Leeds and the Thousand Islands Public Library

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The New Recreation Library
A New Age

The Sharing Economy
A New Library  A New Collection

Patron with Library Tablet  Tablet Wall for borrowing
Sharing is an open door for today's library.

Karen Snowdon
★★★★★ - August 8, 2016
Best library anywhere - they will get you any book you are interested in. They are helpful and friendly. Love my library.
High Idling Capacity

Books, DVDs and Power tools have high idling capacity

1 week lifetime use
2.5 hours lifetime use
13 Minute lifetime use
High Idling Capacity

Recreation Equipment also has a high idling capacity
Sharing provides new platforms for libraries
Loss of Market hare

Libraries risk of loss market share if we don’t participate and promote programs and services along with the sharing economy.
Beyond Books
Google Analytics

Public Libraries 2005-

Sharing Economy 2005-
Libraries need to be acknowledged leaders in the sharing economy. Sharing provides a new and emerging platform for the library world to excel and grow.
See a Need, Fill a Need
Steps in Developing a Recreation Library

Step 1

- Examine your Users and Environment
- Few Young Adults
- Happy Seniors
- Happy Young Families
Community Asset Mapping

Assets -- Green Space

Strengths -- Staff

Partners -- Friends
Step 3

- Listen
- Show results
- Think out side the box
- Dream big
Step 4

- Plan and Prioritize
- Develop check list
- Prioritize
- Probabilities
- Possibilities
- Probably Not
Respond

- The Recreation Library stared with a bang
- PS4 Day after release
- Changed former library parameters, broke down barriers
Step 6

Evolve

- Be prepared to adapt
- Change is good
- Community Feedback was consistent in the desire for a library that would lend non-traditional equipment
- Avoid gender bias
- Don’t fall into the library trap
Step 7

Promote Promote, Promote

- Post signage in unexpected locations
- Find your target group and provide information on new programs and services.
- Talk to everyone about your new program
- Surprise your community with your message placement
- Ask stakeholders to show their support
Step 8

Create a sense of exclusivity.
Step 9
Evaluate and Monitor

Safety Check

✓ Condition
✓ Functionality
✓ Mobility
✓ Replace
✓ Repair
Step 10  Don’t Stop Now

The Recreation Library has grown to a library of things, with Umbrellas and Blood pressure monitors and baking pans on the horizon

Keep growing and expanding your collection

Watch willing partners
Breaking Down Barriers
Lessons Learned

- Buy the best quality you can afford
- Find quality display space
- LABEL LABEL LABEL
- Not everything will be successful
- Don’t listen
- Keep moving forward
Common Misconceptions

Space
Returns
Cost
Results

✓ Removal of barrier to service
✓ Increased community dialogue
✓ Expansion of audience
✓ Increased circulation
✓ Average 3,000 annually
✓ Reputation of innovative space
Opportunities:

There are many ways to woo our communities

- Community Kitchen - Great Way of Connecting with your community in an unorthodox way
- Seed Lending Library
- Community Garden - A dynamic spin off the Seed Lending Library
- Preserves Swap
- Skate Swap
- Gaming Exchange
- Prom/Formal Exchange
- Tool Exchange
- Skill building hub - where you can learn to make chocolate or keep back yard chickens
- Talent Swap hosting a Talent swap at the library much like task rabbit
Libraries, the platform of the future

Technology Lending Library

Minneapolis Art Lending Library
Share your ideas and experiences