

## **Cape Breton Regional Library Board**

### **Highlights of the Board of Trustees Meeting**

**March 12, 2018**

#### **Staff**

Sadly, Barbara Strong-MacLean, Library Clerk at the Martha Hollett Memorial Library, passed away in February. Ms. Strong-MacLean will be missed by her colleagues across the Region, as well as by library patrons.

#### **Collections**

In recognition of Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Dundurn Press provided 10 public libraries in Canada with a gift of 150 books published by Dundurn. CBRL was very pleased to be chosen as one of the Libraries to receive this generous gift.

This Region has had a twinning partnership with the Highland Regional Library, Inverness, Scotland, for many years. Each year the Highland Regional Library sends Cape Breton Regional Library (CBRL) books published in Scotland, and CBRL sends their Region books about Cape Breton/Nova Scotia. The Library recently received a large box of books from Scotland, which will be soon be ready for borrowing.

Regional Libraries in Nova Scotia will soon have Autism Kits available for loan. This initiative gives individuals living with autism and their families/caregivers the opportunity to trial particular items from various vendors to see if they are helpful with supporting daily activities and tasks. Each Region will receive a Sensory Tool Kit, Fidget Tool Kit, and a Visual Tool Kit.

#### **Branches**

A structural assessment of the front windows at McConnell Library found significant rot in the sills. Cape Breton Regional Municipality (CBRM) will remove four large panes of glass at the bottom of the window and insert supports and plywood. This is temporary measure until a decision is made regarding future work to the window.

#### **Central Library Building Committee**

Members of the Central Library Building Committee met with members of CBRM Council and staff on January 13 to discuss the New Library project.

#### **Isle of Story Festival**

A video made by the Government of Canada during the 2017 Isle of Story Festival was recently released. Plans are underway for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Festival, which will take place in May.

## **Knit-a-Thon**

The annual Knit-a-Thon was held February 24. Over 60 participants spent the day at McConnell Library – more than \$1900 was raised for Library programmes, and hundreds of handmade items were collected for distribution to area charities.

## **Goals and Objectives**

Goals and Objectives for 2018-2019 were approved. Among the work that will take place over the coming year is a membership promotion to all Grade Four Students throughout the Region; further cataloguing of the Special Collections; and supporting the work of community groups working towards improved and/or new library spaces.