



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 – (April – June 2022)

Easter Egggggstravaganza! – Our Easter Egg Hunt was a huge success and we can all feel a lot of pride in how quickly the whole community came together to make our first post-lockdown event so much fun for our Littles. A huge thank you to all of our volunteers, Sparky the Fire Dog, The Easter Bunny and especially our HH Fire Department! The kids loved those trucks!

Poetry Month – April is poetry month so we made a Poet-Tree! Yes, we had a tree in the Library decorated with poems that anyone could take home with them. We also had an old-fashioned typewriter set up for anyone wanting to create their own! People under a certain age had more fun trying to figure how a typewriter works than creating a poem. LOL!

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, July 19th.

Musical Instrument Lending Library – Wow! The response has continued to be fantastic! We have ukuleles, guitars, percussion instruments, violins, a dulcimer and even an accordion. Our grand opening was celebrated on June 24th and live music by the Old Crusty Minstrels was enjoyed by all. Thank you to all our amazing musicians who made this a great day. Every Friday in the Library from 10-12 you can enjoy live music. Drop by! Thank you to our very supportive and musical community!

Seed Library – 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. Your child will receive a free notebook and stickers to track their reading.” We also have fun activities and initiatives for kids to take part in. The theme for TD Summer Reading Club 2022 is Once Upon a Time; Myths and Legends.

Gardening workshops – Lesley Eden came in to share her gardening tips and talk about the Hugelkultur gardening method. “Hugelkultur, pronounced *hoo-gul-culture*, is a gardening technique that originated in Germany. The word means “hill culture,” and describes this growing method perfectly.” Stay tuned for more gardening workshops!

Indigenous Resource Centre Donation – Update: In Ontario, the first week of October features First Nations Public Library Week. We’d like our resource centre unveiling to coincide with that week. Stay tuned!

We thank the Papineau Lake Community Association for their very generous donation of \$1000! These funds will go towards creating an Indigenous resource centre here at the HHPL.

Bridge has begun – We have some avid Bridge players here every Tuesday! 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!

Bob Ross Paint Night! - If you don’t know who Bob Ross is, you need to drop everything, and check out some of the many fantastic, and hilarious, Bob Ross instructional videos. We had a Bob Ross night with our teens and then hosted another, open to all ages, in May. There were a lot of laughs and some...interesting...paintings created!

Cultural Corner/Gallery – Hastings Highlands is lucky to have so many great artists. April/May we hosted the gorgeous paintings of the Arctic, and Antarctic, by Linda Mackey Lang. June was the amazing Rocky Green!

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.

Line Dancing – Yeehaw! – Line Dancing started this June and there is already demand for a second session! Boot up and keep your eyes peeled for upcoming dates.

Yoga – This popular program is pay what you can with all proceeds going to the Library. A big shout out to the amazing Eleanor Cheyne for sharing all of her talents! Thursdays 4-5:30. Stay tuned for Wednesday morning Yoga with Julie – starting in July!

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 is open for the season! The library Wi-Fi is open access and available 24/7. There is also an outlet if you need to plug in your device. Or just kick back with a good book and some sunshine. Coffee and tea are also back!

Forest of Reading – MPS voted! Our Maynooth Mustangs voted for their favourite Blue Spruce book! And the winner is....Harley the Hero!

Forest of Reading is Canada’s largest recreational reading program. This initiative of the Ontario Library Association offers ten reading programs to encourage a love of reading in people of all ages. This year the library purchased the Blue Spruce, Silver Birch, Silver Birch Express and Yellow Cedar collections. This year’s program was made possible through the generous donation of the Bancroft-Cardiff Kiwanis K-40 Club.

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. Horse by Geraldine Brooks
2. Lion’s Den by Katherine St. John
3. The Lies I Tell by Julie Clark
4. Nightcrawling by Leila Mottley
5. Magpie by Elizabeth Day
6. The House Across the Lake by Riley Sager
7. Escape by James Patterson and David Ellis

- 8. Cult Classic by Sloane Crosley
- 9. Local Gone Missing by Fiona Barton
- 10. The Latecomer by Jean Hanff Korelitz

CURRENT EVENTS:

Library Board – The Library Board will hold their next meeting on September 8th 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: