

FRIENDS OF THE RIDEAU LAKES PUBLIC LIBRARY

PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 2020

The year 2020 began with optimism and enthusiasm. On January 23rd, the Friends hosted a well-attended showing of the movie, **Downton Abbey** at the Elgin Community Hall. Several of the participants sported fascinators and refreshments were served. Admission was by freewill donation with \$150 raised.

One of our hard-working Friends recently moved out of our area. Wendy James donated \$1,000 in support of the Rideau Lakes Public Library.

A Family Literacy evening was held on January 27th. The Friends contributed \$610 towards the lasagna supper and musical entertainment.

Friends also contributed \$1,000 towards the purchase of a die-cutter to be used with various Library programs.

Jill Nolan, once again, reviewed and prepared a formal financial statement (2019-2020). In recognition of her service, the Friends have donated the book **Two Trees Make a Forest** by Jessica J. Lee to the Rideau Lakes Public Library in her name.

Several of our Friends put their talents to use sewing masks to be sold at the Library. They raised \$450 for the Elgin Lions Club. Thanks to Pat Watson, Peggy Fletcher, Moira Bell, Jo-Anne Colman, Wendy Lowe and Barb Alguire.

In March, Covid 19 put a stop to any further meetings or activities. This included a much anticipated author event. Jill Heinerth, cave diver and author of **Into the Planet** was scheduled to speak and show slides of her adventures. We hope to hold this event at a future date.

Although unable to hold a major fund raiser this past year, we continue to support the Library's children's programming and were pleased to present Vicki and Lauralee with a cheque for \$1,000 towards that work.

We remain optimistic that we will be able to resume our efforts on behalf of the Library in the late summer or fall. Plans for the new branch in South Elmsley are progressing and we look forward to having an additional location to get together with Friends. There are now 76 Friends of the Rideau Lakes Public Library, all key to building a stronger library.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Shannon

