



**ONTARIO PUBLIC LIBRARY WEEK**

**LA SEMAINE DES BIBLIOTHÈQUES  
PUBLIQUES DE L'ONTARIO**

# LIBRARIES FOR LIFE

**BIBLIOS  
POUR LA VIE**



#LIBRARIESFORLIFE #BIBLIOSPOURLAVIE | OCTOBER 16 - 20, 2023 | DU 16 AU 20 OCTOBRE 2023 | OPLW.CA





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# Valuing King's Library Services

— **VALUING ONTARIO LIBRARIES TOOLKIT** —

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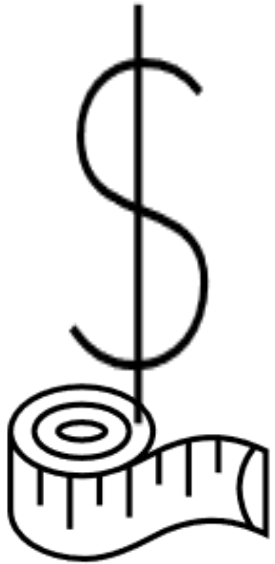


# Valuing Ontario Libraries Toolkit (VOLT)

## What is VOLT?

- tool developed by Ontario Library Services, Nordik Institute and Algoma University
- analyses information that libraries already collect
- calculates the Social Return on Investment (SROI)
- organizes data into a Library Value Report

# Why was VOLT developed?



- help Ontario public libraries measure and demonstrate their value and impact within their community
  - put a monetary value on something that is not monetary in nature and typically free to use
- financial measurements are more relevant to many key stakeholders

