

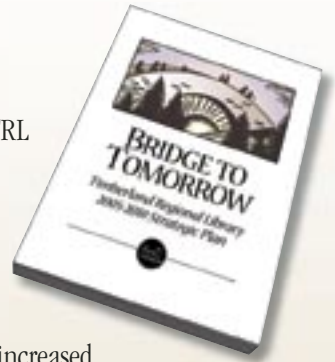


Timberland Regional Library

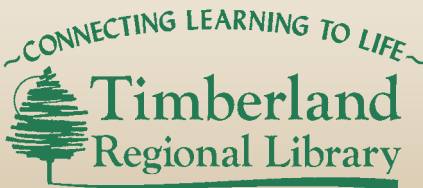
2005 ANNUAL REPORT

Highlights of the Year

2005 was a year of change for Timberland as it saw the completion and implementation of Bridge to Tomorrow, the TRL 2005-2010 Strategic Plan, the Library's Reorganization Study, and the beginning of an Annual Program Planning Cycle.



The strategic plan outlines the direction of the organization over the next five years. The reorganization has increased efficiency and saved sufficient funds to allow us to hire several front line positions that will greatly enhance our service to the public.



In 2005 the Library adopted the tagline, "Connecting Learning to Life," to emphasize the fact that as long as they have libraries, people can learn every day, from birth through the rest of their lives.

2005 was also the year when Timberland added wireless "hot spots" in 24 of its libraries, so that people can bring in their own laptop computers and access the Internet. In three months, 1,596 people utilized TRL's wireless connection.

2005 STATISTICS

COMPARED TO 2004

- ▶ Timberland library cards in use: 329,317, an increase of 13,566.
- ▶ Visitors to Timberland libraries: 2,680,345, an increase of 11,874.
- ▶ People who accessed the TRL web page: 2,945,574, up 36%.
- ▶ Online reference databases usage: 274,944, an increase of 23%.
- ▶ Total in-person and online library visits: 5,625,919—15,413 per day.

Circulation:

Cardholders borrowed 4,536,522 items, an increase of 35,139.

Collection:

Timberland added 169,355 books, magazines, DVDs, talking books, music CDs and more for a total of 1,547,663 items. Withdrawn from the collection: 92,301 items.



Support Services staff acquire and prepare the books, DVDs and so much more for you and your library.

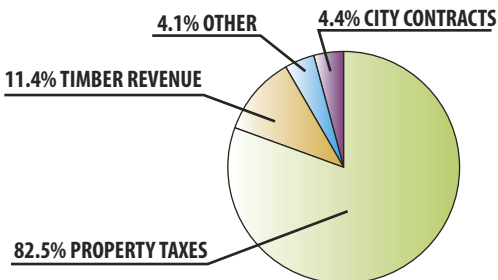


Public Services staff provide for the information, reading and lifelong learning needs of everyone, regardless of age or interests.

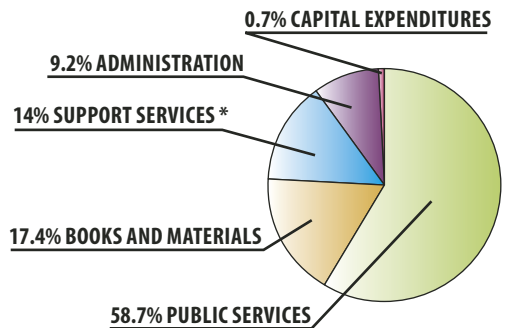
Revenues and expenditures for 2005:

The total operating budget for 2005 was \$16,300,000.

REVENUES



EXPENDITURES



* includes selecting and buying books, getting them ready for lending, delivering holds to patrons' libraries, borrowing from other library systems, and mending

2005 PROGRAMS

Reading, informational and cultural programming brings library users together.

Timberland has programs for everyone, from infants to seniors. In 2005 libraries held:

- ▶ 1,864 programs for children, with 43,189 children in attendance.
- ▶ 255 programs for young adults, with 3,227 attendees.
- ▶ 1,044 programs for adults and families with 18,282 participants.



A 2005 Program Highlight: Timberland Reads Together

The library system's first "one book" program, Timberland Reads Together, was held in 2005, bringing people in all five Timberland counties together over a single book, *The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd. Libraries throughout the system

presented over 80 varied programs relating to the book. The response was tremendous.

Over 1500 people attended programs, over 2,500 read the book, and over 9,500 people accessed the TRL website specifically for this program.



Jenna Lamia, talking book narrator of [The Secret Life of Bees](#), talks and visits with Timberland Reads Together Participants.



Stories show the human touch in library service.

Here are 3 of over 100 stories shared in 2005 by staff at various Timberland libraries:

—Asked by observant staff how he was doing, a “grumpy-faced” boy replied: “I’m not having a good day. But it is better now that I am at the library.”

—On Valentine’s Day, a young man rushed in needing a particular song for an event happening in just 25 minutes—and it had to be on cassette. Within seconds, staff handed him a cassette with the song. It was “The Wedding March.”

—While library staff were introducing a patron to genealogy resources in print and on the Internet, the patron discovered an unknown great aunt who resides at a nursing home. Great Aunt now receives flowers, letters and family photos.

Focus for 2006

Timberland's 2006 focus is Family Literacy. The concept of reading as a social activity will be a cornerstone of program planning.

Building on research that shows that brain activity and development in babies and small children is increased by a socially and emotionally stimulating environment, we are encouraging everyone to read with their families and the others whom they are most attached.



We are training library staff in early literacy development through our Early Learning Workshops and planning appealing story times around early learning concepts so that each story time helps children get ready to read. We plan the annual Summer Reading Program to make reading fun for kids, teens and their families. And we are providing social times for teens that involve reading and sharing printed materials.



We are emphasizing the social as well as the intellectual side of adult programs, including PageTurners and Rainy Day Reads programs. And we are offering social reading experiences for senior citizens with programs such as Bi-Folkal reminiscences and TRL Senior Connect

boxes at nursing homes and senior centers.

As we help people connect learning to life, we make reading and learning fun and rewarding for all ages.

— *Jodi Reng, Director, Timberland Regional Library*



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Timberland Regional Library*



Timberland Regional Library

www.trlib.org

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