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REPORT

TO: Members of Council

FROM: Rod Moffitt, CEO, Hastings Highlands Public Library

DATE: Wednesday, May 15, 2019, Regular Meeting of Council, Operations

**RE:** Monthly Library / Cultural Report

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**BACKGROUND:**

**Library Board** – The next Library Board meeting is on Wednesday, May 22nd at 9:00 am in the Program Room in the Library. The Library will be closed on Monday, May 20th for the Victoria Day holiday.

Rod attended the Customer Service training at the Municipality of Hastings Highlands on Tuesday, April 30th and the Tri-County Library meeting in Stirling on Monday, May 6th.

**Interagency meeting –** The North Hastings Interagency meeting occurred on Thursday, May 2nd from 12 – 1:30 pm in the Program Room of the Library. This was an opportunity for local agencies to network and let each other know about services that they offer. Representatives from the following agencies were present: Hastings County, Daly Funeral Home, CARE North Hastings, Alzheimer’s Society, Community Integration, Metis Nation and Community Employment Services from Loyalist. The North Hastings Interagency meetings occur three times a year.

**Inter-Library Loans –** In light of the recent cut in funding to the Southern Ontario Library System, the InterLibrary Loan service has been temporarily suspended. When we find out more information about the status of the Inter-Library Loan service, we will inform the community.

**Access Work Service Workshops –** A series of **free,** interactive Job Search Training Workshops for people of all ages will be offered at the HHPL during the month of May:

1. *Writing Resumes and Applications* (Tuesday, May 7th, 4:00-6:00 pm)
2. *Job Search Techniques* (Tuesday, May 14th, 4:00-6:00 pm)
3. *Interview Skills* (Tuesday, May 21st, 4:00-6:00 pm)
4. *Job Application Follow-up and Review* (Tuesday, May 28th, 4:00 – 6:00 pm)

Anitia Kennedy will be the instructor. Anitia has over 20 years experience as an Employment Specialist and is currently employed with ‘Access Work Service’ in Barry’s bay, ON. ‘Access Work Service (AWS) is a non-profit organization that provides employment opportunities to clients 16+ by connecting them with an employer. For more information, contact Anitia Kennedy at 1-613-756-0723 or by email at [anitia.kennedy@accessworkservice.ca](mailto:anitia.kennedy@accessworkservice.ca)

**Author Visit –** On Saturday, May 11th from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm, there will be a book launch for local author, Dallas Bader. Dallas will be reading selections from his collection of poems, *The Poetry of Pot,* that were inspired by his life in the woods of Selby Hill during the 1970’s in Herschel Township. Accompanying Dallas will be poet Honey Novick from Toronto. She will read from her latest book, *Undefeated Relevance.* Both of these books of poetry were published in Bancroft by well-known poet and photographer, Kathy Figueroa, who will also be in attendance. Additionally, there will be an open microphone period. This event is free and everyone is welcome!

**Irish Heritage Celebration –** During the afternoon of Friday, May 3rd, the HHPL celebrated Irish Heritage through songs, pictures, readings and food. Master of Ceremonies, Bob Hill, kept the large audience entertained with his hilarious sense of humour. The ‘Music in the Library’ group provided an excellent selection of Irish tunes under the direction of Jim McPherson. Guest soloists were Mary Burbidge, Steve Barker and Vivian Bloom. Vivian also provided an interesting slide show of pictures from her recent trip to Ireland. The audience enjoyed a taste of potato soup and soda biscuits. Thank you to Jim McPherson for spearheading and organizing this event.

**Cultural Corner –** This month’s artist for the Cultural Corner is local youth, Rio Kingstone, with his photography display. Rio has created a very interesting display which he will talk about with students from Maynooth Public School on Friday, May 24th from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm. at a ‘Meet the Artist’ event. Rio describes his work as “a visual adventure into the weird, wild, wacky and wonderful world according to Rio.”

**Maynooth Public School Visits –** All classes from Maynooth Public School continue to visit the Library for book exchanges and Physical Education classes on alternate Fridays. Korbin Paradis will be bringing one of his ‘kritters’ for the students to enjoy on the following dates: Fridays May 10th, 17th and 31st.

**Book Club –** The next meeting of the HHPL Book Club is Thursday, May 16th. Members will be looking at the book, *Nightingale,* by Kristin Hannah. Since the Book Club usually acquires their books through Inter-Library Loan, they will be brainstorming alternate methods of book sharing for the June meeting.

**Forest of Reading –** The students of Mrs. Storey’s class participated in the annual Forest of Reading voting for the best book that they read on Friday, April 24th. The winner of the class vote was *Where Oliver Fits* by Cale Atkinson. The voting results from Mrs. Storey’s class are being submitted to the province-wide results. The overall winning book will be announced at the Forest of Reading Festival of Trees in May at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

**Potluck and a Movie –** The latest ‘Potluck and a Movie’ crowd were entertained by the movie, *Destroyer.* There will be one more ‘Potluck and a Movie’ on Friday, June 7th before breaking for the summer holidays.

**PA Day activities –** The HHPL Program staff have some exciting activities planned for the PA day on Friday May 17th. Korbin Paradis will have one of his famous ‘kritters’ here, the gym will be available for activities and the craft table will be set up.

**Transition Town Repairathon –** Our first ‘Repairathon’ will be occurring on Monday, May 27th from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Spearheaded by Pat McGillivray, the main purpose behind it is to encourage people to repair items in order to divert them from the landfill. The focus for this ‘Repairathon’ is textiles. People are asked to bring textiles / clothing that they would like to repair. They will be shown how to repair their items by experienced sewers on sewing machines that will be brought into the Library on that day.

**ASL classes –** American Sign Language classes have resumed at the HHPL under the direction of Amber Constable. Classes are being offered on Thursdays from 3:30 – 4:30 pm and Saturdays from 11am to 12 pm. Please register at the circulation desk or by telephone If you are interested in participating in an ASL class.

Respectfully submitted,

Rod Moffitt, Library CEO