



Peterborough Public Library

To: Library Board of Trustees

From: Jennifer Jones, Library CEO

Meeting Date: February 12, 2019

Subject: Report PPL19-006
Library CEO Report February 2019

Purpose

A report to inform the Library Board of Trustees on general matters concerning Library operations and services.

Recommendations

That the Library Board approves the recommendations as outlined in Report PPL19-006 dated February 12, 2019, of the Library CEO as follows:

- a) That the report be received for information; and,
- b) That the Board provide suggestions for potential partnerships to explore in the community.

Budget and Financial Implications

There are no budget or financial implications resulting from the approval of the recommendation of this report.

Background

Work has begun on a summary of 2018 statistics, both to complete the annual survey and to provide a benchmark for future statistical comparisons.

The library launched its new website on January 30, 2019. Feedback from the community has been very positive. There are a few final design changes to be made to the website, however the bulk of the hard work has been completed.

Information staff were presented with the Connecting Families Initiative by Industry Canada. This program provides basic internet service for a low fee of \$10 a month to selected households who receive Social Assistance. Eligible households who are selected will receive a letter with a code to enter on the website. The library's role is to assist recipients in registering for this service online so they are able to receive the discounted service.

The acoustical solution for the FOL Community Room and the Multipurpose room is expected to be completed shortly. Parts have arrived and an installation date is pending. Staff are hopeful that this will resolve some of the sound challenges in these rooms.

Staff are reviewing current policies and procedures to prepare a revision calendar for the new Library Board. Of note, a few community members have raised some concerns with two of our documents:

- the Code of Conduct, with regard to:
 - sleeping in the library; as well as,
 - the line pertaining to not possessing any controlled substances while on the premises
- the membership renewal procedure which requires community members to present themselves in person at a library branch with photo id and proof of address to continue to qualify for free library membership.

These documents are both under review at this time.

Programming

There has been very positive response by community members and local organizations in presenting our "Try it Tuesdays" events, which are helping us to meet two Strategic Plan objectives:

- Strategic Plan Initiative A 2 – Identify new ways our collections, programs and services can assist with life-long literacy
- Strategic plan initiative B 2 – Identify and work with community groups and partners to develop innovative and effective programs, collections, and services.

Thus far we have tried Zumba, making slime, dancing and yoga. Next up is "Improv!". "PPL Does Pinterest" projects sessions are also filling up quickly. Paper flowers were a

hit, and staff are surrounding themselves with pompoms in preparation for the next session.

Attendance at our adult Tech programs was much higher in January due in part to our new column in the Peterborough Examiner.

The Adult book club has been expanded to 2 sessions – one afternoon & one evening – both with more than 10 people attending each time. The 'Tween book club has had 12 participants in regular attendance.

Board game usage and maker box usage continue to increase and be a popular addition to our collection.

Café update

The café RFP was unsuccessful and there was no award of the contract. The Library has continued to work with the Peterborough Sport & Wellness Centre to find a new solution. There are a couple of avenues being explored with local businesses that have the potential to be a good fit for both locations.

OLA SuperConference

The Library CEO was able to attend the full OLA SuperConference in Toronto. The theme of this year's conference was "Powered by the People." Celebrating it's 25th year, the conference challenges attendees to transform both themselves and their libraries. With over 4,600 attendees from across the nation, the conference has an outstanding track record for bringing long-term professional benefits, including sharing ideas and best practices throughout the field.

The CEO attended a number of sessions on programming, administration, staffing support, mentoring, marketing and the vendor exhibit.

The Adult Services Librarian attended the conference for one day. She was able to attend sessions on using boardgames to engage new Canadians, privacy protection in the digital age, staff technology training, and an author talk by Tanya Talaga who wrote "Seven Fallen Feathers".

Partnerships

The annual January Family Literacy Day event is a partnership between many agencies involved with literacy in our community. Readings by local authors and dignitaries, crafts, displays, entertainment and a free book for every child makes for a very busy and successful venue to promote literacy. The library was asked to participate in a radio panel to promote the library's commitment to literacy on Radio 90.5 FM the week before the event.

An ideal partnership is one that is mutually beneficial to all parties. Common goals and objectives are a great start. Any suggestions that the Board may have for future partnerships in the community are welcome. (Is there anyone or any specific group that should be sought out to discuss opportunities?)

Submitted by,

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