

2014 Annual Report



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The mission of the Glenwood & Souris Regional Library is to provide materials and services to help community residents of all ages meet their educational, cultural, and recreational needs. The library seeks to encourage reading and the use of current technology for life-long learning and enrichment of a citizen's quality of life.



LIBRARY BOARD

Town of Souris:

Mark Gillis (Council Rep.) Chairperson

Gayle O'Greysik

Mae Hart

R.M. of Glenwood:

Leslie Chudley (Council Rep.)

Belinda West

Gloria Turner (Secretary)

Chairperson's Report

2014 has come and gone at the Glenwood and Souris Regional Library. Over the past year our staff and volunteers have made every effort to serve the community with a high level of customer service. Those staff members and volunteers that should be recognized for their efforts are Connie Bradshaw, Lynda Luptak, Debra French, Alissa Swaenepoel, Elsie Kurtenbach, Alexis MacLean and Noralyn Graham. Board members are also an important part of ensuring the library service is there for the community. Your board members for 2014 were Gayle O'Greysik, Mae Hart, Gloria Turner, Leslie Chudley, and Belinda West. I would like to thank those staff, volunteers, and board members for the work they do in providing a positive library experience to our community.

This year I would also like to recognize and thank Souris River Colony. This generous group of community members made and donated crafts which were sold and the proceeds were used to purchase new books. They have done this for a number of years. In addition the library was the recipient of a grant from the Souris and Glenwood Foundation which was used to purchase a Victor Reader. This device is designed to assist those with a visual impairment. If you or someone you know would benefit from this specialized device please contact one of our staff to obtain more information. These two groups are a prime example of community working to build a better community!

As is the case every year the library could not exist without the following funding partners:

Province of Manitoba

Town of Souris

Rural Municipality of Glenwood

These partners make our library possible.

I mentioned that the library received a grant from the Souris and Glenwood Foundation. I would like to thank them for their contribution and also encourage you to find out how you can help the Souris and Glenwood Foundation by contacting them at (204) 483-2605.

2015 has arrived and I am sure it will be another successful year. Going forward two of our partners will become one and be known as the Municipality of Souris - Glenwood. We look forward to a continued strong partnership and a great 2015.

Mark Gillis

Librarian's Report

Another year has passed for me as Head Librarian for Glenwood and Souris Regional Library. As with all areas of my life, I never seem to have enough time to accomplish everything that I imagine that I should. It is a good thing that we always have the next year to keep working away at our goals or as needs change, strike out in new directions.

I rely heavily on all the people of our library - committed Board Members, hardworking staff, wonderful volunteers, and appreciative patrons. It is the whole community that keeps our library running efficiently.

Thank you to the Town of Souris, the R. M. of Glenwood and the Province of Manitoba for the grants that allow our doors to remain open and to our local Donor's Choice, Souris-Glenwood Foundation, and other private supporters for their ongoing commitment to the library. We cannot miss thanking the wonderful staff at Public Library Services who provide us with the most excellent support so that we can meet our desire for excellence in public library service

Connie Bradshaw



Highlights:

- **Book Club**



The book club meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month (except July and August).

- **Revolving art from Souris Art Club**



art courtesy of the Souris Art Club.

Every month we receive a new display of

- **Summer Reading Program**



year's TD Summer Reading Club – EUREKA!

Our summer student Alissa Swaenepoel lead this

- **Canada Day** We are proud to be Canadian!



Done by Alexis MacLean

- **Celebrating Canadian Authors**



Done by Alexis MacLean

- **Art West 35th Travelling Gallery**



The Travelling Gallery visited our library July 22 – August 1.

- **Fall Displays**



Done by Alexis MacLean

- **Halloween Displays**



Done by Alexis MacLean

- **Remembrance Day Displays**



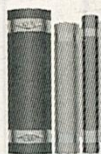
Done by Alexis MacLean

- **Souris River Colony donated crafts to the library as a fundraiser**



The crafts were sold at the Souris Figure Skating Club's annual hobby craft market and then at the library. All proceeds go to the purchase of new books.

