



RAPID CITY PUBLIC  
LIBRARY  
2022  
ANNUAL REPORT  
CONNECTING THE COMMUNITY TO  
EDUCATION, INFORMATION,  
AND INSPIRATION.





# HIGHLIGHTS

**The library became fine-free**, minimizing barriers to checking out books and accessing computers. This was well-received by the public and checkouts increased by 18%. There was no increase in overdue and lost items, or delays in people receiving the materials they placed on hold.

**New self-checkout machines** were added with updated technology to streamline the user's experience.

**The library enhanced the local history web pages** to improve access to research. The public responded to the upgrade and local digital archive use increased 90%.

**To mark the 50th anniversary of the 1972 Flood**, the library developed a new podcast voicing the powerful stories of victims and survivors.

**A New Strategic Plan** was developed from extensive community feedback. The plan identifies the evolving needs the library will work to meet over the next five years.

**Merchandising** was established with requested items like USB cords, earbuds, and even bike locks. Logo-branded water bottles and mugs are also offered. The library went green, eliminating single-use plastic bags and now offers logo-branded reusable nylon bags.

**A Teen Advisory Board (TAB)** was started to give local teens an opportunity to voice what they would like to see in their library; from teen area layout, services, and events, the feedback they've been providing has been invaluable.

**A New Winter Reading Program** encouraged children, teen, and adult literacy during the holiday break.

**Rapid City Indian Boarding School Lands and Children's Memorial** used the library's sound recording room to conduct oral history interviews. By working together, we will make significant cultural information and regional indigenous history available to the public.





**11,000+**  
DRIVE-THRU USERS

**282,000+**  
HOURS USING  
LIBRARY  
COMPUTERS  
AND  
WIFI

**200,000+**  
SOCIAL NETWORKING  
ENGAGEMENTS  
     
FOR PROMOTIONS & EDUCATION

**90%**  
INCREASE  
IN DIGITAL  
ARCHIVES USE

**91**  
POP-UP LIBRARIES  
**43%**  
INCREASE IN VISITS

DIGITAL, PRINT &  
MEDIA MATERIAL  
CHECKOUTS UP  
**18%**

FLOOD PAGE  
VISITS UP  
**198%**

**60,000+**  
MORE PEOPLE  
VISITED THE LIBRARY  
IN PERSON  
**31%**  
INCREASE

**57,000+**  
INDIVIDUALS HELPED BY  
LIBRARY STAFF  
**22%**  
INCREASE

**40,000+**  
MORE  
DIGITAL  
LIBRARY  
CHECKOUTS

**21%**  
INCREASE  
IN NEW  
BORROWERS

NEARLY  
**12,000** EVENT ATTENDEES



## HITS ALL OF THE MARKS!

*"At their best, libraries are not only filled book shelves. At their best, libraries are community centers, incubators for friendship, and a respite from a loud, rushing world. The Rapid City Public Library hits all of these marks and more."*

## IMPRESSED!

*"I am impressed with all who work for the library. The staff is helpful, friendly and an asset to the library. Thank you."*

## FABULOUS SELECTION!

*"As a fairly recent transplant from a large city, I was so pleasantly surprised by the Rapid City Public Library's convenient location, spacious and beautiful building, friendly and helpful staff, and unique programs. The library has a fabulous selection of books, a small used book market, a maker's space, board games, tool rental, computer and printer use, etc. etc. etc."*

## I LOVE COMING HERE!

*"I am from Rapid City growing up and have always been fond of our library. In my years I have been to many cities east and west coast, and I can honestly say I love our library here more than all of them. Recently I've been coming in for the board games, but you also sought out a book for me from another library. Thank you all so much for all you do. I love coming here."*

## VERY USEFUL!

*"Very clean, quiet and computer/print so very useful! Couldn't get jobs or medicine without this! Thank you so much."*



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**RAPIDCITYLIBRARY.ORG**