

Games @ the Library – a Huge Success

From October 18-24, 2009, the Atlantic Provinces Library Association (APLA) sponsored "Games @ the Library" week. During the week many public libraries and hundreds of patrons participated in all kinds of activities from scavenger hunts to scrabble tournaments helping make the event a huge success. To help make the event extra special, **Hasbro Canada** sent each public library in Newfoundland and Labrador a copy of [SCRABBLE Classic](#) and [PICTUREKA](#) (one of their newest games!). The highlight of the week was the drawing for a Nintendo Wii from the entry forms completed by participants. The winner was Michaela Hunt who was one of approximately 100 participants at the Intertown Library in Centreville. Thank you to all who participated and congratulations to Michaela for winning the grand prize.



Michaela Hunt being presented with the Nintendo Wii by Librarian Stephanie Collins at the Intertown Public Library in Centreville



Newfoundland & Labrador
Public Libraries

Administration Division

December 22, 2009

Season's Greetings:

I trust this letter finds everyone in good health and spirits as you prepare for another holiday season. For many, I am sure this year has been very rewarding but for others I know it has been difficult. I hope, however, that everyone will have a pleasant and relaxing holiday season and 2010 will be better than the year that has passed.

As an organization we have a lot to be thankful for during this past year. While we have had our challenges, we are thankful for what we were able to achieve. We received additional funding in our budget as well as emergency funding during the year. We received approval for a new library for Corner Brook and continued to improve our buildings by completing the modernization of Stephenville Library and began a similar project at Grand Bank. We upgraded children's furnishings in 35 sites and provided new shelving in St. John's, Botwood and Deer Lake. We were able to continue with our promotions program and continue training for staff and board members. We completed our early literacy project, which will be launched early in 2010, and are nearing completion of the operational review of St. John's. We are extremely pleased with what we have been able to accomplish during this past year and are looking forward to 2010 as we continue our efforts to improve the public library system in the province.

Perhaps our greatest achievement during this past year was an increase in patron registrations for the first time in five years. With a decreasing population and an increasing number of people who reside here but work elsewhere, seeing an increase in patrons is extremely satisfying. I want to take this opportunity to thank our patrons for their tremendous support during this past year.

A great deal of our success is attributed to the staff who work in each of our libraries, our divisional offices and headquarters. They are a key component of the public library system in this province and their efforts are appreciated not only by the people who use or benefit from the system but by those who fund it, use it or work within it. We all truly appreciate the work they do.

On behalf of the Provincial Board and myself, thank you for all your efforts. We trust everyone will have a safe, happy and prosperous holiday season.

Sincerely,

Calvin Taylor, Chair

Money Matters

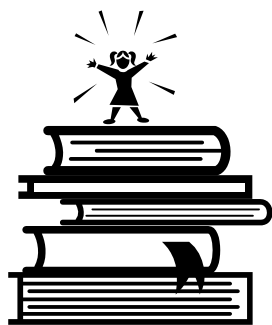
The PILRB has approved an operational budget of \$11.4 million dollars, for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. Included in this figure is \$1.15 million dollars for library materials.

The major repair project to the Stephenville Public Library has come to a conclusion with the recent installation of new shelving and furniture. This was the final step to be completed in a project that commenced in the Fall of 2008. The Provincial Government granted the PILRB one time funding of \$100,000 to complete the project, the PILRB contributed \$100,000, and the Stephenville Local Board contributed \$10,000 of fund raised dollars.

Repairs are currently ongoing at the Grand Bank Public Library to correct a leaking roof, windows, and doors. New exterior brick work has been almost completed and interior structural repairs have been performed to replace portions of the building that had deteriorated due to rot. Once this work is completed the interior of the building will be upgraded with a new circulation desk, flooring and shelving. The project is estimated to cost \$400,000. The Provincial Government granted the PILRB one time funding of \$300,000 to complete the project and the PILRB contributed \$100,000.

