

### Director's Report – submitted by Cathy Ching

I spent a lot of time in the Miami Branch in April, helping with the moving of books, shelves and furniture. We had very short notice that the shelving had arrived and would be ready for installation the first week of April. Thank you to Heather & the RM for jumping in and helping to take down slat wall, patch holes and paint before the new shelving arrived. Thank you to Gail (Morden Branch) and Jess (Winkler Branch) for spending a long day helping move books as well.

The new look is great and it is surprising how roomy it feels now. I believe the young patrons of the Miami branch are going to enjoy their own reading areas.

I regret to announce that long-time employee, Cherie Debreuil, has resigned from her position as Miami Branch Administrator. Currently we are staffing with the Miami clerk and some clerk time from the Morden and Winkler Branches. An internal job ad has been posted for hiring for the position, hopefully to start June 1st.

---

### Cataloguing Technician Report – Office – submitted by Joanna Dueck

In April I was able to start catching up on the cataloguing backlog as the deliveries of new books slowed down. I also used this time to sort through and catalogue many donations that had been piling up and fix problem items that needed my attention. We will be placing our spring/summer orders soon so my focus is to keep cataloguing at a good pace so that I can make room for the next batch of orders before they arrive.

---

### Programmer Report – submitted by Tetiana Miminoshvili

The NIC (National Immigration Centre) program has successfully ended and I appreciated being part of this program in Ottawa. Moreover, I am absolute that my efforts will bear fruits and enhance the lives of many people. In fact, thinking about how these projects will benefit people, was actually the motivation behind my intensive work. A short presentation by Michelle Nguyen touched on how participants evaluated their experiences in smaller cities by comparing it to their experiences and perceived conditions in larger cities, both in Canada and their home countries - Lifestyle (slow vs. fast) - Driving and Traffic – Affordability - Access to Nature - Friendliness of people. God bless Canada!

I shared this event in my accounts and many newcomers are very grateful to me, as they were able to answer some questions by visiting our library as a mecca of information and later receiving a flyer with "Safe Inside Your Walls" links.

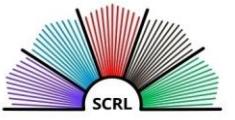
---

### Altona Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Rachael Friesen

For April we started fundraising for an eventual move, we were very fortunate in having some lovely donations for prizes to raffle off. Once all the prizes were collected we got a raffle license through the town.

For Earth Day we handed out a seed kit for families to plant a sunflower, it went over well and we only have a few left over.

At the end of the month we started promoting our Children's Book Week author: Shane Peacock, we will be doing a virtual event with classrooms in May.



### Manitou Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Angela Lovell

As April 22 was Earth Day, our branches decided to give out seed planting kits for kids to plant a sunflower. Manitou staff prepared the bags of dirt and provided the seeds, which each branch then put together with instructions to make recyclable plant pots to hand out. Manitou branch also made a video explaining how to make the pots for the SCRL YouTube channel, as well as a classic book discussion video. 23 seed kits were handed out at Manitou during April.

Branch staff also worked on compiling some SCRL homeschooling information and resources at the request of a home school coordinator from Altona, and staff willing to be home school first contacts for each branch (and others with specific language skills) have been identified.

Gate count has held steady during April and we have very few requests for outside pick-ups, the majority of patrons are comfortable coming into the library.

Manitou Admin is working on completing an exit strategy and is also looking at updating procedures manual with staff input. Staff have also been assisting Admin with selecting young adult and picture books to purchase on the spring order.

The branch did a minor reorganization, moving the classics section to provide an extra shelf for overflowing junior non-fiction materials.

---

### Morden Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Gail Hildebrand

Patrons continued to enjoy our “Spring” display this month which focused on projects in your yard - from planting to building projects.

We started our book sales next door in the old Variety Advertising building. We held 5 sales, which brought in around \$2000. A huge thank you to our volunteers for giving their time, and to the City of Morden for letting us use this space! People were lined up and waiting for the doors to open each and every day we held a sale. It offered everyone a little taste of normal life (and books, books are always appreciated). We are taking a break on the book sales until after the May long weekend to let things settle down a bit with Covid-19.

Thank you so much to the City of Morden for doing everything they could to make us feel safe in our building, including getting us a fogger to use for sanitization. My staff and I cannot express how much we appreciate the care and support we receive from our city and their workers.

---

### Winkler Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Jess Martens

April was a quieter month in comparison to the programming in February and March; however we were still quite busy. We have had more patrons checking out books and we are busy with the returns from everything checked out in March. We are slowly starting to return to regular levels of circulation and more people are stopping by as the weather warms up. We are still offering contactless hold pick up and with the new health orders our capacity has gone down from 50% to 25%. For the most part we have been staying under 20 patrons in the building at one time so 25% doesn't affect us much.

National Canadian Film Day was April 21st and instead of showing movies, we promoted the national watch parties that our patrons could join. We currently have our annual seed swap table out which is popular & added a seed starter kit suggested by Manitou. Each kit comes with a small bag of soil, some sunflower seeds and instructions for how to make your own biodegradable seed pots out of newspaper. So far the kits have been very popular. We had 30 and within two days we only had three left. I think this may be an annual addition to our seed swap table, and once our reading garden is built we could encourage kids to plant the seedlings there and watch them grow.



### **Winkler Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Jess Martens - Continued**

In May we are having a book sale in branch May 4th to 8th. We will be starting to work on Summer Reading Club and deciding what angle we want to go with for the theme this year. The theme is Game On and the staff has already been brainstorming different ideas for decorations and the minute wall.

---