

Muenster Public Library

Founded in 1972, the Muenster Library has served as a cornerstone of our community for over 50 years. In June 2010, Parkland Regional Library joined the Saskatchewan Information and Library Services (SILS), enabling all Saskatchewan residents to access materials from libraries across the province through their local public library. Interlibrary loan requests typically arrive within 1–3 weeks.

Muenster Library consistently ranks in the **top 10 out of 55 libraries** within the Parkland Regional Library System in terms of circulation - a testament to the library's strong community engagement and usage.

Statistics:

- Current registered patrons: **405**
- Story Hour (1986–2024): **405** children registered
- Summer Reading Program (1987–2024): **1,312** participants
- Circulation: 1972 **208**
 1977 **1100**
 2024 **6032** plus **2421** for electronic reading

Highlights of 2024:

- Maintained a position in the **top 10 for circulation** across the Parkland system
- Welcomed an average of **70–90 visitors per week**
- Processed approximately **150–225 books** each Tuesday
- Launched the **“1000 Books Before Kindergarten”** early literacy initiative
- Offered **eight community programs**, including:
 - Story Hour
 - Summer Reading
 - Book Club
 - Ladies’ Knitting Night
 - Chess Club
 - Kaiser/Board Game Night
 - 1000 Books Before Kindergarten
 - E-reading support
- Continued strong utilization of **Libby** for e-reading
- Maintained two **e-readers available for public lending**
- Hosted **three raffles and one burger sale annually**, all well-supported by the community
- Operated with the dedicated support of a **committed library board** and the **Village of Muenster**

Funding & Community Support

The Muenster Library is proactive in securing financial support through fundraising, grants, and community contributions. Our funding efforts include applications to:

- **Village of Muenster**
- **Community Initiatives Fund (CIF)**
- **Humboldt Good Neighbour Store**
- **Muenster Recreation Board**
- **Affinity Credit Union – Humboldt Branch**

In addition, we generate revenue through our raffles, book sales, burger sales, and individual donations. These contributions are vital to maintaining and expanding our services.

More Than Just a Library – A Community Hub

The Muenster Library serves not only as a lending and literacy resource but as a vibrant and welcoming drop-in center for the community. Our expanded space has allowed us to better meet the evolving needs of our patrons and visitors, providing a comfortable and inclusive environment.

Each week, the library sees a diverse range of community members and travelers stopping in:

- Local high school students often take a break between classes, relaxing on our cozy window-side couch while charging their phones using the complimentary charging cords we provide.
- Patrons often make use of the library as a comfortable and quiet space to browse, read, or relax while waiting for someone at a nearby appointment.
- A couple traveling the province stops in specifically to play a game of cribbage as part of their unique journey to visit libraries across Saskatchewan. (The last time they visited, she was ahead by two games!)
- Local residents use the library as a convenient and trusted pickup/drop-off point for community-based goods like Tupperware and Watkins orders.
- Residents and visitors alike drop in simply to say hello, ask about the weather, or enjoy a moment of connection in a familiar space.

Thanks to our recent expansion, we are now better able to accommodate larger groups and activities. For instance, when 30 children attend our Summer Reading Program, they can comfortably participate without feeling crowded. Families with multiple members can browse and pick up books at the same time without navigating tight spaces or interrupting others. Patrons can leisurely explore our shelves or climb the library ladder to reach a book, all without worry of bumping into obstacles or one another.

The Muenster Library is proud to be a place where community members gather, connect, and feel at home.