

libraries cited for outstanding Library Board leadership and very successful community/library service development projects. Our library's project is listed at [www.accessola.com](http://www.accessola.com) under the OLBA link.

- LibraryThing, an exciting new tool, is now available on our library catalogue to help patrons find books. Pelham staff published an article in a professional journal to aid other libraries in adding this application.

***“Planning and providing for new and expanded library facilities.”***

- Our strategic plan goal of achieving a new library in Fenwick drew one step closer as regular Maple Acre Facility Review Committee meetings took place through the year.
- The Library made application for an Ontario Trillium Foundation grant for Fonthill Branch building and access improvements to better meet the needs of our disabled patrons.

***“Further developing and promoting Pelham’s culture and heritage.”***

- Notable authors such as Lawrence Hill and Kelley Armstrong in our Heart of Niagara Reading series, celebrating literary anniversaries with theatre, new book launches with local authors, and an exciting variety of children’s, adult and seniors’ programs all offered great cultural opportunities for all!

***“Supporting and promoting the continued development of staff, volunteers and Trustees.”***

- As part of our Ontario Trillium Foundation grant, new volunteer handbooks, databases, training and policies were established. Our volunteers contribute valuable time, enthusiasm and skills to library services and events and are greatly appreciated.

For more details on our current programs visit:

[www.pelhamlibrary.on.ca](http://www.pelhamlibrary.on.ca).  
**Call (905) 892-6443 (Fonthill)**  
**or (905) 892-5226 (Fenwick).**

Please view our most recent audit report on our website or ask to see a copy at the Fonthill Branch.

**OPERATING PRINCIPLES**

The Pelham Public Library:

- Believes the Pelham Public Library is the heart of our community.
- Supports Intellectual Freedom as a cornerstone of democracy.
- Provides invaluable enrichment and life-long learning opportunities for residents.
- Knows the ability to read contributes to an effective community and society.
- Promotes and stimulates the joy of reading, literacy, and life-long learning.
- Offers residents the best service, staff, resources and programs possible.
- Values and effectively spends your tax dollars.
- Provides, by law, free access to basic resources to Pelham residents. The Library upholds this principle of free access, knowing that excessive fines or fees impede access and library use.

**TOWN OF PELHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**Annual Report 2008**



## Board of Trustees 2008

Robert Winter, Chairperson  
Bob Gibson, Vice Chair  
Malcolm Allen/James Lane (Councillor)  
Mary Balint  
Elizabeth Best  
Peter Ferguson  
Maxine Gaylor  
Lucy Malvestuto  
Harland Young

## Library Staff 2008

Elaine Anderson	Clare Irwin
Brigitte Armour	Jessica Stewart
Jennifer Bennett	Mel Taylor Ridgway
Jennifer Fulop	Jo-Anne Teeuwsen
Frances Giles	Nancy Ward
Peggy Grady	

Stephanie Stowe, Library Director  
June Bowslaugh, Assistant Director

## Staff Notes

Our community surveys reveal that our best asset is our dedicated, friendly staff. On December 31, 2008 Mrs. Brigitte Armour retired from her position of Head of Adult Services. She worked for almost thirty years for the Library, seeing it through numerous changes in buildings, technology and services. Throughout her gracious, professional and friendly service to the public remained a constant. Mrs. Armour is missed by staff and patrons. We wish her a long and enjoyable retirement.

With Mrs. Armour's retirement, staff member Jo-Anne Teeuwsen was promoted to the new position of Manager of Technical Services. Jo-Anne and Clare Irwin, the new Cataloguing Technician, will now serve patrons in the areas of Technical Services and InterLibrary Loans. Congratulations to these two staff members.

## Thanks to:

- Pelham Art Festival
- Ontario Trillium Foundation
- Friends of the Pelham Library
- Maple Acre Friends
- Province of Ontario
- Pelham Horticultural Society
- Canada Council for the Arts
- Niagara Community Foundation
- TD Summer Reading Program
- Sawmill Golf Course
- Donors of gifts in memory
- Service Canada Summer Career Placement
- Local businesses, service clubs, individuals, and our volunteers

*Special thanks to the Library Staff for their effort and dedication throughout 2008.*

## Our Mission:

As the cultural and informational heart of the community the Pelham Public Library enriches, engages and encourages all Pelham residents in their pursuit of life-long learning and cultural community development. The Library develops and provides equitable access to facilities, resources, services and programs with the aim of giving residents the best possible library.

## Our Vision:

The Pelham Public Library provides vibrant, efficient, responsive services that fulfill community development needs and anticipates new avenues for expanding our role as the cultural cornerstone of the community.

## 2008 Review

2008 was an exciting year for the Pelham Public Library.

- The community was treated to famous authors such as Lawrence Hill in our Heart Of Niagara Reading Series. Numerous children's and adult programs conveyed the joy of literacy and offered learning opportunities to our community.
- A new Services' benchmark was established in 2008. Those people "55 and Better" can now enjoy programs highlighting health, recreation, information, and leisure activities such as bookclubs and bridge. The Ontario Trillium Foundation's generosity has transformed the degree to which the Pelham Library has become an important recreational, leisure and informational source for the seniors in our community.
- Feb. 18, 2008 was the first official "Family Day." The Pelham Library stayed open to provide family fun and community service.
- Circulation rose again in 2008 by 4%. Website use, people entering and Interlibrary Loan use all increased. 133 volunteers donated 943 volunteer hours.

