



AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Meeting: Regular Meeting of Council, Operations - 21 Oct 2020
To: Members of Council
From: Rod Moffitt, Library CEO
Department: Library/Culture
Subject: Library Cultural Report

Recommendation:

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

Background information:

Library Board – The Library Board held their latest meeting on Tuesday, September 22nd at 9:00 am in the Program room at the library.

The next Library Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 15th at 9:00 am in the Program room. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the public are invited to email Rod (ceo@hastingshighlandslibrary.ca) if they wish to attend the meeting in order that proper arrangements can be made for the safety of all involved.

Covid-19 Protocols – We are putting an informational page on the HHPL website to inform patrons about the Covid-19 protocols that have been put into place. You can access this information through a tab at the top of the website, or under the tab of 'Services'. This will help patrons to be aware of the guidelines for library use at this time.

Initial Reopening Plan – The Library commenced reopening of the facilities on Monday, September 28th. We are currently maintaining pickup service five days a week. Patrons can call in (613-338-2262) or email (hhplcurbside@gmail.com) if they would like to pick up books. We are also open on Mondays (11 am – 1:45 pm), Tuesday (11 am – 5:45 pm) and Thursdays (11 am – 5:45 pm) for patrons to drop in to use the computers and browse the stacks. Staff are doing a great job at welcoming and directing patrons as well as maintaining a high standard of cleanliness in the library for the safety of all.

Patron visits – The number of patrons who are visiting the library in person is gradually increasing as the word gets out. The numbers are listed below:

September 28th (2), September 29th (4), October 1st (6), October 5th (7), October 6th (12), October 8th (13).

We will be making courtesy calls to our regular patrons to inform them about our reopening and what protocols will be in place for their next visit.

Virtual Book Club – The HHPL Book Club is starting up again! Of course, things will be a little different. We will be doing an online discussion instead of meeting in front of the fireplace for our cozy book chats. Starting Monday October 26th, you will be able to sign your book out for the first Book

Club meeting at the front desk. We will be talking about the book on our [Book Club Facebook Group](#) - just request to join this group if you are not currently a member. This month's novel is the bestselling "**Britt-Marie was Here**" by Fredrik Backman.

Forest of Reading – We are currently registering for the 2020-2021 Forest of Reading program. We will be ordering books in the Blue Spruce, Silver Birch and Silver Birch Express categories. Youth in our community will be able to sign out books from their appropriate category and then vote on which ones they like the best.

Canadian Curriculum Content Resources - The Hastings Highlands Public Library has purchased a series of Canadian Curriculum workbooks to assist those who may be homeschooling their children this year, or those who are looking for a little extra homework to help their child practice what they've been learning in school. In an effort to make sure these resources stay available for as many families as possible, these materials are for in-house use only and cannot be borrowed. You may browse through these books and mark the pages you would like photocopied to take home. Alternatively, you can let staff know what areas your child struggles with, and we can have some photocopies ready for you to pick up.

The Latest Acquisitions – We are continuing to acquire the latest fiction reads which we are promoting on our website. Below is a sample of our new acquisitions:

- One by One by Ruth Ware
- Consent by Annabel Lyon
- Transcendent Kingdom by Yaa Gyasi
- Here the Dark by David Bergen (on the 2020 Scotiabank Giller Prize Shortlist)
- Indians on Vacation by Thomas King
- The Finder by Will Ferguson
- A Private Cathedral by James Lee Burke
- The Book of Two Ways by Jodi Picoult
- To Tell You the Truth by Gilly MacMillan
- The Residence by Andrew Pyper

Financial impact:

N/A

Link to strategic plan:

N/A

References:

N/A

Prepared By:

Rod Moffitt, Library CEO

Reviewed By: Municipal Clerk October 9, 2020

Reviewed By: CAO/Treasurer October 13, 2020