In 2010-2011 the PILRB anticipates that major repairs to the windows, roof and siding of the Deer Lake Public Library will occur, with Harbour Grace being tentatively scheduled in 2011-2012.

In addition to these major repair projects in the past year, the PILRB upgraded 35 Children's Areas in our School Public Libraries and placed new metal shelving in the A.C.Hunter, Botwood, and Deer Lake Public Libraries at a cost of \$160,000.



Uplink

The Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries is now reviewing its statistics collection and reporting system. Since its beginning in 1935, the Public Libraries Board has collected statistics to measure the effectiveness of the services it offers. The existing methods of information collection and reporting were put in place in the mid 1990s. The statistics currently being reported are circulation, reference questions, programmes being offered, number of persons attending programmes, class visits including number of students per class, interlibrary loans borrowed, interlibrary loans filled, and computer use. The data is collected at all 96 library sites, compiled using a spreadsheet and sent to headquarters where summary reports are generated and distributed. Over the years, the existing stats collection methods have served the organization well. To help improve the system, NLPL is conducting a brief review of the organization to determine what additional information is required to accurately measure its services. Additional automation will also be employed making the collection of information more efficient and the reporting system more comprehensive. It is anticipated that the new statistics reporting system will be operational by mid 2010.

Regional Services / Staffing

Highlights in Recent Developments:

- Most libraries participated in the **TD Summer Reading Club 2009**. With the theme "Detectives", the programme attracted over 2,500 participants across the Province. The theme for 2010 will be "Jungles".
- **Library use indicators** for the period April to October, 2009 show very small decreases in circulation and computer use and a significant increase in the number of people attending programmes, over the same period in 2008-09.
- Check out the NLPL web site for additions to our electronic resources in 2009: Chilton's Auto Repair Manuals and Gale Literature Resources including Contemporary Authors.

Staff-Management Committee activities in 2009 included continuing first aid training and retraining for one staff member in two-person and multi-staff libraries, continuing investigation of the scent-free issue and sponsoring a stress management seminar for staff in the St. John's area.

The **Public Service Week Committee**, established a few years ago by the Staff-Management Committee to identify options for Public Service Week activities for NLPL staff, is in the process of making recommendations for Public Service Week, 2010, to be held in mid-June. The Dominion gift card provided to all staff in 2009 proved very popular. Members of the Committee are Sharon Burry, Charles Cameron, Dawn Lahey, Patricia Parsons and Paul Williams. The Committee is interested in receiving feedback from staff. If you have any suggestions please email one of the committee members.

Automated circulation activity in 2009 saw four barcode projects completed in small and medium size libraries: Bishop's Falls, Botwood, Lewisporte and Norris Arm. By the end of January, 2010 full implementation will have taken place in all four libraries which will bring the number of fully automated sites to 24. Also in 2009 two libraries were bar coded but have not yet been automated: Port au Port and Robert's Arm. Expansion of the automated system will continue with additional sites being bar coded and automated in 2010.



Operations

Provincial Resource Library

Agents Abound! 2009 TD Summer Reading Club @ St. John's Libraries



The TD Summer Reading Club was a wonderful success across the province with over 2500 children participating and more than 3200 kits handed out. At the St. John's Libraries there were plenty of mysteries and children to solve them! With over 700 children registered at the three locations; programs were filled to capacity and little mystery hunters were spilling out of the aisles!

An entire newsletter could be filled with the successful programs that libraries ran this summer, but a taste of some from St. John's includes:

Secret Agent Spectacular – Summer reading clubs at all three St. John's libraries launched with mysterious momentum! At the **A.C. Hunter Children's Library**, with support from a local TD Bank and volunteers from TD, the RNC and our St. John's Board, over 122 participants solved a mystery in the library by following clues and answering questions. The mystery took place on all 3 floors and involved staff from many departments. When everyone had solved the mystery, the group gathered in the activity room for a giant cake and drinks.