# Where does the data for VOLT come from?

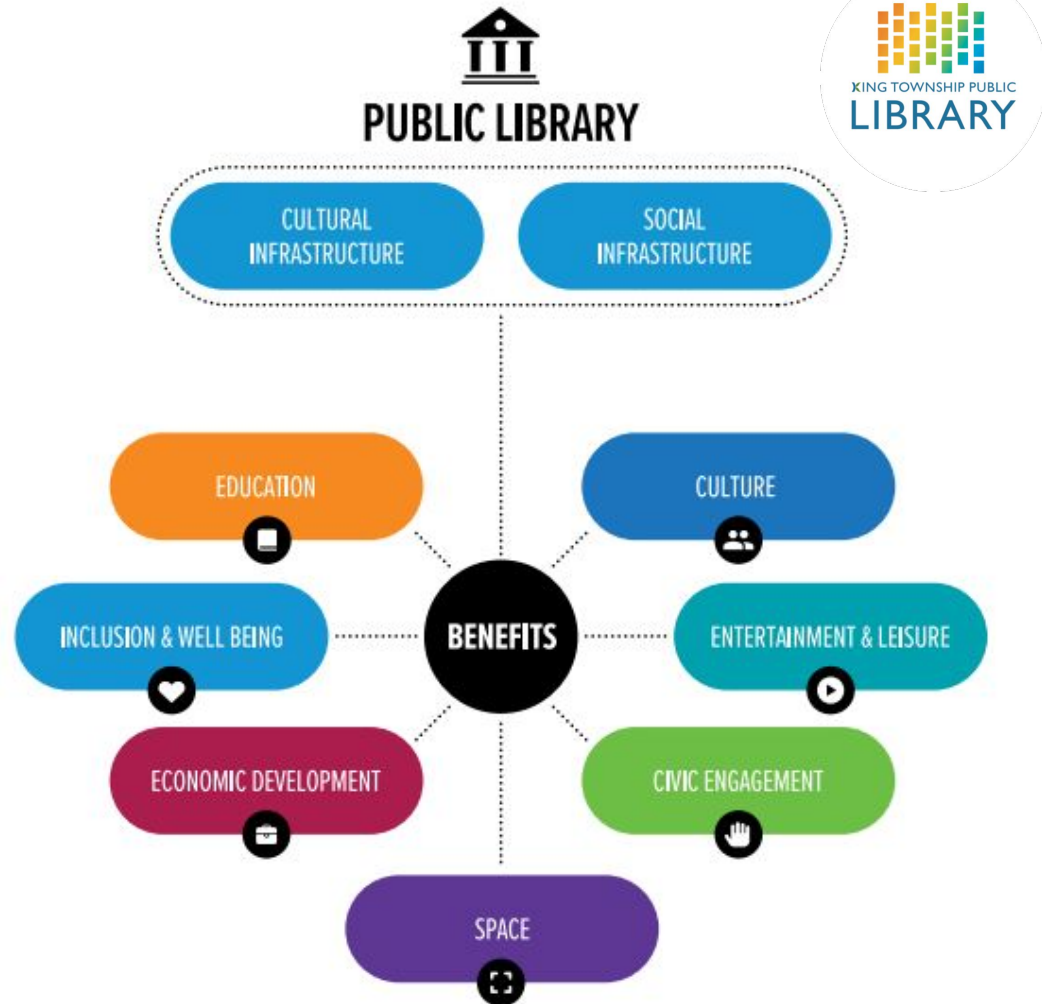


- 2021 Statistics Canada Census data
  - population
  - local market /economic values
- Annual Survey of Public Libraries (ASPL)
  - KPTL's 2023 usage statistics = 319 data points
- Information about KTPL
  - square footage
  - # of chairs
  - # of computers
  - operational funding



# How does VOLT work?

- Input community profile
- Calculation of benefits
  - 7 service domains
  - ASPL data
  - Local market/economic stats
- Calculation of SROI

