



AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Meeting: Regular Meeting of Council, Operations and Planning – 20 July 2022
To: Members of Council
From: Library CEO
Department: Library/Culture
Subject: Quarterly Library Cultural Report

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council accepts the Quarterly Cultural Report as information only, as submitted by the Library CEO.

ORIGIN:

Not Applicable

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

LAST QUARTER – (July – September 2022)

This summer we registered 227 new patrons!

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation - On Friday, September 30th, the library will be closed in observance of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. We will re-open on Saturday, October 1st, for our regular hours. Interested in learning more about Truth and Reconciliation? You can find books on this subject by searching "truth and reconciliation" on our library catalogue or visit our display at the entrance of the library for more on this important subject.

Giant Book Sale! – Our Giant Book Sale was such a success! Thank you to staff and volunteers for all the organizing, re-arranging and amazing ideas to make this a fun and creative event.

Dyslexia Awareness - The HHPL received a mini grant from the International Dyslexia Association to add decodable books to the collection. These books will be available in October. Just look for the red decodable sticker on the spine. Visit ReadOctober.com to learn more about supporting literacy and dyslexia awareness. What are decodable books? Decodable books are written with a focus on words that can be "sounded out" to help readers gain confidence and fluency.

Summer Yoga– This summer we had not one, but two, weekly, well attended yoga classes! Julie and Eleanor very generously donated their time and expertise teaching these classes. Thank you!

Teen Drop-In – A safe space for teens to hang out, read, connect. The group meets monthly for food, crafts and conversation. Our next meeting is Tuesday, October 18th.

Fairy Wings & Fairy Doors! - The theme for TD Summer Reading Club 2022 was Once Upon a Time; Myths and Legends. In July, the kids made fairy wings. We had fairies, bees and even a phoenix flying around the library that weekend. In August, we painted tiny fairy doors and windows for the littles to take home. We have a fairy door here at the Hastings Highlands Centre. Have you seen it yet?

Introduction To: Sessions – We started a series of introductory classes. Local residents could share some of their knowledge on a variety of subjects with the public. We had, Intro to - meditation, journaling, nutritional awareness, energy modalities, American Sign Language and Line Dancing!

Line Dancing – Well that turned out to be popular! Yeehaw! We had two 6 week line dance classes that we'll definitely be bringing back in the Spring. Stay tuned for those dates!

Reading, Rhyming & Running Around! – Our toddler program "Reading, Rhyming & Running Around" is back at the library. Story time, crafts, gym time and snacks. Every Tuesday, 10am-12pm. In partnership with the Metis Nation of Ontario.

Sewing and Hand Crafts – Our sewers and knitting/crochet groups were busy creating beautiful things all summer. We were gifted a crocheted doll of Queen Elizabeth II for the platinum jubilee.

Crochet Workshop - On Wednesday, August 10th, the library hosted a 2-hour Crocheting Workshop with Trisha Lavoie where participants learned basic crocheting skills and how to create a 3D crocheting project.

Tiny Art Show – Patrons could pick up one of our tiny canvases at the library and create their very own piece of art, then bring it back to display in our Tiny Art Show in August. It was a hit! We had 25 beautiful pieces of artwork on display that we still haven't taken down because we love them!

Seed Library – **Our Seed Library is now closed for the season. See you in the Spring!** If you haven't botany plants lately, romaine calm. Our seed library is open! Borrow some seeds with your library card, plant them, and at the end of the season let some go to seed and bring them to us. The goal of the Seed Library is to provide free and easy access to viable seeds so that as many people as possible can grow their own food. Our seed library provides people the opportunity to grow and nurture their *food literacy* and gardening skills.

Buttons, Buttons, Buttons! – We have a button-making machine! Button making is a low-cost, high-impact, pop-up makerspace activity that is very popular with people of all ages. We have been making buttons for all of our events and programs and people of all ages love them!

TD Summer Reading Club – The TD Summer Reading Club is Canada's biggest, bilingual summer reading program for kids of all ages, interests and abilities. This free Club is offered at more than 2,000 public libraries across Canada, as well as online. The Club celebrates Canadian authors, illustrators and stories, and inspires kids to explore the fun of reading their way. This is key to building a lifelong love of reading.