Subterfuge – So popular it had to be offered four times throughout the summer, the A.C. Hunter children's staff geared children up for their secret agent status by featuring undercover activities, secret messages and codes. Participants made disguises, decoded secret messages and played with invisible ink. Constable Kevin Foley of the RNC joined in for the last session of the program.



Cst. Darryl Nixon, Jewel Cousens (PRL) , Cst. Kevin Foley, Cst. Karen Hemmens at the AC Hunter Childrens' Library during Police Week

Detective School – An 8 week mystery unfolded at the Marjorie Mews Library as children put their sleuthing skills to the test to find the lost cookies. Each child received a detective's folder filled with tools, clues to the cookie mystery and ballots for weekly prize draws.

Other spy-tastic programs for children from preschool to preteen at the St. John's Libraries included: *Secret Agent Bingo, Clue Corner, Design Your Own Wanted Poster, Reading Passports, and Treasure Box Toys.*



Major Moments @ Marjorie Mews

Boost Your Reading - A joint venture arranged between Booster Juice & the **Marjorie Mews Library** had our two Avalon cities and four libraries reading and living healthy this summer. Participants showed their library card at Booster Juice and received a free booster. Smoothie coupons were featured as weekly prizes at the participating libraries (AC Hunter Adult & Children's, Marjorie Mews, Michael Donovan, and the Ross King Memorial Library).

August Jewelry Give-A-Way – During the month of August, Marjorie Mews Library along with Dazy Bugz Dezignz featured a contest for library users who borrowed 10 or more items. Each of these patrons had their name entered into a draw for a Dazy Bugz Dezignz (local jewelry designer) gift certificate.

Everyone's a Critic – Library users were asked to write a review of an adult/young adult book or video borrowed from the library. Reviewers names were entered for a chance to win a library bag filled with prizes! Reviews were posted anonymously in the library throughout the summer and patrons enjoyed reading the dozens of featured reviews on display.

Back 2 School Give-a-way – During this month-long campaign, school age children were given an entry form (when they borrowed ten or more items from the library) for a chance to win a school bag full of back to school items.

Wii Day – Library users played Nintendo Wii on a giant screen T.V. every Tuesday (all day) during the summer. Every user of the Wii received an entry form for a chance to win a "Scrabble" board game.

Tragically H.I.P.? – Marjorie Mews staff asked users these questions: Do you find it difficult to use our catalogue to search for Books, audiobooks, DVDs, or magazines? Do you find it difficult to request and renew books from your home computer? Did you know about our free online databases from Chilton's, Novelist and Consumer Reports (just to name a few)? Users that said, "yes" learned how the Horizon Information Portal can help.

Family Fitness Month – In September a partnership with Little Gym provided a gift bag and a guest speaker for a special storytime.

Harvest Time – October's partnership featured Lester's Farm generously donating 12 free pumpkins for a give away.



Ghost Story Writing Contest – Leading up to Halloween. Children 7-15 submitted original ghost stories and Newfoundland author and storyteller Dale Jarvis was the guest judge and award presenter. With over 50 entries the choices were difficult, but the winners were ecstatic, especially the youngest who was featured on NTV accompanying the weather forecast. A big thank you to Toni Marie Wiseman and Dale Jarvis for their time and talent.



Support Our Troops Month – Throughout November staff wore red Support Our Troops T shirts on Fridays. A gift bag provided by the St John's Military Family Resource Centre helped to shine light on this great cause. On November 10th Navy Lieutenant Barrett was a featured guest speaker.



Marjorie Mews Library Supports the Troops

Marjorie Mews *Monster Movie Madness* - Jumbo Video is the generous sponsor of fun family movies! These monthly movie days, with popcorn and prizes, are drawing larger and larger crowds.

Full Bellies = Good Reads – The First Annual St. John's Libraries Food Drive is in aid of the St John's Food Sharing Association. December 1-5 all St. John's libraries accepted nonperishable food items in trade for books from our book sale shelves!

