



COUNTY OF WELLINGTON

COMMITTEE REPORT

To: Chair and Members of the Library Board
From: Rebecca Hine, Chief Librarian
Date: Wednesday, November 10, 2021
Subject: **Summary of Library Activities, October 2021**

Background: To provide the Library Board with an overview of events and activities from across the library system.

Hillsburgh Christmas Event

Once again this holiday season we will have lights installed on and around the Hillsburgh Library and grounds. This will provide a festive destination for people who want to visit the library and spend time outdoors. In addition, this year we will be having an outdoor holiday event on the evening of December 21 which will include the Young at Heart Singers coming to do a carol sing, warm drinks and other outdoor activities. The singers had a very well attended indoor event 2 seasons ago and it will be great to be able to recreate that in an outdoor setting this year.

Programmes, Events and Meeting Room Rentals

With capacity limits lifted by the Ontario government and proof of vaccination required for entry into our libraries we can start looking at resuming some in branch programming and room rentals during open hours. Currently the branches are using the meeting rooms to store the extra furniture that we removed from our public spaces in order to encourage appropriate social distancing as well as allowing staff to space out during their lunch breaks. With the limits lifted we will begin a slow approach back to programming. The plan is to start renting out the meeting rooms during open hours for groups that are able to show their proof a vaccination to staff starting January 2022.

Eden Mills Writers Festival Event

I am happy to report another very successful partnership between the Eden Mills Writers Festival and Wellington County Library. First Nations author Jodie Callaghan visited us virtually on October 19 as part of our Ontario Public Library week events. The event was hosted by Angela Legue, from the Fergus Branch, who did a wonderful job. Attendance of the live event is estimated at 2000, including 69 schools who joined us from their classrooms.

Human Trafficking Training

All library staff will be participating in the Human Trafficking awareness training that was presented at the Police Services Board meeting last month. Our Library Board Chair made this suggestion and I think it is an excellent fit for library staff as they interact with members of the public on a daily basis and should be aware of what to look for. I would also like to look into having some of the branches host some awareness sessions for the public in the coming months.

Vaccine Clinics and Passports

Clifford and Drayton both hosted WDGP vaccine clinics this past month. We will continue to provide space whenever Public Health requests it as our branches are a good fit for the smaller clinics and the public feel comfortable coming to a familiar place to get their shots.

Library staff continue to help members of our communities print off their QR codes. While the number of requests is declining it is still a service that is requested and that people are very grateful for.

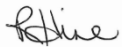
Staff News

Deanna Jensen, our Interlibrary Loan Technician, is retiring this month after 28 years with the County. Deanna's skill and expertise has guided us through some very drastic changes over the past years to the ILLO programme. She has kept our patrons well supplied with materials from outside our library system over the years and maintained ILLO service through the pandemic. Her assistance in sourcing material was formally and gratefully acknowledged in author Lisa Dalrymple's book *Fierce Women* and I know that there are many others who are grateful to her for aiding them in acquiring material from far off places. We wish Deanna all the best in her retirement.

Recommendation:

That the Chief Librarian's report for October 2021 be received for information..

Respectfully submitted,



Rebecca Hine
Chief Librarian