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Library Corner

By Alexis MacLean

Well, awards season is finally over. Only one of my 'picks' won (though, for me, this is an improvement since I usually strike out completely!), but several were among the best books I have read all year.

My choice for the GG was *Sweetland*, by Michael Crummey. It didn't win, but if you can read only one or two of the nominated books, this should be one. It is excellent. It relates the consequences of yet another government 'resettlement program', this one involving the inhabitants of Newfoundland's out-ports following the crash of the cod industry. The tale centers on Moses Sweetland, an older gentleman who refuses to accept the government's resettlement package. Sadly, the main plot twist was revealed to me one day when, only part way into the book, I heard an interview with the author. I will not do the same to you, but, instead, will say only that the bulk of the tale relates Sweetland's valiant efforts, despite all odds, to remain true to his heart, his heritage, and his memories of a place and culture that ought not to have died.

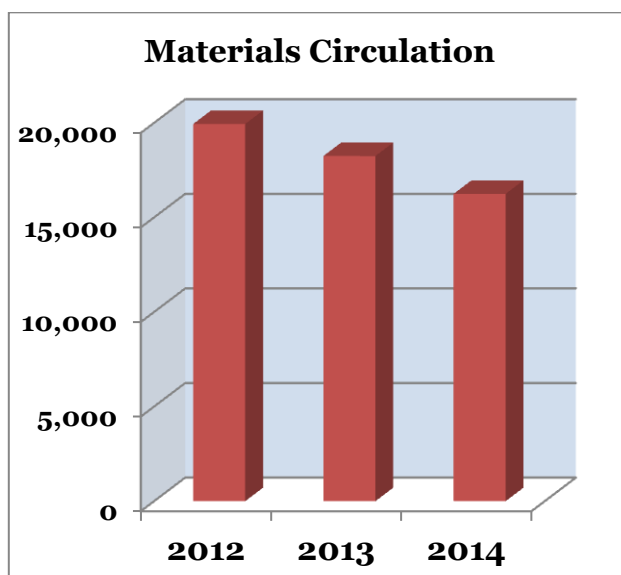
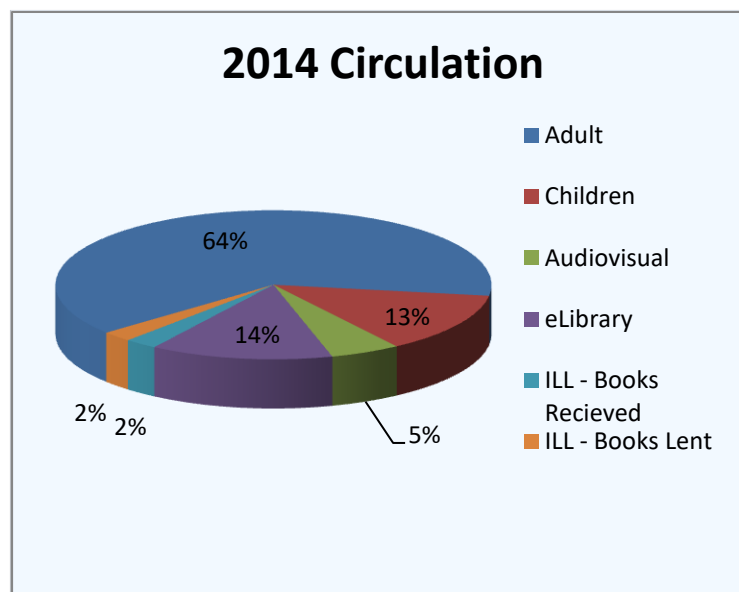
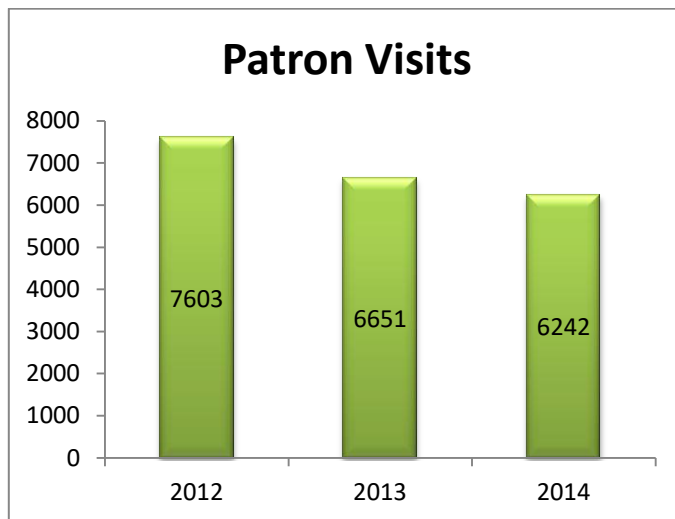
The Back of the Turtle, by Thomas King, was the winner of the Governor General's Award. While not my first choice, if any book was to have beaten *Sweetland* for the prize, I am glad this was the one. It is a fine book and I highly recommend it. The story bounces among 5 characters and so can seem a bit disorganized at first, but one quickly gets used to the character shifts, especially as each has a story which adds to the whole. It is a book which is extremely relevant for our times, centering, as it does, on an environmental disaster caused by the inadvertent leak of toxic chemicals. The story relates the effects of this event on the creator of the compound, the people it affected, and the environment it destroyed. Fear not, however, as, far from being as depressing as all that sounds, it is essentially a story of resilience and re-birth. An excellent book which is deserving of any prize and all praise it receives.