*There are two motives for reading a book:
one, that you enjoy it; the other; that you can
boast about it.*

Bertrand Russell

Dynamic Days @ M. Donovan Library

This was a busy fall for the **Michael Donovan Public Library**. In addition to regular duties, the library was rearranged to accommodate more space for programming, adding a children's nook with a dedicated child's computer and furniture. This doubles the amount of storytime programming. In October two special programs for Thanksgiving and Halloween were held. Everyone enjoyed the stories, treats and games. In November the library hosted a patron appreciation event. Patrons were surprised and pleased by this gesture and thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon. Currently there is a Food Drive and Book Exchange and two special Christmas programs in the month of December.



Patron Day at the Michael Donovan Public Library

Canadian Children's Book Week 2009

He calls himself an "authorstrator" and he created an adorable, melodramatic bird character; naturally Jeremy Tankard was a big hit across the province! Touring for Canadian Children's Book Week, Tankard met over 1600 children as he popped into 7 communities in Newfoundland on his 5 day tour. Children were inspired and delighted as he demonstrated his illustration techniques live and talked about his life. His three popular children's picture books, *Grumpy Bird*, *Boo Hoo Bird* and *Me Hungry!* were met with



'Authorstrator' Jeremy Tankard

loud guffaws and squeals of delight from the audience at every stop. When he boarded the plane to fly back to Toronto, he promised to return - our province provided him with a little dose of inspiration and delight along the way as well! For more about Tankard's books and life, visit www.jeremytankard.com

NL Author Reading Series –

This is a monthly series of readings that is sponsored by the St. John's Library Board and the Writers Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador.

In April, the **A.C. Hunter Library** was the venue for a reading by NL author Tom Badcock. Mr. Badcock invited the audience to lead the reading and one listener suggested that she would like to hear what she was currently reading, "Honour thy Father" read in the author's voice. All those present were thoroughly interested in listening to excerpts and hearing how Tom came to write the book and get it published. The author then spoke of his newest book, "Cougar Flight 491", which he was able to complete in a very short time. Family members, lawyers, and others are interested in this book as a historical record of events. Fifty percent of the profits will be donated to erect a memorial to the victims. Much debate ensued with this topic which concluded a very enjoyable evening

In May, Winterset Award finalist, Sara Tilley, gave a reading at the A.C. Hunter Library. "Skin Room" won both the 2004 Percy Janes First Novel Award and the inaugural Fresh Fish Award for 2006, in addition to being a Winterset Award finalist for 2009. Sara read an excerpt with such emotion as if she were the main character, intense & descriptive. Teresa, the main character, thinks Valentine's Day is too commercial and that love doesn't really exist. Her best friend, Mark, an idealist, is fresh from the prairies and the only man she can find. Looming over them are works of her mother, a bipolar artist, whose murals and mobiles constantly surround them. "Skin Room" is a coming of age novel about family dysfunction and the slim possibility of redemption. Sara is currently working on a new book inspired by her great-grandfather's travels to Alaska during the Gold Rush.



Author Sara Tilley

Geraldine Rubia was the guest on Wednesday, May 20. Her 1980 book, "A Poem in my Soup" will be reissued this spring by Flanker Press. In addition to poems, also in the book are NL sayings, recipes, games, cures, and superstitions. Gerry read several of her poems and discussed their meaning and how she came to write them. She started writing while being confined after an operation. Her poetry can be humorous, descriptive, sad, and even inspired by the style of Emily Dickinson. Gerry is currently working on a new book of poetry. A large audience was enraptured by Gerry and her poetry.