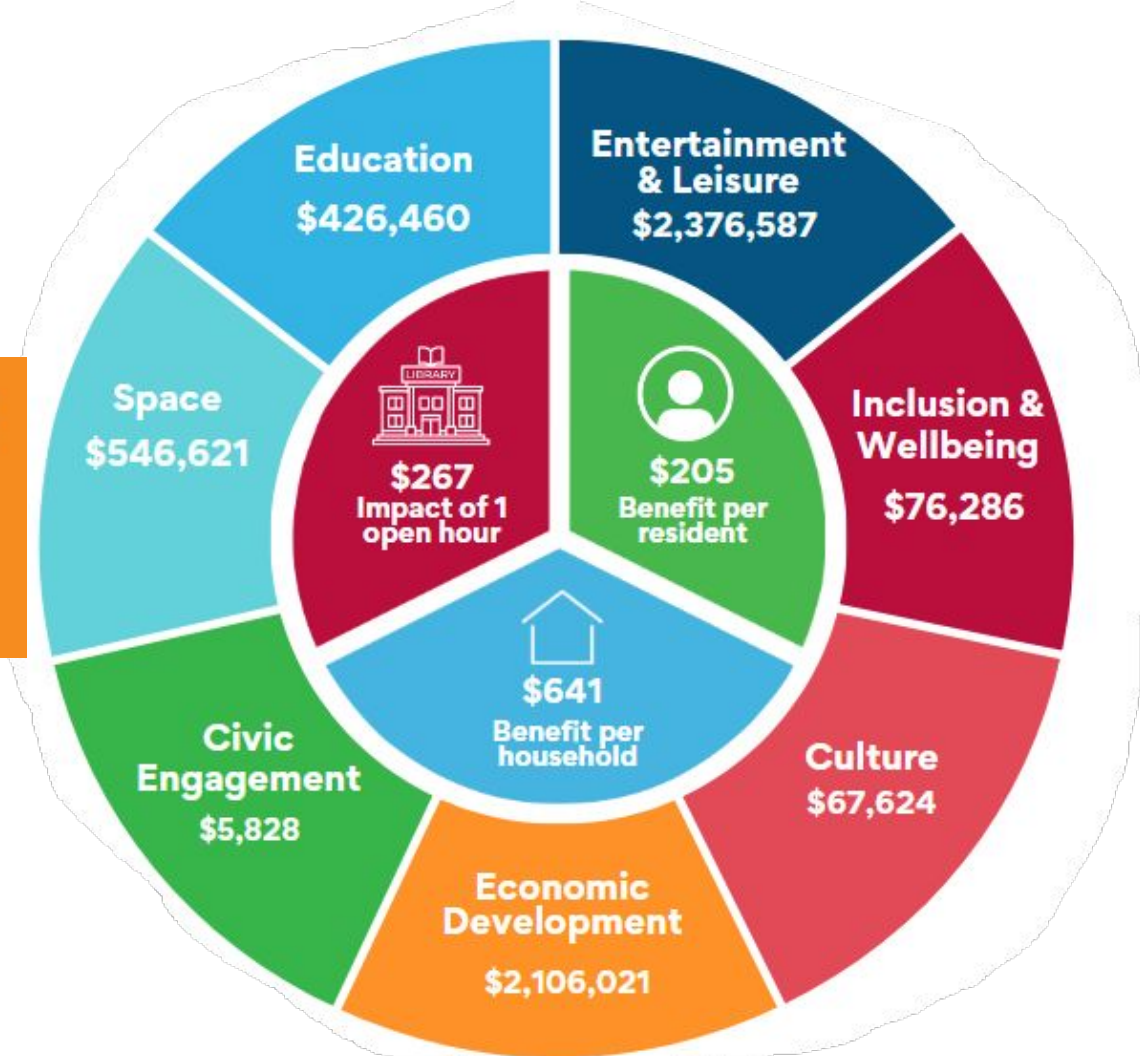


# Social Return on Investment (SROI)



# 2023 Results

Total Economic Benefit  
**\$5,605,430**





# 2023 - KTPL's SROI



Total Economic  
Benefit  
\$5.6 Million



Municipal  
Operating  
Contribution  
\$2.1 Million

**SROI**  
**\$2.69**  
**Or**  
**269%**

# How libraries provide value to their community...

## Libraries are efficient with tax dollars



We leverage:

- Consortium pricing
- Provincial sharing
- Non-profit status

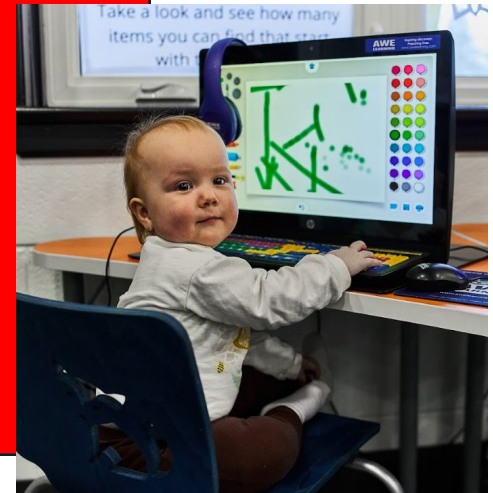
# How libraries provide value to their community...

## Libraries bridge the digital divide

In 2023 -

Public computers and wi-fi used 17,167 times:

- school projects
- job searching / applications
- virtual meetings / interviews
- on-line education and exams
- researching health, tax, realty, etc, etc...





# How libraries provide value to their community...



## Libraries support social cohesion

In 2023:

- 985 in-person programs with 10,413 participants
- 13 virtual programs with 152 participants

Early Literacy – Maker/STEAM/DIY – Author visits  
Book Clubs – Training – Education

# The result...



## Our Library is Loved

In 2023:

- 80,254 visits to branches
- 120,562 social media engagements
- 53,688 books and materials borrowed
- 78,801 digital items borrowed

# Not just numbers...

## what the community has to say



WHAT DOES THE  
PUBLIC LIBRARY  
MEAN TO YOU?



[https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1yY3hvtRbApRfFRxfiHBHfEQv\\_8qE\\_DLu](https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1yY3hvtRbApRfFRxfiHBHfEQv_8qE_DLu)

# Thank you



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