



Chinook
Regional Library



Report of the Director of Chinook Regional Library

Reporting Period: **October 26, 2021 to November 20 2021**

Submitted by **Kathryn Foley** with input from **Staff**

PROUD SUPPORTER OF THE

2021 Census



Highlights of the CRL

We acknowledge that that we live on Treaty 4 Lands.

Thank you to all who attended the Fall Representative Meeting November 6th. The 2022 Budget passed, we now await the spring and information on budget from the City of Swift Current and the Provincial Government contribution to libraries in their 2022-23 budget.

Census 2021 was supported by all our Library Branches including help to fill out the census. The Census group sent thanks and information that Canadians achieved an overall collection response rate of 98.0% and an online response rate of 84.1%. We are now awaiting the census data release plan. New numbers will influence changes made to financial and service planning for the next five years.

Our Staff Fall Workshop was a great success with an inspirational presentation from John Lagimodiere, learning from each other sessions; a focus on technology for the rural branches; Swift Current staff practiced and further developed their reference skills.

Staffing & Professional Development:

- Ashley and Donna planned a great fall staff Workshop Day, see above.
- Faith Rousseaux is our new Library Technology Intern for the next ten weeks with a possibility of continuing through to March 29th 2022. We are developing how she will expand her skills while supporting or starting projects mostly at headquarters, but including time at the Resource Centre and working with rural branches.
- Ashley was involved with hiring for three rural positions - mostly due to family leaves and staff leaving for new opportunities
- Advertising for a permanent Swift Current Branch Manager will take place by month end.

Programming and Advocacy:

- Director asked all staff at the Workshop Day to be part of our positive advocacy for funding of libraries.
- Completed Mo Literacy on November 1 with Ponteix.
- Zoom storytime was inspired by Mo Literacy and how well the program worked. Every Wednesday morning Teresa sets up the projector and computer at Ponteix library and Tekeyla Zooms in to see 11 children and their caregivers for storytime.
- Wednesday afternoons are a repeat for other Rural Library patrons that may want to attend from home. The first one was attended by one child from 2- 3. We are working on building this storytime.
- S.C. Branch – Tekeyla is supporting Jamie with Babysteps on Thursday mornings.
- There are 20 families which are divided between 2 sessions for Family Card Making Programs November 20, 2021.

- Spooky Halloween programs at Shaunavon, Consul and Maple Creek with Children's Programmer Tekeyla Friday were enjoyed.
- Swift Current cancelled their Halloween programs the week before Oct. 30th.
- Grants were completed on time and await news.
- Book sale at headquarters is planned for Dec. 10 4 pm-6 pm and Dec. 11 10 am-4 pm including Christmas Resources. If you can offer assistance, please let Kathryn know.
- Swift Current Branch has Gingerbread programs on Dec 11 at 10 am and 1 pm.

Support/Services:

Ashley:

- Attending committee meetings for Saskatchewan Electronic Resources Partnership (*SERP*) and work on the SWOT analysis of our digital collection.
- Reviewing the training plan for rural staff with our new purchase, *Niche Academy*. Adding content and reviewing content in expectation of creating training plans for 30 Rural Branches.
- Finalizing staff training day:
 - Corresponding with John Lagimodiere for his presentation in support of our goal. To highlight our place in the Reconciliation Calls to Actions, and provide understanding as to why we need to be community leaders in Reconciliation.
 - MicroAge technology training – Goal is to ensure all staff have the basic technology training to troubleshoot common issues in IT; and to empower staff to complete their daily/weekly/yearly tasks accurately.
 - Other sessions support working together in teams with common goals, strengthening bonds among far-flung staff, socializing and finding commonalities between struggles and strengths, and helping find team-based solutions to common issues.
 - Four mini presentations from Maple Creek – 3D printer, Ponteix on Mo Literacy and programming, Eastend on successful grant writing and applications, Leader on passive programming. All were great examples of staff expertise and experience demonstrating success and how to learn from each other. They showed leadership and practiced their presentation skills.
- Weeding, rehoming (trying out at another branch!) She has almost cleared out the weeding backlog of all the youth and picture books!
- Working on the HQ youth collection, with help from our summer student.
- Other rural branch management as needed (tech updates, tech support, training, recording videos of staff for use on workshop day)
- Weeding at the Abbey Branch to support our new Branch Librarian there.
- Finalizing the Children's collection refresh among branches

Kathryn:

- Presenting Budget 2022 at Fall Representatives meeting November 6th 2021 along with an update of the past year, including grants successfully applied for and those we await new on.
- Working with Donna Thiessen at Swift Current; especially for the planning of Workshop Day with its local focus on practicing and further developing their reference skills, and how to promote these skills to our patrons.
- Report on the achievements of the past year, communicating the changes and challenges of 2020-2021, with a second report on 'Looking Forward: Future plans' both presented at the Staff

Workshop Day. Focus on recognizing the contributions of everyone. The Director is only as good as the service each of our staff provides to our patrons in all our communities.

- Working with Maddison Dyck on projects at headquarters. Starting Faith Rousseaux our Intern.
- Meetings and reports.
- Vanguard has received their art supplies paid for out of D. Saunderson Funds.
- Headquarters staff are still working on or awaiting supplies for the 'Fun Book Club' and to update the Literacy bins.