In September the season resumed with Mark Callanan as the guest. Mark is the author of "Scarecrow", a poetry compilation and managing editor of "Riddle Fence", a literary magazine. Mark's latest book of poetry, "Fathoming" will be published in the fall of 2011. He is also a regular contributor of reviews and essays to several periodicals and newspapers. Mark began the reading with poems from his upcoming book. His writing is so descriptive, the reader experiences all the senses without any difficulty. For example, in a sonnet about a painting, one can actually see what is being described. After a near death experience and waking up from a coma, Mark felt he was hearing about someone else's life. This was the inspiration for several poems that followed with his attempts to come to grips with missing time. One line, "halved by forces bigger than myself", sums up what the author was going through at the time. A most enjoyable evening ended with questions and comments along with light refreshments served.

In October, Elizabeth Murphy, author of "An Imperfect Librarian", was the guest for the NL author reading series. Ms. Murphy sat encircled by the audience and gave a very informal reading and fielded many questions. Ms Murphy has been a teacher, principal and librarian and is now a professor of education at Memorial University promoting web based learning. "An Imperfect Librarian" is the story of Carl, a "come from away" who is trying to find his place in the world. He just can't seem to get away from being an outsider and constantly gets asked "how long are you here for?" The theme of belonging is prominent and what it means to be a Newfoundlander. "An Imperfect Librarian" has been called the best fictional depiction of what it feels like to be a come from away in St. John's. All present thoroughly enjoyed themselves with light refreshments being served.



Amazing Adult Activities @ A.C. Hunter

Income Tax Information Session: In January, the A.C. Hunter Library hosted a public Income Tax Information Session. Again this year Mr. Don Cuff of DWC Financial Planning graciously offered his time and expertise. Along with the presentation, handouts were provided such as the 'Top Ten Tax Tips' and '17 Safe and Legal Ways to Save Money on Income Tax'. Both evenings were well attended by an enthusiastic audience.

In May the A.C Library hosted a free 'Map and Compass' session. Alan Goodridge, our Library Board Chair was the presenter. There were 16 in attendance. Alan was very informative and interesting. The patrons found the hands on tasks using the map and compass much more user friendly and enjoyable. Also, Alan has kindly agreed to do a winter camping program for us in January.



Fly Tying Lesson

In June there was a sponsored fly tying session at the A.C. Hunter Library. Raelene Thomas and Judy Guy were the instructors. They not only gave freely of their time but also all the necessary equipment and fly tying supplies. The men who attended thought the class was excellent. They left stating "that they were no longer going to buy the flies but were going to make their own". They have kindly offered to do the program again in the near future. In addition, they offered to do a class on casting which is the act of throwing a fishing line out over the water by means of a rod and reel. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

Also in June, the A.C. Hunter Library hosted a program called "Changing the Face of Cervical Cancer". Susan Earles, R.N., B.N, the Regional Coordinator for the Cervical Screening Initiatives Program from Eastern Health was the presenter. The patrons that attended this program found it to be very enlightening and found it provided extremely important information. The main message conveyed by Susan Earles is that Cervical Cancer is highly preventable through regular screening. Susan has agreed to come back and present another program in October as it is Cervical Cancer Month.



Susan Earles, R.N., B.N.

In July, first time novelist, Morgane Chollet launched her book "Saint Gracious" at the A.C. Hunter Library to a huge audience of fifty plus enthusiastic listeners. Ms. Chollet self published her novel of which 100 copies were printed. The story revolves around Saint Gracious, a hospital in St. John's that is set to be demolished. The Salvation Army has sent a new hospital administrator to cause unrest among the staff, but she believes she is there to save the hospital from closure. Morgane read excerpts from the book which were vividly descriptive & humorous which left the audience wanting more. An announcement was then made by Jean Edwards Stacey of DRC Publishing that they will now be publishing "Saint Gracious". Books were available for sale and went very quickly.

"Introduction to Flower Arranging" class was hosted by Sylvia Manning, Horticulturist and Flower Arranger in September. There were 25 in attendance. Sylvia created several flower arrangements during the evening that were drawn for. As one participant stated "I enjoyed the flower arranging event thoroughly. Sylvia was great, giving a list of tools needed to start including, pruning shears etc., vases and dishes of different shapes and styles, as well as a very huge assortment of shrubs, trees and flowers, etc. Novice or expert, one certainly would have left the event with some knowledge to make their own arrangement. Sylvia gave not only freely of her time, she gave of her gardening supplies and her dishes too. Sylvia encouraged partakers to use the library and to avail of the programs being provided. She is a zealous supporter of library services.

