

Cape Breton Regional Library Board

Highlights of the Board of Trustees Meeting

April 5, 2016

- **New Library Project**

The results of the Feasibility Study for a New Sydney Library were presented to CBRM Council on March 15. CBRM staff have been directed to prepare an issue paper based on the three concepts presented. A public meeting was held at McConnell Library on March 29. Approximately 90 people were in attendance.

- Councillor Eldon MacDonald will represent the Library on the Sydney Library Building Committee. Councillor Claire Detheridge, who has represented the Board on the Committee to date, is currently on leave.

- **Storytelling Project**

The Library has received \$22,325 in funding from New Horizons for Seniors to offer “Our Community in Stories”, a project which will take place in twelve communities in Cape Breton and Victoria Counties. Some of the stories will be videotaped and transcribed for broader access.

- **Fundraising**

More than 60 people attended the annual Knit-a-Thon at McConnell Library in February. Knitted items are donated to local charity, funds raised support programmes at the Library.

A ‘Books2Eat’ fundraiser was held at McConnell Library on April 1.

- **International Dublin Literary Award 2017**

Each year the Library provides nominations for the International Dublin Literary Award. CBRL’s nominations for the 2017 Award are *Mystics of Mile End* (Sigar Samuel); *The Illuminations* (Andrew O’Hagan) and *If I Fall, If I Die* (Michael Christie).

- **Library Funding**

There is ongoing concern about funding for Regional Libraries across Nova Scotia. The Library has not received any increases in operational funding for a number of years, and if this continues, the Board will need to examine possible service reductions. The Library Boards Association of Nova Scotia, in a recent letter to Minister Tony Ince, indicated that any new funding formula should ‘Do No Harm’ to any region.

- **Regional Library Website**

Approval was granted to move forward with work towards a new website design for the Library.

- **Booksale**

The next large book sale is scheduled to be held at McConnell Library from May 5 to May 14.