

**Cape Breton Regional Library**  
**Highlights of the Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**September 9, 2019**

- The Library has had a number of staffing changes in the last few months. Most notably, four retirements; Faye MacDougall, Regional Librarian, Rita Marman, Office Secretary, Ian MacIntosh, Collections Librarian, and Rosalie Gillis, Coordinator of Community Support. Many of the positions were filled internally, but a few staff were added as the Library continues to grow.
- The Katherine McLennan Award was presented September 5 to Vince MacLean. The Award is a partnership between the Beaton Institute, Parks Canada, Fortress of Louisbourg Volunteer Association and the Cape Breton Regional Library. The Award is presented each year at the McLennan Centre, Fortress of Louisbourg. The Award pays tribute to individuals with exemplary community mindedness and volunteerism.
- The Glace Bay Library is expected to open on September 3<sup>rd</sup> after a move to its new location at 143 Commercial Street.
- This summer throughout July and August the McConnell Library was forced to close numerous times due to the extreme heat in the building.
- The Library continues its fundraising efforts with book sales, adopt-a-book, and some future events such as the annual escape room and The Great Big Book and Bake Sale
- Thanks to Young Canada Works grants we hired a few summer students to help in library branches. One of the Young Canada Works grants was to hire a Summer Science student to help in general with summer programs in our branches, but specifically to organize some hands-on science programs for ages 5 and up.
- We partnered with CBU, CB PRIDE Week, CBRM Recreation, CTNET and Parks Canada, to add even more activities to the summer schedule. One final summer program to mention was the making of McConnell Library's Edible Garden; built by staff and a community member, and stocked with bedding plants and seeds planted by patrons at an ACAP program in June, donated by community members, or bought by CCH grant. A small harvest has been slowly growing since early July – peas, beans, lettuce, strawberries, chives and tomatoes.

- For a second summer running CBRL partnered with 4 other library regions in the province to fulfill the requirements of our summer pilot project (In 2017, the Annapolis Valley Regional Library applied for a Culture & Innovation fund to help support summer learning and broaden the activities and reach of library programs over the summer). By the end of this summer we had 710 children registered in our Summer Reading Program region-wide and program #'s at the time of reporting were 78+ programs held in our library branches this summer with over 1000 participants attending these programs!
- Part of the data analysis across the 5 pilot project library regions meant that the five participating regions had to collect similar stats and to this end, CBRL asked Summer Readers in 2019 to track their minutes read (rather than books read). Many summer readers and families shared that they liked this change. Collecting 'minutes read' also allowed us to track when we reached One Million Minutes and this was a fun 'thermometer' activity that we watched over the summer. The One Million Minute mark was reached in early August