

### Long-Time Service

This month marks Heather Stark's 15<sup>th</sup> year of part-time service with FSJPL. While her title has recently changed from Page to Library Assistant, her position's area of expertise has largely remained the same; she is one of four staff who have the endless job of re-shelving items the community has borrowed and returned. Heather's attention to our shelves is how they remain so neat and orderly, enabling people to find exactly what they are looking for. At this point, it's safe to say that Heather is one of few people who has re-shelved every one of the library's roughly 70,000 physical items. While Heather's dedication to FSJPL is outstanding, it's important to note that she has also just celebrated her 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary with NEAT! Here's to another 15 at FSJPL, right Heather?

This month also marks Kate Mahler's 20th year of service with FSJPL. Kate is one of our Circulation Services Coordinators who works to assist patrons with all aspects of circulation, reader's advisory, new memberships, inquiries, public computer access, and everything else that comes with being on the front lines!

After growing up in the state of Indiana, Kate made her way to Fort St John in 1980. She first came to FSJPL in a volunteer capacity, while working as a supervisor at Zellers. In 1998 Kate took on a part-time position of weekend clerk at the library, while maintaining her job at Zellers. A few years later, Kate moved into the full-time position of Circulation Clerk, which she has maintained to this day.

Over the years, Kate has also had the opportunity to participate in the original Parent-Child Mother Goose program, introducing children aged 0 – 2 and their caregivers to the pleasure and power of using rhymes, songs and stories together. Kate, and her colleague Kim, facilitated the outreach Mother Goose program in a small space in what is now the Community Bridge building.

Kate's relationship with library patrons has always been strong; people tend to recognize almost immediately that Kate brings a special compassionate, humane quality to all her interactions and are drawn to her for that reason. Kate's genuine care for patrons is often returned to her; it is not uncommon to see small bunches of flowers, baskets of fruit or candy and thank-you notes scrawled with words of appreciation for the compassionate and kind service Kate has provided to our patrons.

Having witnessed many changes in library services over the years, Kate states that one of the more impactful changes she has seen during her tenure with FSJPL is how our programs continue to evolve – from the increased number of sessions offered to the varying subject matter available. After 20 years, Kate notes that one of the best things about her job is having

the opportunity to see children to whom she once taught rhymes come into the library as adults, with their own children in tow.

This week, the staff met collectively to honor Kate's and Heather's long-time service.



Pictured above, clockwise from lower left:

**Morgan Churchill**, Children's Services & Program Coordinator; **Elisha Reed**, Accounts & Office Administration; **Kerry France**, Director of Library Services; **Kalyn Johnston**, Circulation Services Coordinator; **Ellie Temple**, Library Assistant; **Tanya Boyd**, Lead Library Assistant & son, Aedan; **Heather Stark**, Library Assistant; **Mary Murphy**, Circulation Services Coordinator; **Lorraine Brooks**, Library Technician; **Chris Aylward**, Library Assistant; **Kate Mahler**, Circulation Services Coordinator.

Regrets:

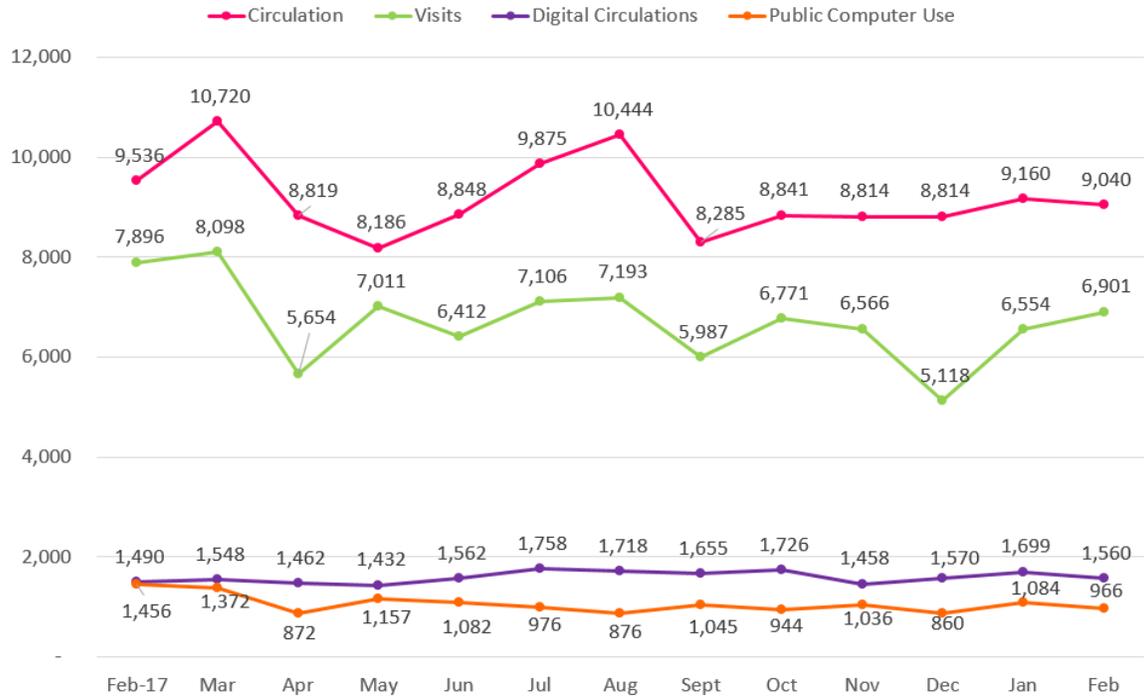
**Jill Baccante**, Access Services Coordinator; **Amy von Stackelberg**, Circulation Services Coordinator; **Barbara Richter**, Casual Circulation Clerk; **Christy Jordan-Fenton**, Casual Circulation Clerk

Photographer's credit: **Brant Churchill**

Kerry France  
Director of Library Services

# Statistics

## FSJPL Statistical Trends



## 2013 – 2017 Annual Statistics

