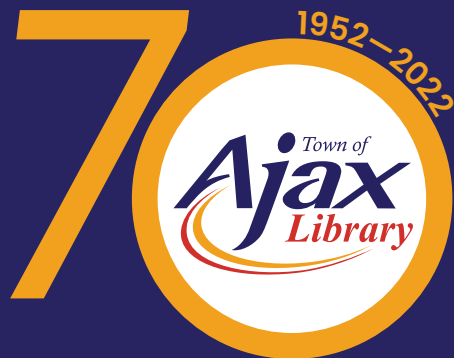




2022 Annual Report



A Message from our Chief Librarian



In 2022, the Library celebrated 70 years of service to the Ajax community. Our community has changed significantly, and the Library along with it. This year felt like a fresh start as we initiated many projects that will help shape our future.

The Library demonstrated a commitment to important values of exceptional customer service, supporting equity, diversity, and inclusion, and upholding intellectual freedom. As we reflect on the past 70 years, and our key accomplishments in our platinum anniversary, I'm excited for what the future will bring.



Sarah Vaisler, Chief Librarian and Executive Officer

2022 Board Members

Sandy Taylor (Chair)
Eesha Chaudhry
Sepelene Deonarine
Noel Green
Rebecca Hayes

Sterling Lee (Regional Councillor, Ward 2)
Deborah McDougall
Doug Miller
Matthew Tapscott

Fast Facts



Cardholders

32,047
Total Cardholders

10,649
New Cardholders



Circulation

886,546
Total Circulations

443
Curbside Pick-Ups



Programs

1,454
Total Programs

39,368
Attendees/Views



Visits

939,323
Total Library Visits

361,726
In-Person

Ajax Public Library Mission Statement

Ajax Public Library is the gateway to information and resources that improve the quality of life, foster life-long learning, encourage community involvement, and meet the varying educational and social needs of all members of its communities.

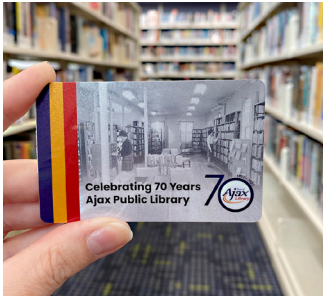
Partnerships

Special thanks to the partners who help us build a stronger community:



The Literacy Network of Durham Region (LiNDR)
Serving literacy programs in the Durham region since 1994

Key Initiatives



70th Anniversary Celebrations

Throughout 2022, the Library marked its platinum anniversary, with a modified logo to recognize the year. Other celebration elements included limited edition "platinum" Library cards, 70th logo tote bags available for purchase, a community scavenger hunt highlighting key local history spots throughout Ajax, and wrapping up the year with an anniversary party at the Audley Branch.

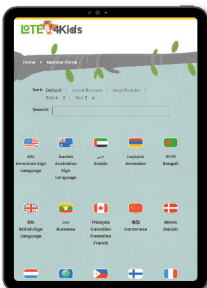


Archives Transfer

Working with the Town of Ajax, the Library entered into an agreement to oversee the management and maintenance of the Town of Ajax Archives. The Library will focus on dedicated conservation efforts, as well as increasing visibility and access of the interesting objects that make up the Archives.

Launched in 2022

- Book Club Kits
- CO2 Monitors
- FamilySearch Genealogy Database
- LOTE 4 Kids Multilingual Digital Picture Books
- 3D Object of the Month
- Sensory Support Kits



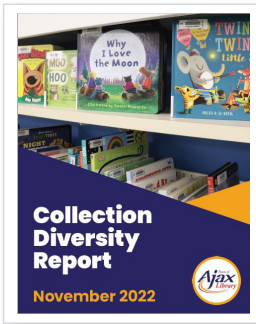
Supporting Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

Ajax Public Library demonstrated an ongoing commitment to practices that support a diverse and inclusive community. The Library endeavours to amplify diverse voices, provide opportunities to connect and learn from one another, and showcase our diverse community. Initiatives that helped achieve these goals in 2022 included:



Drag Queen Storytime

Returning to in-person for the first time since 2019, Drag Queen Storytime welcomed 97 participants to a fabulous show featuring Tash Riot and Makayla Walker. Ajax Public Library was the first Drag Queen Storytime event held at Durham libraries in 2022, and kicked off Pride Month on June 1, 2022.