In October, A. C. Hunter Library hosted "Christmas Comes To the Library". Eric White, also known as Mr. Christmas, was the presenter. The Christmas decorating session was absolutely fabulous! Eric was extremely funny and informative. Many of the items he used were from the dollar store, but the decorations and wrapping were quite elegant. The decorating and wrapping tips he gave were simple enough even for beginners. Eric not only gave of his free time but provided all the trimmings at his own expense and he gave away all the beautiful things he created. Eighty-two people attended this session and others were turned away due to lack of space. Eric has offered to host this event again next year.

In November the A.C. Hunter Library hosted "Make Your Memories Memorable" an introduction to scrapbooking program. Janna Cleary, co-owner of locally owned Paperie Scrapbooking and Wedding Invitations, was the hostess for the evening. Janna gave participants simple and easy to use scrapbooking ideas that will definitely help to preserve memories. Also, patrons were given the opportunity to make a card and were given coupons to attend scrap booking and card making classes at their store for free. There were 17 in attendance.

On two evenings in November and early December, two Christmas craft classes were held with 24 women attending. Together they learned how to bead and manipulate wired ribbons to make unique butterflies that could be tied on your Christmas tree or used as a decoration on a present. The Christmas craft session was a great success. Everyone enjoyed the craft and the easy going atmosphere of the class. All participants went away with a completed Christmas ornament and supplies enough to complete one at home. The class was led by Jewel Cousens with assistance from Rita Roberts and Brenda Conway.



A Successful Participant in the Christmas Craft Class

In November, the A.C. Hunter Library hosted the fourth annual Seniors' appreciation tea with approximately 85 in attendance. The special guest again this year was Margaret Hitchens who performed humorous recitations. In addition, musicians Wince Coles & Dave Wilson performed Newfoundland, Christmas, and gospel music. Upon arrival, each guest's name was entered in a draw for a variety of prizes which ranged from Newfoundland books and CDs to library tote bags. Light refreshments were served and all those present enjoyed themselves thoroughly.

Newfoundland and Labrador Newspaper Collection

The Newfoundland and Labrador Collection at the A.C. Hunter Public Library is the principal repository for original copies of Newfoundland and Labrador newspapers dating back to 1810. Many of these newspapers have been microfilmed allowing the original papers to be preserved while giving researchers full access to the content through the microfilm.

From time to time there will be requests to view and photograph original newspapers for illustration or publication. Such was the case recently when Tract Consulting, a company planning new historical interpretation of Commissariat House Provincial Historic Site here in St. John's, submitted a request.



Jenne MacLean looks on as Jamie Lewis prepares to shoot the front page of *The Newfoundlander*

Part of the new interpretation will include a sampling of period newspapers from the late 1820's to the early 1830's. Prior to the photo shoot Jenne MacLean, an Interpretive Planner with Tract Consulting, visited the Collection to make final selection of the newspapers she wanted as paper size, quality and colour can vary greatly among older newspapers and even from issue to issue of individual titles. Final selection included *The Royal Gazette*, *The Newfoundland Mercantile Journal*, *The Patriot*, *The Public Ledger* and *The Newfoundlander*. On November 3rd Jenne and photographer Jamie Lewis spent four hours in the Newfoundland and Labrador Collection photographing newspapers, sometimes just a small article, sometimes an entire page. Final installation of the new interpretation display at Commissariat House is expected in time for the beginning of the 2010 tourist season.

Newfoundland and Labrador is fortunate to have such a rich history of newspaper publishing. It is even more remarkable that so many original copies have survived given the number of fires and other major disasters. Almost all of these are preserved here in the Newfoundland and Labrador Collection at the A.C. Hunter Public Library.

