we will take action over the next four years to ensure DDPL continues to provide the library services residents are looking for.



- Library CEO Maggie Pearson
- Board Chair Georgia Gale-Kidd
- Council Representative Tom Watt
- Library Assistant San Williamson

- Board Member Darla Milne
- Board Member Tina Fridgen
- Board Member Diane Bonner
- Council Representative Shelagh Landsmann

Our Mission

*We create a place of belonging
to connect, to learn, and to play.*



Our Vision

*Our vision includes the whole
community, empowered by a library
that offers discovery of information,
possibility, and choice.*

Our Values

Our values highlight the library's meaning and purpose:



Space To Be

Providing an open and free place for all people in the township to feel included and valued.

Intellectual Freedom

Promoting intellectual freedom by providing access to a wide range of ideas, resources, and opportunities for civil discourse.

Service Excellence

Maintaining high standards of library and information services and professionalism. We couple this with the warmth and personalization our community is known for.

Rural Identity

Supporting community building and storytelling. Our township is unique, possessing a heritage, culture, and natural environment of which members are proud.

Transparency

Ensuring that library operations and governance remain responsive, effective, and relevant to community need. We communicate our policies and grounds for decision making.

Strategic Priorities

1 SPUR GROWTH: Expand the library's reach and relevance across the township

- Deliver outreach to all corners of the township
- Increase the library's visibility as a high value institution
- Grow active membership

2 REIMAGINE SPACE: Transform the library into a vital, accessible, and open community-centred destination

- Make the library a well-known and talked-about location
- Increase where and when library services can be accessed



Strategic Priorities

3 CULTIVATE INNOVATION: Inspire curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking through innovative services and programs

- Deliver responsive, relevant, and expert-led programming
- Develop and market our Library of Things
- Celebrate local history and identity



4 BUILD CAPACITY: Strengthen the library's foundation to ensure long-term sustainability and impact

- Enhance fundraising initiatives
- Strengthen organizational and staff capacity
- Develop and implement an advocacy strategy