



CEO – NOVEMBER 2023

Board Business

The presentation to council by the board chair on November 13th was well received. Chair Marks articulated the boards' vision and commitment to growth.

Correspondence to the neighbouring municipalities regarding rate change for 2024 non-resident household memberships has been drafted.

The long-awaited Valuing Ontario Libraries Toolkit (VOLT) has been launched by the Ontario Library Service (OLS). Staff are anxious to work with this toolkit as it promises to provide a process for measuring and quantifying the true economic impact and value of funds invested in Ontario Public Libraries. This new Social Return on Investment (SROI) is designed to help Ontario public libraries measure and demonstrate their value and impact within their unique communities.

The Ontario Library Association in partnership with the Forest of Reading recently published a statement on School Boards Banning & Restricting Books.

Excerpt below – click [here](#) for the full statement.

The Ontario Library Association (OLA) is deeply concerned by the growing number of attempts to restrict access to books by some school boards. This trend is particularly alarming as books that reflect 2SLGBTQIA+ perspectives or featuring racialized characters and those with diverse gender identities, are disproportionately targeted by such censorship.

As Canada's largest library association, we stand in solidarity with our members in defending the fundamental right of children to read and access information. We also stand with 2SLGBTQIA+, Indigenous, racialized and all other underrepresented people who have had their voices and stories suppressed throughout Canadian history and beyond.

It is the position of OLA that all young people deserve to not only see themselves reflected in the books they read, but to also be exposed to the worldviews and lived experiences of others, particularly those of marginalized and equity-deserving groups. Reading a diverse selection of books offers an opportunity for young people to broaden their understanding of the world, building empathy and compassion, and preparing them to become proactive members of society.

Operations

Student Placement Opportunities

iSchool Practicum – Orangeville has submitted an opportunity for Master level students' capstone projects. The students work in teams with an organization to help with the initial stages of a design for a digital product or service.

Mohawk College Work Placements

Orangeville will host a Mohawk College student early in the new year. This student placement is unpaid, 105 hours in length, and will be supervised by the Program and Research Librarian.

As previously mentioned, the Interlibrary Loan software is reaching its end-of-life in 2024. We will transition to a new software platform; OCLC's Resource Sharing for Groups, in 2024. OCLC's Resource Sharing for Groups incorporates behind-the-scenes logic to improve lender string creation, incorporates turnaround time improvements, and load leveling to get materials to your users faster. As Resource Sharing for Groups (RS4G) is a limited number of libraries that borrow and lend among one another, the system will gather and use library data to make smarter decisions.

Staff have selected the week of November 27 to collect Typical Week data for inclusion in the 2024 Annual Library Survey.

We are delighted to welcome Mandeep Singh and Anna Furfaro, our two new Public Service Assistants, to our library team.

Recent professional development opportunities offered to staff include Neurodiversity Training, CAO Staff Town Hall, First Aid and a few staff attended the Child & Youth Expo: intentional allyship and programming November 7, 2023. The Public Service Librarian is registered to attend The Marketing Libraries Think Tank: level up your library game on November 21, 2023.

Registration for the OLA Super conference from January 24 – 27, 2024 is being completed. Full conference schedule can be found [here](#). Required hotel rooms have been booked and there may be additional options to consider, such as, the awards dinner if Orangeville is short listed for the 2023 Ontario Public Library Minister's Award for Innovation.

Program Update *as submitted by Lauren Tilly*

Gradual Program return to Mill Street Library

Programs will begin to slowly transition back to Mill Street and the surrounding area starting on the day of the reopening. On November 21 the Orange thREADs stitchery and book group will meet at the newly renovated Mill library. This meeting will feature the annual donation of knitted items to Family Transition Place.

Book clubs, the After Hours Write Club and adult programs will all return to the Mill library.

The Every Child Ready to Read (ECRR) storytimes will continue to be offered at the Alder library until the end of the fall session on November 30. Stories with Santa will take place in the Alder Recreation Centre atrium on December 8. Starting the first week of January 2024, storytimes will be offered at both Mill and Alder locations, in addition to some fun holiday programs for the kids.

2024 Program Planning

The Program and Research Librarian and Coordinator have developed a plan for the 2024 program schedule that is dependent on final budget decisions.

Up and Coming:

After School Club for ages 7 to 12 on Monday, November 27 will feature a variety of [Minute-to-win-it games](#) with Teen Advisory Group members at the Alder library

In partnership with the Ontario Bar Association, the library will celebrate [Make a Will Month](#) in November with an information session on Thursday, November 30 at the Mill Library

The last [100% Certainty Book Club](#) of 2023 will take place on Thursday, December 7 at 7 p.m. with the featured book being Life on Tenth: A Second Chance at Life by Delia Ephron

The annual Stories with Santa visit will take place in the Alder Recreation Centre Atrium on Friday, December 8 at 10:30 a.m.

The library is supporting the Seniors Holiday Luncheon on Wednesday, December 6 at Tony Rose Memorial Sports Centre

The last [Coffee, Conversation & Books](#) event will be held in Orangeville on Thursday, December 14 at Mochaberry Café featuring local author Barrie Shepley who will discuss his book, Chasing Greatness: Stories of Passion and Perseverance in Sport and in Life
Up and Coming