

**Cape Breton Regional Library**  
**Highlights of the Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**September 10, 2018**

**Special Projects**

*Charles Freeman Collection*

Over the next several months the Library will work on a digital project that will highlight the Charles Freeman collection. Mr. Freeman was a US Consular representative based in Sydney in the early 1900's. The collection includes copies of reports made by Mr. Freeman during his time in Sydney, as well as photographs.

*Nature Backpacks*

A partnership with Hike Nova Scotia and Victoria County Recreation has resulted in two 'Earth Walk Kits' being made available for loan. The kits are backpacks that include props and tools that can be used to carry out fun nature activities with children ages 5-12 years.

*Library Promotion – Grade Four Classes*

More than 20 Grade Four Classes were visited by Library staff before the end of the school term in June.

**Katharine McLennan Award**

The Katharine McLennan Award was presented September 6 to Paul Cranford. The Award is a partnership between the Beaton Institute, Parks Canada, Fortress Louisbourg Volunteer Association and CBRL. The Award is presented each year at the McLennan Centre, Fortress of Louisbourg.

**Library Boards Association of Nova Scotia (LBANS)**

Coun. Amanda McDougall will represent CBRL at future meetings of LBANS.

**Core Services Report**

The Regional Librarian provided an update on the work carried out by the province-wide Core Services Working Group.

**Library Branches**

CBRM is evaluating the responses to the call for proposal for a possible relocation of the Glace Bay Public Library. It is expected a decision will be made this Fall.

A survey about rural library service was conducted throughout the summer. Over 100 responses were received. In addition Library staff are gathering information about services offered by other Regional Libraries to rural communities. Consultation with community is ongoing, following which staff will prepare options and recommendations for Board consideration.

The McConnell Library closed twelve times this summer due to heat levels in the building reaching 39 degrees. The Louisbourg Library closed one day due to heat levels in the building. The Regional Librarian reported that the heat levels are a concern for library patrons and staff. Earlier in the summer the Regional Librarian had provided the Board with information regarding heat stress. The Library Board revised the Extreme Heat Policy to close branches at a lower combined humidex/temperature level.

### **Central Library Building Committee**

The Central Library Building Committee will stand suspended until after the CBRM budget presentation in the spring of 2019.

With approval from the Library Board, the Board Chair will work on the Library file.

### **Summer Reading Programme**

A total of 783 children registered for the Summer Reading Programme. This year participants also had an option for an 'activity ballot', which could be earned by sharing 10 fun activities they did over the summer months. The Library is very grateful for the many individuals and community organizations that support the Summer Reading Programme and many other library activities.

With support through a provincial grant and organizational support through Nova Scotia Provincial Library a Children's Performer's tour was held. Performers visiting this Region were two Symphony Nova Scotia musicians; Trevor Gould; Emma FitzGerald; and Rhys Bevan-John.