Eastern Division

The **Bay Roberts Public Library** participated in the Summer Reading Program. Each child was given an activity book, stickers, and a poster. Participants read many different detective books, and the local board helped supply prizes for the contests. The library also held storyhour, where kids read books, sang songs, colored pictures, and made crafts.



Bay Roberts Public Library Board Treasurer Carol Jenkins preparing to present prizes for the Summer Reading Program

Central Division

Harry's Harbor Public Library observed Library Month, with the theme of 'Your Library, Your World – Now More Than Ever', by holding a Library Night in October, celebrating with food, games and prizes for young and old alike. Twenty patrons were in attendance, and the youngest attendee, Nicholas Warr, cut the cake for the event.



Nicholas Warr

The Summer Reading Program at **Hare Bay/ Dover Public Library** was a success. Seventeen kids registered and enjoyed a summer of reading, fingerprinting, crafts and using spy kits. There was also a visit from the '009 Criminal', and the kids thought it was real. They were amazed that she was stealing from the library, with everyone watching – but from their descriptions, the thief would never have been caught.



The Hare Bay/Dover Public Library Burglar and the winners of library prizes



The library also hosted an excerpt reading and discussion period in November. Local author Gary Collins read from his latest book, 'Soulis Joe's Lost Mine', and also from his first kids book, 'What Color is the Ocean', along with co-author Maggie Parsons, his seven year old granddaughter. Twenty –five adults and 12 children attended.



Maggie Parsons and granddad Gary Collins



Twillingate Public Library Board Chair Norma Hamlyn (left) presents Librarian Barbara Hamlyn (center) with a plaque for 20 years of service. Pat Parsons, Central Division Manager (right) is also in attendance.



Central Division ILL Technician, Bernice James, retired in October of 2009 after 25 years of service. Bernice (seated), is shown with co-workers (left to right) Natalie Power, Pam Soucy and Bridget Bowen, with special appearance by Harrison Ford.



*The love of learning, the sequestered nooks,
And all the sweet serenity of books.*

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

West Newfoundland - Labrador Division

Agent 009 TD Summer Reading Program

The **Corner Brook Public Library** held a six week detective school during the months of July and August this summer. The super sleuths in the making learned how to make wanted posters, take finger prints, crack codes, dress in disguise, and read a crime scene. The detectives in training (or rookies) earned new ranks such as, officer, inspector, agent and so on, by reading books until they reached the title of detective in their last week. In the end, these new detectives caught the suspect using their cunning skills, and the crime did not go unpunished. Fun was had by all and the seed of excitement was planted for the next TD Summer Program.

Halloween Costume Party

A spooky Halloween at the Corner Brook Public Library! All the staff dressed up in their best costumes to kick off the First Annual Halloween Costume Party. There was a spider cake decorated by a staff member, and all the kids had a great time playing Halloween Bingo, making toilet paper mummies, and making Halloween crafts.

Bookworms Club

The Bookworms Club for 8-12 year olds is off to a great start again this year. With 16 children registered, discussion is strong and lively as the kids work through a variety of genres and types of books. This has stimulated a lot of reading as well as interest by other children so the program is growing by leaps and bounds.

Story time

Story time kicked off in late September. The theme this year is friendship and all the children get to make a paper doll to place on the wall in our friendship circle. After training at the Western staff conference in September, the Early Literacy Initiative developed for NLPL has been used and the library has their own story time poster and treasure box as well as new puppets to use!

In May, author Cary Fagan visited and read his book "Thing-Thing". Children got a sneak preview of a new book he's writing as well.

In October, Kathy Stinson came for an author visit and taught everyone why red is best by reading her well-known book of the same title.

In November, a CAP Information Session was held with considerable training on the computers. In December there was a 'Pain Management' workshop as well as the second Annual Rockin Around the Christmas Tree Party. In the New Year, there will be a Teen Book Club and a Tot Time program for birth to 3 year old children.



