



# COUNTY OF WELLINGTON

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## COMMITTEE REPORT

**To:** Chair and Members of the Library Board  
**From:** Rebecca Hine, Chief Librarian  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 09, 2022  
**Subject:** Library Update, October 2022

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

### **First Aid training:**

With a backlog of expired first aid certifications due to 2 years of not offering the courses, I am pleased to report that the majority of library staff are all recertified with their full red cross first aid certification, including our two courier drivers and we are now able to once again meet, and exceed, the minimum of one staff person in the building at all times with their current first aid and AED training. I would like to thank Danielle Arial, our health and safety rep and committee chair for coordinating multiple 2 full day training sessions for a large number of staff to make sure everyone who needed it was able to attend.

### **Guidelines for Rural/Urban Library Systems:**

Wellington County Library is a member of the Administrators of Rural and Urban Public Libraries of Ontario. ARUPLO is the group responsible for creating Guidelines for Rural/Urban Library Systems. This is a developmental tool for rural/urban and County library systems to use in order to evaluate their service levels in order to provide an appropriate level of service to their communities. These guidelines are used and referenced by many library systems across north America. In order to maintain its high standards and relevancy, ARUPLO members continue to update the guidelines every 5 years and are currently in the process of updating the 2017 edition. The Chief librarian met with colleagues from ARUPLO in Toronto at the end of October to go through the guidelines with the consultants and offer input and comment on the process. The finished updated 4<sup>th</sup> should be completed for spring of 2023.

### **English as a Second Language:**

The conversation circle at our Harriston Branch continues to meet monthly. As reported back in the spring, we met with staff from our Social Services department to discuss the need for more formal ESL for this group of Syrian newcomers and they in turn were in touch with the program administrator of ESL with the Upper Grand District School Board. I am pleased to inform the Board that Immigration Refugees and Citizenship Canada has approved the need for a class and it will be held potentially twice a week at the Harriston library, facilitated by UGDSB ESL staff. Rosie Krul, the Harriston Branch Supervisor, will coordinate the sessions and Ekram Al Momani, a settlement worker with our Fergus Ontario Works department, will assist with translating for the newcomers in order that they are able to be informed of the programme and ensure that the newcomers are aware of the dates and times and are able attend the sessions.

### **Colour Printing:**

The public printers in all branches are being upgraded to colour in 2023. Patrons will have the option of printing black and white or colour. The User fees for 2023 have been updated to include this new option with colour printing being set at .50 cents per page. Staff are working with IT and purchasing to facilitate this upgrade for early 2023.

**Short Story Contest:**

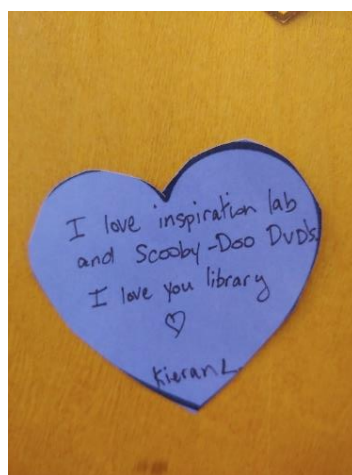
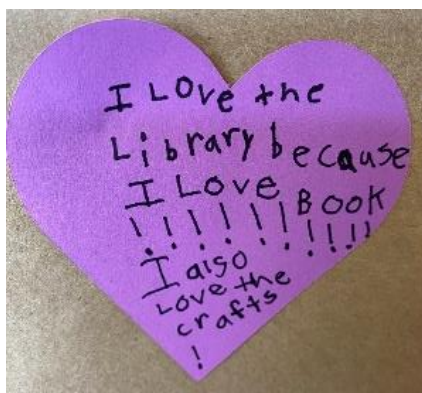
Our annual Olive and Fred Robins Junior Short Story contest has received a record breaking 82 submissions this year from students in grades 4, 5, and 6. The winners will be announced next month and their stories will be available on our website as well as being published in the Wellington Advertiser early in 2023.

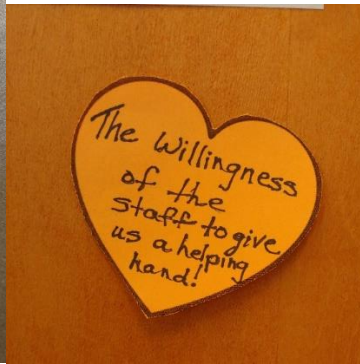
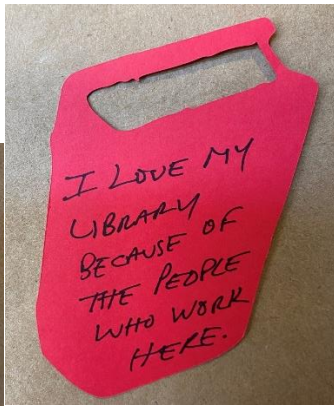
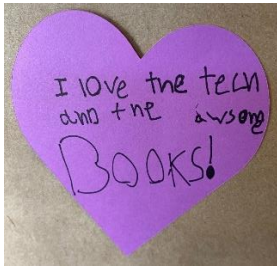
**Drayton Harvest Festival:**

Drayton staff participated in the Drayton Harvest Festival on October 1 this year with the goal of promoting library programming and services and fostering community partnerships. The day was hosted by the Drayton Agricultural Society and the library was able to have a tent and was a strong presence at the event with over 50 green screen photos taken and 100 buttons made with our button makers but the highlight of the day was the zucchini races. The Horticultural society provided 20 sets of handmade wheels and the library provided the zucchinis resulting in over 30 children participating in the races. Staff were informed by organizers that the crowd that gathered to watch the races was the largest single gathering of the day and was a huge success.

**OPL Week – why you love the library:**

As part of Ontario Public Library Week branches put out paper heart cutouts and asked patrons to fill out why you love the library. All branches had large displays of these messages for the week. We received some lovely heartfelt responses as well as some very cute ones. The staff continue to be high on our publics list of what makes our libraries so special. Below is a small sample of why our patrons love WCL.





### **Recommendation:**

That the Chief Librarian's report for October 2022 be received for information..

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca Hine".

Rebecca Hine  
Chief Librarian