



Sault Ste. Marie
Public Library

www.ssmpl.ca

"One stop....endless possibilities"

STRATEGIC PLAN 2024-2029

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



Sault Ste Marie Public Library is the heart of our community. The people of SSM deserve and want a Library that puts them on equal footing with the rest of the world. No matter where you live, who you are, where you came from, how old or young; the Library is the place to meet the needs of the people of SSM.

In collaboration and alignment with our elected officials at City Hall, under the leadership of Mayor Shoemaker, we have created a strategic plan that will guide us for the next five years in our pursuit of excellent library services for the citizens of SSM.

There have been many hands involved in this new strategic plan but I especially want to thank the Board of Directors, CEO Matthew MacDonald and his staff, Ontario Library Services, and the numerous community partners and individuals that provided the insight, input and raw data that guided us on this journey. Thank you all for helping us create your strategic plan for the Library.

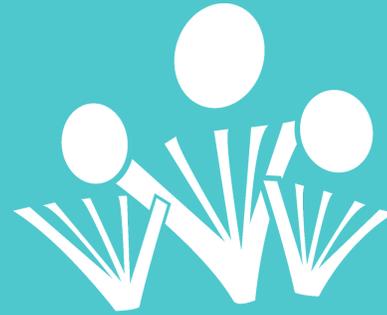
Wayne Greco
Chair
SSM Public Library Board

Library Board of Directors

Paolo Bruni
Hannah Caicco
Lisa Dobrovnik
Erin Ferlaino
Steve Murray
Wayne Greco (Chair)
Kevin Harrison
Mike Olejnik (Vice Chair)
Jami van Haften

2023-2027

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Our Mission

The Sault Ste. Marie Public Library provides opportunities to discover, learn, and grow. We serve as a community partner offering spaces, resources, and connections which contribute to quality of life.

Our Vision

A diverse and welcoming community hub, the Sault Ste. Marie Public Library fuels innovation, demonstrates leadership, and promotes literacy aligned with our growing community. We strive to deliver library service for all, driven by knowledge sharing, partnerships, and new opportunities.

Our Values

- Community Engagement
- Diverse People and Perspectives
- Innovation
- User Experiences
- Literacy

ONE STOP ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES . . .



OUR PRIORITIES



**Community
Engagement**



**Marketing &
Communications**



**Inclusion,
Diversity,
Equity and
Accessibility**



Heritage & Culture



Service Excellence



ONE STOP ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES . . .

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Build and maintain strong community partnerships
- Expand Library services within underserved areas
- Initiate positive change through opportunities for development and growth



A close-up photograph of a hand resting on the grey metal rim of a wheelchair wheel. The background is slightly blurred, showing the spokes of the wheel and parts of the chair's frame.

ONE STOP ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES ...

IDEA (INCLUSION, DIVERSITY, EQUITY & ACCESSIBILITY)

- Expand Library service to be more inclusive of a diverse population
- Represent new audiences within library relationships
- Embed EDI across all levels of Library activity
- Provide more accessible technology
- Collaborate with local Indigenous partners on Truth & Reconciliation and Decolonization





ONE STOP ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES ...

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

- Engage stakeholders in library activities at all levels
- Increase Community awareness of the Library
- Improve the Library's website to enhance the digital experience





ONE STOP ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES . . .

HERITAGE & CULTURE

- Develop programs, collections and services to celebrate and recognize local history
- Improve Access to Historical collections
- Participate in cross-cultural dialogue and knowledge sharing

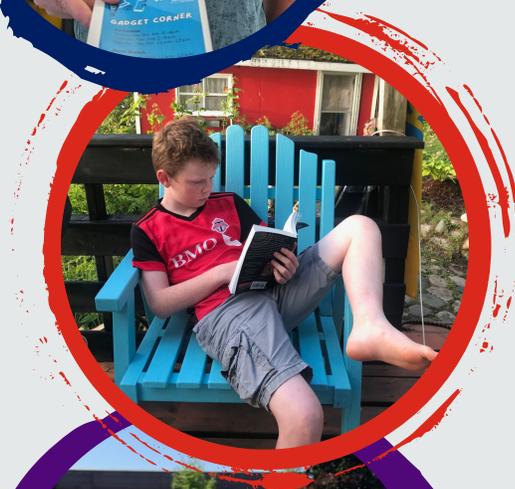




ONE STOP ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES ...

SERVICE EXCELLENCE

- Ensure Library services, programs and collections meet community needs
- Deliver exceptional customer service
- Improve Library facilities to better meet the service needs of the community



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



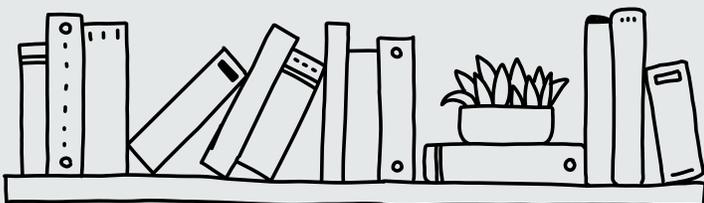
"There are far better things ahead than any we leave behind."
— C.S. Lewis.

The Library's Strategic Plan is a guiding document that will help the Board and staff improve and adapt library services to meet our community's continuously evolving needs. With our new mission and vision in place, we hope to move the library in a new direction while still maintaining our core values.

Each strategic priority is supported by carefully chosen goals, objectives and planned action items. Through effort and intention, we hope to create a Sault Ste. Marie Public Library that is more inclusive, innovative, and responsive to our patrons' needs. We aim to offer exceptional programs, activities and services in the years to come.

Our library is community focused. We will continue to meet the needs of our current patrons while also trying to engage new audiences. We will continue to collaborate with our many community partners and seek out new partnerships. We will undertake initiatives that will create positive change and make efforts to expand to areas that are underserved.

Finally, we hope to create a greater awareness in our community, through marketing and communications, that our library truly is a destination for all that is one stop with "endless possibilities..."



Matthew MacDonald, B.A. Hon., M.L.I.S.
Chief Executive Officer
Sault Ste. Marie Public Library



Art by Lucia Laford et al.

Land Acknowledgment

The Sault Ste. Marie Public Library is a gathering place where community comes together; to share stories, to explore new ideas and to gain knowledge of the past. It is through this unique position in our community that we support and promote truth and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

We acknowledge, with respect, that we are in Robinson-Huron Treaty territory, that the land on which we are gathered is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe and is known as Bawating. Bawating is the home of Ketegaunseebeee (Garden River) First Nation, Batchewana First Nation, and the Historic Sault Ste. Marie Metis Council.

The Library, and we as individuals, have a deep desire to bring about change in our community and move forward together as diverse and inclusive peoples. We are dedicated to honouring Indigenous history and culture and are committed to moving forward in the spirit of reconciliation and respect.

Steering Committee

Kaitrin Aaltonen
Paolo Bruni
Erin Ferlaino
Matthew MacDonald
Frances Ryan
Liz Webkamigad

Kendal Barban
Hannah Caicco
Wayne Greco
Steve Murray
Elise Schofield
Sharon Wigney

Elspeth Belair
Lisa Dobrovnik
Kevin Harrison
Mike Olejnik
Jami van Haaften



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