



HALLOWEEN WAS THE THEME of story hour at the Public Library for the week of Oct. 27. Staff, children and volunteers dressed

up as storybook characters, and a puppet show was presented by the Friends of the Library Puppet Group.

NOV 20, 1985

VIDEO CENTRE

APR 18, 1985



The library has a new video section to add to its existing services. At the moment the selection is limited to 40 titles but there is a good representation of classics, literature, children's titles and National Film Board selections. Linda Boot, library clerk, replaces

some of the videos. The library hopes to expand the already-popular video centre quickly. To borrow the tapes a library card is needed and they are on overnight loan. The cost is \$2 for the features and \$1 for the shorter tapes.



MAR 26, 1985

Story hour could be called living literature at the Fort St. John library. Julie Campbell, a Friends of the Library member, is just one of the volunteers encouraged by the library to take an active hand in library programs. The library is taking registration now for the next Story Hour sessions. For the Toddler Story Hour children must be two years old and be accompanied by a

parent or guardian. The sessions start Tuesday, April 16 or Thursday, April 18, from 10:30 to 11 a.m. and continue for four weeks. The Pre-Schoolers Story Hour sessions, for children 3 to 5, are Tuesdays, starting May 14, or Thursdays, starting May 16, from 10 to 10:45 a.m. The activities include stories, puppet shows, songs and some crafts.

It was Valentine's day last year when the first formal meeting of the 1984 Library Board took place. I'd like to think a sort of love affair began then. At that first great meeting, a commitment to upgrade library service in our city was established. On this day, the board members unanimously decided to, 1) Build a proper library facility in Fort St John as soon as is humanly possible; 2) to relocate the library facility to a more adequate location as a first step towards that goal. Today, we are partially enjoying the success of the last Board's heartfelt commitment, if for no reason but that this Annual General Meeting and others like it, Friends of the Library meeting for example, can now be held in the library itself. It is my pleasure and honor as a member of the 1984 Board to speak on behalf of the Board, the staff, and the many people who have dedicated, not only their time but more importantly their hearts and minds to the establishment of a brand new, proper library facility in Fort St John. Our numbers are growing. I shall reiterate, briefly, some of the gains made and will announce some advances of which the people of Fort St John

may not be aware.

To have moved, from the previous location of 27 years, marks, in itself, a milestone. To have done it as quickly and efficiently as it was done is a tribute to both the expert and dedicated staff we enjoy and also an indication of how much real support there is in our city for necessary cultural services such as the library.

In the process of this great move the civic and possibly the Provincial powers to be have been made aware of the severe lack of support historically received from the same. Our budget needed to be increased since our location was bigger. We could not stay at the old place because our budget would have needed roughly 80 per cent of the increase we gave it anyway, without an increase in space. We mustered our courage and with the help of the Friends of the Library presented our budget to City Council. Over a few months deliberation, an awareness of the library's plight, and the library's potential, was successfully established. We got our budget. In fact, we now experience an unpredicted increase in circulation, lending credibility to the absolute need for a proper "information base" here in our northern community.

There is, now, no distracting elbow bumping in the aisles as we search out our cerebral and recreational pursuits. The now

adequate circulation desk a component, modular type will be taken to the new facility when we move again, and can be arranged there to suit that new space. The bright and airy children's area is no longer a cluttered crossroads as it was at the old place but approaches the identity of a special space, a consideration children deserve. We pay less rent here per square foot than most merchants holding leases in the centre core of the community, with more parking and accessibility than most of these other outlets. In all, there can be little doubt that the overall efficiency we perceive today in the library, makes our move a wise, well-timed, momentous one.

The function of our library as a proper information base will truly be felt only in a new, 10,500 square foot space. There just simply isn't enough room here for spacious, well-equipped reference areas on varied topics. The visitor to our town, family or business person alike, should be able to comfortably and leisurely inform themselves about our town and our area in the library itself. This would ease the strain on the Chamber of Commerce as visitor informant, and complement City Hall as

general layout, historical, and economical informant. The citizens of our city, themselves, must also have a reference place where they can derive more specific, more accurate and up to date information about the Province, the country and the world. It is the proper function of the library to be an information base and this cannot be underestimated as we approach the future which in many cases, today in the eighties, is now.

There is a new committee of the Board, of which I am proud to be a part. It is the video committee. With great pride I announce today that with this new space we are able to provide in the library a video rental outlet. David Bradley and myself have looked over more than four thousand available titles and on a budget of \$2,000.00 we have chosen 40 of these as a start. With your support this new service will try great success. We will charge a minimal competitive fee for the tapes and plough back the profits to buy more tapes. The service will therefore be self supporting. Moreover, this is not to be seen as a competition with other video outlets in town since we have carefully chosen what we believe to be quality titles which they, the other outlets do not stock and seem to show no interest in stocking.

In closing, I hope to have shared with you, the progress that our library has made and also my own personal delight as a

member of our community in seeing visible change in only one year. The function of a proper library facility is the

responsibility of all of us just as the success it enjoys is our collective pleasure. If the support of all the people here

present tonight is there, and if this can grow to include more friends and neighbours in an informative way, a new

library shall be built. It is further hoped that after tonight there will no longer be discussion as to why a new facility is

necessary but truly a heartfelt concern as to how this shall be done. The people of Fort St John should enjoy the

freedom of information that they rightfully and democratically deserve.
Thank you
Joseph D'attilio

Library thanks all for help at Book Sale

And many thanks to the Co-op Mall and to all the Friends of Fort St John Library that helped us on the Book Sale. It was a tremendous success, and we also wish to thank the public for making it so.

We are planning another big Book Sale for the Spring, at Totem Mall, so, hope seeing all again.

And to keep you informed, the North-Peace Trivia is moving right along. We are in the process of taking the rough draft of the trivia board to the publisher-for a quote on production cost.

The Friends of the Library have thrown out a challenge to the banks and Credit Union to see who can come up with the most questions. So, get going on your-Trivia questions, gang!

1. What year Queen

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Elizabeth visited, Fort St John?

2. What about Princess Margaret?

3. Who was the first Mayor of Taylor?

4. Which former BC MLA was employed at Fort St John Co-op?

5. What was the name of the first non-native twins born in the North Peace, at home? — In the HOspital?

These are just a small sample of questions that will be going in our Trivia Game. So, get yourself started. Keep a scribbler near by and got down anything that comes to mind, we need thousands of questions, you just have to drop them at the Library, we will do the rest. Thank for all your co-operation, dear FRIENDS, see you soon.

by Yvonne
Vandergugten
and J. Fors.