Financials 2020-2021



The Finance, Audit, & Risk Committee of the Library Board oversees the Library's financials to ensure the Library is aligning its spending to the values identified in the strategic plan in a concrete way.

Halifax Public Libraries receives the majority of its funding from Halifax Regional Municipality and the Province of Nova Scotia. In addition to this core funding, we are incredibly grateful for the support of community members. Each year, donors share incredible stories about how the Library has impacted their lives, and they generously give back by making a gift to the Library. 100% of donations support library service – and they help the Library to do extraordinary things.

The financial statements are more than just a balance sheet; they tell an important story about how the Library demonstrates its values through day to day operations. Every year one of the most significant stories that the financial statements tell is that people are the most important thing at the Library; both those who design and deliver library programs and services and the individuals and communities who use them. This year, the financial statements also tell another important story about our COVID-19 response. Management and the Library Board monitored the financials throughout the year and reallocated funds as areas of need emerged during the pandemic. For example, the 2020-21 budget priorities included reducing wait times on existing e-books and responding to increased community need for digital materials. Information technology equipment was also purchased to help keep us more connected to one another – at a time when practically all interactions moved online.

These stories are told in terms of income and expenses, but they are about how the Library lives its ethos of reaching further, pushing boundaries, and being brave.





\$27,664,086

