



CAPE BRETON REGIONAL LIBRARY Highlights – December 13, 2022

Regional Librarian's Report

An all-staff professional development day was held on November 14th. Training sessions included administering Naloxone and Autism awareness.

Circulation has increased significantly since the launch of Same Page last year. We are circulating more materials to patrons across Nova Scotia.

Programs:

Staff at CBC Cape Breton connected with the program office this summer to propose a pilot program to teach and engage youth in the field of journalism. The workshops were facilitated by CBC staff and included discussions of what it means to be a journalist, reporting a story, spotting fake news and hands-on tasks with cameras, microphones and recorders. Five of our library branches hosted a 'Rookie Reporter' workshop (ages 8-14) during October and November, followed by a second series called 'Jobs in Journalism' (ages 15-18). There was a great response to the Rookie Reporter workshop, with spots filling up as soon as the program was advertised on the website.

In recognition of National Day of Truth & Reconciliation and Mi'kmaw History Month (October), Jannette Vusich arranged to make Mi'kmaw artist/illustrator Loretta Gould's book, Counting in Mi'kmaw one of CBRL's story walk kits. We set up Counting in Mi'kmaw at Wentworth Park in early October, and Baddeck Library borrowed the kit to display in their neighbourhood later in the month.

Our STEAM kit programs have been popular with kids and youth, and the Cricut demonstrations in various branches have welcomed a lot of seniors to try their hand on this new machine.

Regular knitting and crafting groups continue in many branches as do book clubs. One of the many benefits that patrons are finding with the amalgamation of Same Page is that book club kits in other library regions are now available to CBRL book club members, increasing the title selection.

Programming in our branches benefitted from a provincial grant encouraging talks on food access and gardening. With the financial support we were able to pay for

supplies and reimburse presenters for sharing their knowledge. The sessions included herb drying, seed saving, fall gardening and microgreens.