

REPORT TO THE LIBRARY BOARD

December 5, 2024

SUBJECT: Staff Activity & Community Impact Report

PURPOSE: For information

PREPARED BY: Senior Team

PRESENTED BY: Michael Ciccone – CEO and Chief Librarian

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the Board receive the December 2024 *Staff Activity & Community Impact Report* for information purposes.

BACKGROUND

This document provides a mechanism for Senior Team to share information updates with the Board and is produced for each full meeting of the Board.

Programs and Events

Creative Age

Since July 2024, we've delivered 52 Creative Age programs at 11 Library branches as part of our partnership with the London Arts Council with funding from the New Horizons grant. Total attendance for these programs so far is 365 people. Creative Age programs will continue until the end of January, with programs including watercolour painting, drama, song writing, dance, creating writing, and mixed media art.

Fanshawe College Pop-Up Library Events

Library staff visited the three London campuses of Fanshawe College, where they created and updated almost 110 Library cards for students, answered questions about services, digital resources, and programs. Staff spoke to a total of 448 students.

Newcomer Day

Staff had a great experience participating in Newcomer Day on October 5 at the South London Resource Centre. The organizers separated the community resources from the hiring opportunities this year, which allowed the Library to have more meaningful conversations with attendees.

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwestern Ontario Drop-In Visit and Children's Activities

This was the first recurring visits to the RMHC, where staff provided a variety of activities for families, including Indi Cars, a sensory bin, Snap Circuits, button maker, a book donation of withdrawn items, as well as info on Library programs. Staff spent time with a few families, who appreciated the activities, and who spoke to us about some of the challenges they've been facing. This was an impactful visit, and staff look forward to their next visit.

Celebrating 15 years of the Library Settlement Partnership

The 15th anniversary of the Library Settlement Partnership (LSP) was celebrated on October 19, 2024 at the Beacock Branch. This milestone event not only recognized the ongoing success of the partnership between the Library, LUSO Community Services, Northwest London Resource Centre and South London Neighbourhood Resource Center, but also honoured the dedicated settlement workers who have played a crucial role in supporting newcomers to Canada. The LSP provides free settlement services, helping newcomers access vital resources and information as they adapt to life in London and in Canada.

Upcoming Events and Programs

Argyle Santa Claus Parade (with East London)
December 7, 2024

Classic Munsch Mayhem

Central Library, December 20, 2:30 – 3:15

Enjoy this high-energy performance featuring four Robert Munsch classic stories performed as one wacky storytelling play.

Winter Break

All Branches, December 20 – January 4

There's so much to do for families at the library while the kids are on their Winter Break! Check out our website for more information. A few highlights:

- Winter Family Trivia Challenge - Beacock
- Make and Play: Winter – Byron, Carson, Crouch, Jalna, Lambeth, Landon, Pond Mills, Stoney Creek
- Winter Animals Storytime – Beacock, Crouch, East London
- Family Movie Time – Bostwick, Cherryhill, East London, Jalna, Masonville, Pond Mills, Stoney Creek
- DIY Digital Vision Board (Teens) – Beacock, Children's Library, Landon

Find more events and programs via our What's On page - <https://www.lpl.ca/whats-on>

Media

[City budget: Londoners' 2025 property tax pain eased – a little bit](#) London Free Press, October 28, 2024.

[Want to see cute? These little Londoners are in the Halloween spirit](#) CBC News, October 31, 2024.

[City budget: Don't expect fights for more cash from London Transit, library](#) London Free Press November 2 print edition. Online November 4, 2024.

[New plans unveiled for Sherwood branch upgrade as London Public Library finances stabilize](#) CBC News, November 7, 2024.

[London's property tax hike reduced, but rents expected to stay high: Western prof](#) The Gazette, November 7, 2024.