

Cape Breton Regional Library Board
Highlights of the Board of Trustees Meeting

December 4, 2017

Election of Officer

Murdoch Moore was elected Vice-Chair (Interim).

Board Governance Workshop

Seven Board Members and the Regional Librarian participated in a Board Governance Workshop offered through the Library Boards Association of Nova Scotia. Presenters were Paul Bennett (Halifax Public Libraries Board Member) and Denise Corey (Regional Librarian, Cumberland Public Libraries).

Branches

The front windows at McConnell Library are showing signs of wear, as evidenced by the amount of water that came through the windows during a September storm. The Cape Breton Regional Municipality will have the windows evaluated in the near future to determine what work needs to be done to prevent future leaks.

Outreach

The Library regularly participates in a variety of community events held across CBRM and Victoria County. Recently Library staff participated in CaperCon; Under One Umbrella; Raising the Villages; welcomed the Freewheelers Men's Group (Baddeck Library) for a visit; and gave a presentation to the Kiwanis Club, Sydney. Library staff also visited several schools and daycares.

Grants

The Library has been successful in securing two Young Canada Works grants to support two positions (to March 2018) bases at McConnell Library and the Baddeck Public Library). Both workers will deliver technology-based programmes, technology training, etc.

A 150 Books of Influence fund allowed two branches (Louisbourg and New Waterford) to host author Lesley Crewe for readings and conversation.

A 150 Library Makers grant allowed Libraries across the Province to hold some unique craft/maker workshops.

Library Boards Association of Nova Scotia (LBANS)

Activities and work being undertaken by the Library Boards Association of Nova Scotia were overviewed. Both LBANS and the Council of Regional Librarians (CORL) have representation on the Core Services

Working Committee. Faye MacDougall is a CORL representative. It is hoped that the work of this Committee will lead to an improvement in funding for Nova Scotia's Public Libraries.

Book Clubs

The number of book clubs across the Region has risen to 33.

Programmes

Board members were provided with an overview of the diverse programmes offered across the Region. Programmes are very popular, with registration for some full within a short time of the programme being announced. The Region often struggles to meet the demand due to limited staff resources and space constraints.

Fundraising

An overview of the various fundraising activities was provided to Board Members. Recent activities included an *Escape Room Fundraiser* (at the McConnell Library) and a Radio Play, *Little Women*, put on by the Baddeck Library Players (at the Baddeck Public Library).