Library Collection Diversity Audit

The Library's Collection team spent countless hours conducting a sample study of the Library's physical collection, evaluating materials for race, gender, sexuality, neurodivergence, mental and physical health, and residency for both authors and characters. The collection was found to be 15.44% and 24.44% diverse for author and character/content representative respectively.



Virtual Centre for Understanding

In September 2022, and in partnership with the Town of Ajax, the Library launched the Virtual Centre for Understanding. This micro-site features 2SLGBTQI and Indigenous resources while highlighting and connections to both the Town and Library Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion web pages.



BlackLit Durham

The Library, Greg Frankson (AfriCANthology), and local Black storytellers partnered to offer regular BlackLit Durham events at the Town's St. Francis Centre for Community, Arts, & Culture. These regular events showcased Black voices throughout Durham, and initiated the creation of the Library's Black Voices curated collection on Overdrive.

Library Love

Fabiana



Very pleased and appreciative of all the Autism resources that the Library has, including the Launchpads which are wonderful for my child!

Anonymous



This one short session saved me hundreds of dollars alone; I am so grateful for this service.

Muhammad



I just want to mention how grateful I am for having this Library available to prepare for an upcoming exam, especially the Quiet Study Room. I am an internationally trained physician and having this study space is a big big help. Thank you very much!

Jackie



I just want to say how much I liked the Platinum Scavenger Hunt. I had a great time searching for clues and seeing places in my community. It was very well done. Great job!

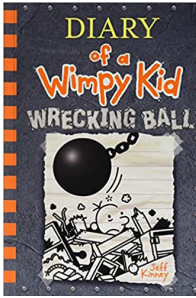
Martin



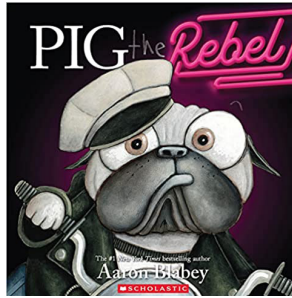
I think that the staff at Ajax Public Library are simply amazing. Though life is not perfect, every leader in the Library has made me feel special in the way that customer service is demonstrated.

Favourite Finds

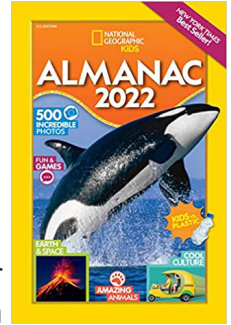
These are the books that our customers enjoyed most in 2022!



Junior Fiction



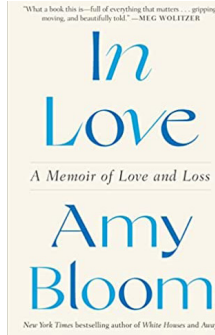
Junior Picture Book



Junior Non-Fiction



Adult Fiction



Adult Non-Fiction

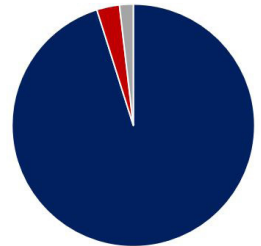


Young Adult Fiction

Budget

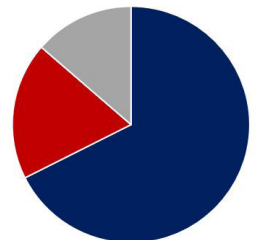
Income

- Town of Ajax Operating Grant: \$6,500,900
- Non-Municipal Income: \$207,235
- 2021 Surplus: \$125,000



Expenses

- Staffing: \$4,257,077
- Operations: \$1,183,226
- Collections: \$859,037



*Above figures may be adjusted pending completion of audit.



Stay Connected

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95 Magill Dr.

Audley Branch
1955 Audley Rd. N