The Library Board and staff look forward to continuing to develop innovative services and programs beneficial to the community, and wish to thank you for your support. It is much appreciated!

Robert Winter Library Chair	Stephanie Stowe Library Director
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## Strategic Plan Accomplishments 2008

### ***"Providing Quality Services for all that meet changing user needs"***

- Thanks to an Ontario Trillium Foundation Grant Pelham Public Library's new Seniors and Volunteer Coordinator was able to address the needs of our town's seniors. The programs drew an astounding response. Over 74 individual and 10 series programs were offered, drawing 1,335 attendees. In the twelve months of the grant, new Seniors' Services encompassing recreation, information, leisure programs, and a new delivery service for home-bound patrons were established.
- An exciting new format "Playaways" are now available! This self contained book no larger than a credit card requires no equipment for listening – great for walking, traveling or just lounging!
- The Anne of Green Gables' 100th Anniversary was celebrated in programs and theatre.
- Programs such as the Philosopher's Cafes drew well over fifty passionate participants for every discussion.

### ***"Communicating our passion for libraries and life-long learning in our community and beyond."***

- Our Library Board was honoured to have been selected as a Community Leader in the Ontario Library Board's Association Learning From Our Peers Program. Pelham Public Library was one of 15

## PHOTO CAPTIONS FRONT COVER Culture, Life-long Learning, and Fun for All

(Clockwise from Top Left)

1. Author Lawrence Hill, winner of Canada Reads and the Commonwealth Writers' Prize reads from "The Book of Negroes."
2. Jilian and Brenna Ward dress as Anne of Green Gables characters to promote events for Anne's 100th anniversary.
3. Jennifer Bennett, Child/Youth Services Coordinator with babies galore during Babytime.
4. Jim Holman (right) speaks to Brian Green (left) during the launch of "D-Day Dodgers" by Mr. Holman.
5. Author Richard B. Wright, winner of the Giller Prize, the Governor General's Award and the Trillium Award meets his fans after a reading.
6. Community: Storytime participants meet Pelham Fire Fighters during Fire Prevention Week.
7. Actress Maja Bannerman portrays Anne of Green Gables.
8. Enjoying a cup of tea at the "Fancy Nancy" dressup story time and tea party.

### NEW SENIORS' PROGRAMS 2008 @ YOUR LIBRARY



*Join Us For:*

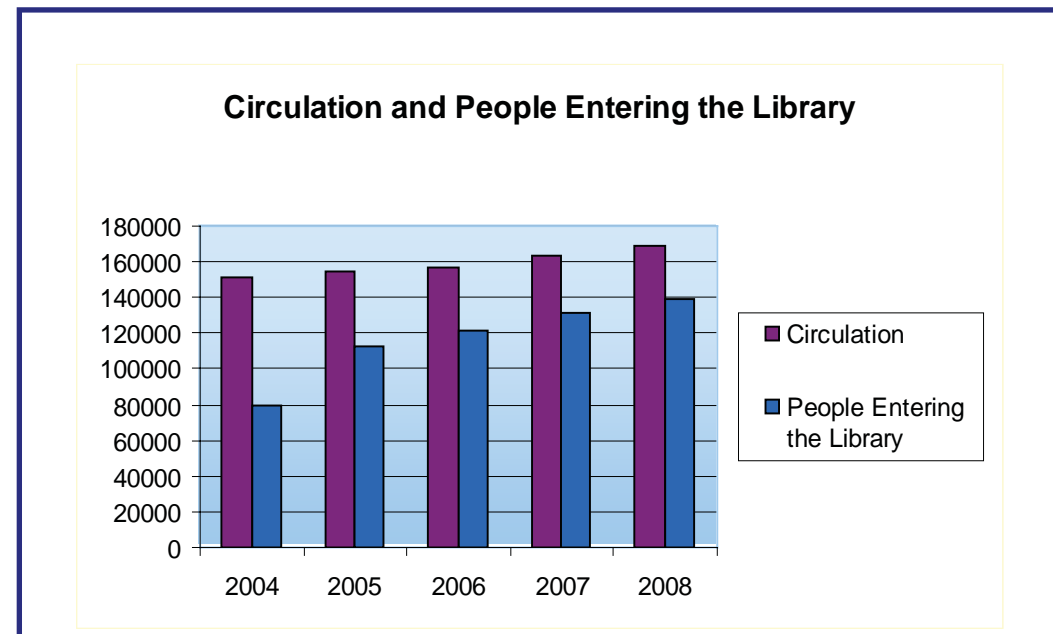
*Recreation  
Book Clubs*

*Information Centre  
Demonstrations  
Socials  
Health*




 THE ONTARIO TRILLIUM FOUNDATION


 LA FONDATION TRILLIUM DE L'ONTARIO



*Pelham residents are dedicated users of their libraries as evidenced by steady increases in almost all areas!*

#### ANNUAL STATISTICS 2008

	2007	2008	% +/-
Fonthill Circulation	149471	155864	4%
Maple Acre Circulation	13837	13485	-3%
<b>System Total</b>	<b>163308</b>	<b>169349</b>	<b>4%</b>
Internet Bookings	15453	15246	-1%
Collection	64686	65320	1%
Membership	9329	9847	6%
Program Attendance	7366	7618	3.5%
Website visits	24713	29206	18%
People entering library	131600	139119	6%