



To: Members of the Peterborough Public Library Board

From: Jennifer Jones, Library CEO

Meeting Date: October 5, 2021

Subject: Library CEO Report October 2021, Report PPL21-030

Purpose

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

Recommendation

That the Library Board approves the recommendation as outlined in Report PPL21-030 dated October 5, 2021, of the Library CEO as follows:

That the report to inform the Library Board on general matters concerning Library operations and service be received for information.

Budget and Financial Implications

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

Background

General Service

Fine-Free Library service was official launched on September 21, 2021. Community response has been positive, and the change well received. One comment on social media stated: "Oh wow. The shame you will unburden me from!!!!!!!!!" As the new

service model continues, more information will be gathered and reported back to the Board.

Donations for the Friends of the Library have been pouring in since September 14. Requests for the date of the next book sale have also been a frequently asked question at the service desks. They have been missed by the community.

Kiosk

The self-serve Kiosk at the Peterborough Sport & Wellness Centre (PSWC) officially opened for use on August 25, 2021. As Covid restrictions are lifted, pop-up activities are being planned by library staff on site at the PSWC to continue promotion and encourage use. The staff at the PSWC have been tremendously supportive, and equally as excited as Library staff to have the kiosk there.

Children's Programming

The Kids Book Club met in person on September 16 in the Story Corner. This was the first in person program offered at the library since March 2020, and nine kids attended.

The Tween Book Club met on September 23 to discuss *Goldfish Boy* by Lisa Thompson. 11 tweens attended the Zoom meeting and had an amazing conversation about mental health – anxiety and how people may not be who they seem on the outside. Next month, and for the rest of the year (fingers crossed) the group will be meeting in person.

180 Grab & Go Craft Kits were distributed this month.

Peterborough Family Literacy Day ran on Saturday, September 18, 2021, at the Downton Farmer's Market. Library staff connected with many families at the event and distributed 347 kits.

Adult Programming

Fall programs have begun with average and above average participation. The library participated in Peterborough PRIDE Week with two activities: a Grab n' Go Craft for Adults & Teens and a *READ with PRIDE* recommendation wall.

Seniors Center Without Walls (SCWW)

The library has partnered with Age Friendly Peterborough (AFP) and other community organizations to support the Senior Centre Without Walls services; a free national telephone-based group activity program for connecting isolated seniors and older adults. The Committee is working to increase publicity and continue programming through March 2022. Most SCWW across the province have struggled to increase participation, especially those that were launched during the pandemic, as

Peterborough was. Centres that started before COVID are fairing better, but there has been a lot of positive feedback on the services by those that participate.

Submitted by,

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