Musician Daniel Payne at the Cow Head Public Library

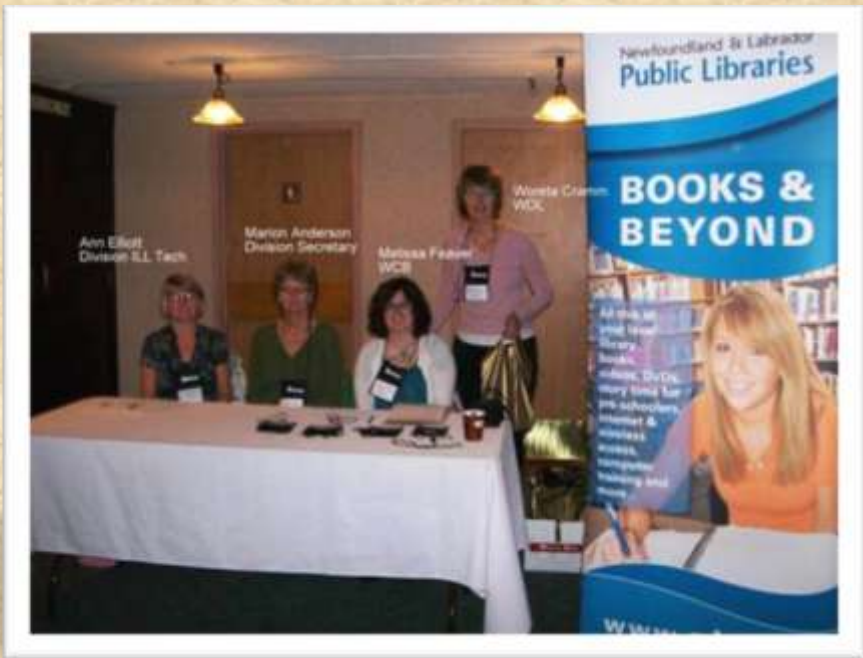
At the **Cow Head Public Library**, well known local musician Daniel Payne dropped by to entertain the Reading Circle children with his violin, button accordion and flute. The children, and adults, could not help but tap their feet along with Daniel as he played traditional and some familiar children's tunes. He explained to the kids how each instrument worked and where the sounds emanated from. They listened and waited with anticipation for the next tune to be played, and again they joined in with the toe tapping melodies. Researchers have found that music has a positive impact on learning and what better place than a library to hear the sound of beautiful music and see the smile on a child's face.



The **Pasadena Public Library** has had a busy few months. In October, local firefighters took the story time kids to the fire hall and showed them the equipment they wear to rescue people. They also went over the fire safety rules with them. For Halloween, Constable Ross of the Deer Lake RCMP came to story time, and reviewed safety for the kids. Halloween was also a movie night with the popular movie 'Twilight' being the feature presentation. There were prizes and snacks. For Christmas, the library converted a study cubicle into a 'fireplace' for Santa.

Staff Conference

Western Newfoundland-Labrador Division had its staff conference during the week of September 14th. Full-time and part-time staff came to Corner Brook from our locations in Western Newfoundland and Labrador. They took part in two and a half days of addresses and special sessions – aimed at specific aspects of professional development. The social aspect was also very important, and staff had a great opportunity to meet and reconnect with co-workers and share ideas. Organizers and participants enjoyed the generosity of many businesses who kindly donated merchandise for door prizes and special draws. In the photographs, left to right, Marion Anderson, Ann Elliott, and Bob Brake of the Western Division office, Jim Pink, Western Representative to the Provincial Board, and Shawn Tetford, Executive Director. On the bottom, Ann Elliott, Marion Anderson, Melissa Feaver of the Corner Brook Public Library, and Worneta Cramm of the Deer Lake Public Library.





Thank you to all contributors.

Please send comments and suggestions to:

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