Rounding out the prize winners is *Us Conductors*, by Sean Michaels, recipient of the 2014 Giller. Loosely based on the life of the Russian-born inventor of the theremin (a hands-free musical instrument), it is presented as a retrospective, written by the protagonist while he is

being rather ingloriously shipped back to the Soviet Union following a lengthy stay in the United States. Neither a love story nor a spy thriller, the book incorporates both in the telling of Leon Termen's life. For me, the pacing is uneven. The 'love story' seems unrealistic, slows the narrative and really doesn't add to the plot. The book's 'second theme'—his somewhat inadvertent involvement in the spy industry, his forced return to Russia, and all that befalls him there—makes up for that though, and one puts down the finished novel with a sense of having had a satisfying read.

In summary then, of the various prize nominees and winners, my highest recommendation goes to *Sweetland*. This followed very closely by *The Back of the Turtle*. Both are of an order of magnitude better than any of the other books. Of the other winners, *Us Conductors* falls a distant third and *Narrow Road to the Deep North* fourth. I will discuss some of the other nominees in future columns.

Hours: Sunday & Monday, Closed; Tuesday, 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.; 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.; Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.; Thursday & Friday, 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.; Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.





GLENWOOD & SOURIS REGIONAL LIBRARY
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
For the year ended December 31, 2014

	2014 Budget (Note 8)	2014 Actual	2013 Actual
REVENUE			
Grants - Province of Manitoba	\$ 29,316	\$ 29,287	\$ 38,516
- Town of Souris	15,500	15,500	16,100
- RM of Glenwood	13,366	12,550	10,646
- Young Canada Works (CLA)			3,137
- Promise Years			2,200
Donor's Choice	1,600	1,924	1,673
Fundraising	500	770	702
Donations	300	584	359
Printing/copying	550	452	609
Interest	200	224	230
Membership fees	200	150	200
	61,532	61,441	74,372
EXPENSES			
Advertising	50		
Books and subscriptions	10,100	9,575	10,267
Insurance	1,570	1,620	1,565
Internet	800	851	755
Miscellaneous	300	136	312
Office	1,531	1,334	2,849
Postage	400	379	408
Professional development	600	583	520
Professional fees	1,350	1,350	1,350
Promise years			2,169
Rent	9,000	9,000	9,000
Repairs and maintenance	900	459	1,176
Salaries and benefits	37,025	30,774	35,106
Supplies	1,400	804	1,295
Telephone	750	743	741
Technology upgrade	800	757	10,066
	66,576	58,365	77,579
ANNUAL SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$ (5,044)	3,076	(3,207)
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS, BEGINNING OF YEAR		32,530	35,737
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS, END OF YEAR		\$ 35,606	\$ 32,530