COMMITTEE REPORT

To: Chair and Members of the Library Board

From: Rebecca Hine, Chief Librarian

Date: Wednesday, February 15, 2023

Subject: Library Update January 2023

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

Ontario Library Association Super Conference 2023:

Wellington County Library was well represented at the conference. Twelve staff were in attendance plus one Board member. Julie Wheeler Bryant joined us at the conference and offered her support and enthusiasm for her new role on the Wellington County Library Board. Jessica Veldman, Information Services Librarian, presented at a well-attended session on the Equitable Access Coalition. Kiirstin Maki, Fergus Branch Supervisor, presented on a panel discussing the OLA Climate Action Committee of which she is a member and Andrew Whitfield, Hillsburgh Branch Supervisor, attended a meeting of the OPLA Council as their newly selected West Central Region Council Member. After two years of a virtual conference, it was very beneficial for staff to experience the in-person event once again and everyone gained new insights and knowledge to bring back to our library system.

Service Canada:

Service Canada has been in touch with the Chief Librarian about starting up their outreach at the Aboyne Branch once again. This was a pre pandemic service that was offered to members of our community on the third Thursday of every month. A Service Canada representative would set up office in the study room at the branch and offer full service to anyone needing assistance. This remote office was a popular service to members of our community who did not want to or could not get to the closest permanent Service Canada office. After consulting with the Aboyne Branch Supervisor it has been determined that this is an excellent partnership and a good location and once again a representative will be working there on the third Thursday of the month starting in March.

WellDocs and O365:

The County is moving over to a new document management system called WellDocs, one department at a time. The week of February 6 was the library's turn to move each and every one of our electronic files over. The following week staff computers are being upgraded to Office 365 which is a small change for individual staff but has a big impact on how we manage our day-to-day services. All of this is behind the scenes work but I would like to acknowledge the amount of time and effort put in by staff from multiple departments over the last few months to ensure a smooth transition to both new products. I would also like to acknowledge the willingness of the Branch Supervisors and their staff to work with us as we do our best to ensure a smooth transition.

Recommendation:

That the Chief Librarian's report for the January 2023 be received for information.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Hine

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Rebecca Hine Chief Librarian