Indigenous Resource Centre Donation – Update: First Nations Public Library Week runs October 3 to 7, 2022 with the theme, "Bekaa, Bzindaachagan | Wait and Listen". Thanks to a generous donation from The Papineau Lake Cottagers Association and in collaboration with the Kijicho Manito

Madaouskarini Algonquin First Nation we will soon be offering new library materials, for all ages, to learn more about Indigenous history, including the Indian Residential School experience, and the ongoing Truth & Reconciliation process. Date TBA.

Bridge– We have some avid Bridge players here every Tuesday at 1pm! New members always welcome and our players are willing to teach anyone willing to learn!

Scrabble! – It’s intense and there are dictionaries involved. Everyone welcome! Thursdays 1-4 in the Library!

Euchre! – It’s new and so, so popular! Everyone welcome! Tuesdays 1-3 in the Library!

Cultural Corner/Gallery – Hastings Highlands is lucky to have so many great artists! In July, and gearing up to the Studio Tour we had a variety of pieces on display by the artists taking part in it. August was our community art show and September we had the fantastic Diane Hannah!

Homeschooling Groups – This has grown! We now have three different homeschooling groups that meet here in the Library on a regular basis. Some groups come from as far away as Barry’s Bay. Our excellent collection and space, as well as our friendly and supportive staff have made this a welcome place to learn.

Come Drum with Me – The Algonquin Inòdewiziwin Child and Family Centre Programs and EarlyON NHCS, created this very popular program! Come Drum With Me is a toddler group that specializes in literacy through drumming and teaches Indigenous cultural awareness through songs and music. Every Thursday, here at the HHPL! Please register with NHCS.

Provincial Parks Passes – Why not “check out” a provincial park pass next time you visit us. We all know that spending time in nature improves our physical, mental, and social well-being and Parks Ontario has provided **three** provincial parks day passes to our library. Please call the library to reserve this free day pass.

Saturday Game Drop In – Come out to the library on Saturdays for an afternoon of gaming fun! Crokinole, Candyland, Nintendo Switch and Trouble! (We also have Monopoly, in case you felt like tearing apart a family or friendship.)

Reading Deck & Café - Our Reading Deck will remain open until it’s too cold to read! The library Wi-Fi is open access and available 24/7. There is also an outlet if you need to plug in your device.

DVD Pool & Large Print Pool – The DVD pool, formerly under the administration of SOLS staff and now under the administration of Hastings Highlands Public Library, was created to give member libraries the opportunity to provide or supplement a DVD collection to service their communities. This collection is intended to extend the information, education, and recreation resources of member libraries. Large Print Pool is there to provide member libraries to supplement their large print collection for low-vision patrons.

E-Resources Kanopy/Overdrive/Libby & More – The HHPL is pleased to offer free access to many e-resources such as **Kanopy**, an online on-demand streaming video platform that offers over 30,000 films and documentaries, **Overdrive/Libby**, for e-books, audiobooks, magazines, and **Novelist**, for Reader’s Advisory. Patrons will be able to access these services using their HHPL library card. All of these, and more, can be found on our website.

The Latest Acquisitions – We continue to bring in new library materials each month. Below is a sampling of some of our latest acquisitions:

1. Where You End and I Begin – Leah McLaren
2. Our Voice of Fire – Brandi Morin
3. Diana, William and Harry – James Patterson
4. Overkill – Sandra Brown
5. The War Librarian – Addison Armstrong
6. Girl, Forgotten – Karin Slaughter
7. The Witches of Moonshyne Manor – Bianca Marais
8. Vortex – Catherine Coulter
9. Hilo, All the Pieces Fit – Judd Winick
10. The Stone Child – David A. Robertson

CURRENT EVENTS:

Library Board – The Library Board will hold their next meeting on October 13th at 9:00am. The public are invited to email Wendy, (ceo@hastingshighlandslibrary.ca), if they wish to attend any Library Board meeting.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Not Applicable

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

Not Applicable

REFERENCES: