



Director's Report – submitted by Cathy Ching

Once again, I spent a lot of time away from my desk. Some of it was health related and a lot of time was spent in Altona helping unpack the boxes of library books. Many decisions needed my attention while there, so it was time well spent as well as time getting to know the Altona staff much better. We had fun despite the hard work, and I would like to express my appreciation for their commitment to making their library beautiful as well as functional.

We also said good-bye to a great team of summer programmers. We had an all-staff in-service and it was surprising to see so many faces as part of SCRL. We barely all fit in the Winkler meeting room!

Thanks as well to the Clerks, Pages, Assistants and Floor Manager for your hard work and dedication throughout the busy summer. The Bookland Explorers Club was a huge success and we saw the numbers almost like pre-Covid registration and participation. Great job everyone!

Cataloguing Technician Report – Office – submitted by Joanna Dueck

I was away on vacation from Aug 8-17. After I got back, I went to Altona for a day to help with unpacking books and shelf reading in their new library space. It's exciting to see everything come together, I'm looking forward to visiting once they are finished setting up and open to the public!

I've also been helping Raina prepare kits for the Acorns to Oaks program that's launching in September. I sorted supplies and assembled 110 backpack kits that will be handed out to all the kids that enroll. Each backpack includes a workbook, activity sheets, stickers, safety scissors, a pencil, and glue.

Next month we will be placing the fall Whitehots orders so I expect to be much busier with cataloguing then.

Programmer Report – submitted by Raina Teigrob

August was a busy month. The first half of August was spent wrapping up Bookland Explorers and preparing for our big windup at the drive-in. The programmers did a great job with running games and handing out prizes at the drive-in prior to the movie, and I enjoyed handling tickets at the gate. We had about 94 vehicles, not including staff, and about 377 people. Of all the canteen coupons handed out to families, 171 were cashed in. Winkler/Morden Voice even got in touch and ran an article on the windup and included general stats on the program too. Thanks to all the summer programmers and staff would made this such a great summer! I looked forward to next year's theme of Space.

The second half of August was mainly spent preparing for Acorns to Oaks and packaging the backpacks for the Acorns. Thanks to Angela and Gail for all their work preparing the modules, to Joanna for helping prep the packages, and Cathy for letting me film her. It was a bit of a scramble, but I think after we all get the first module done with, it will be smooth sailing from there-unless I've just jinxed it. Thankfully, I have a few volunteers in Miami that are able to help with some of my programming jobs and don't mind hours of cutting and counting to speed along the packaging of upcoming modules. I look forward to spending Sept on the Acorns to Oaks program, and planning for Library month in October. If anyone has some cool ideas or wouldn't mind featuring as an Oak in any of the videos, please let me know!



Altona Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Rachael Friesen

For July the Bookland Explorers Club has been in full swing. Lots of children have signed up, at the end of July we have 164 participants that have been counting minutes, spending their coins and attending different activities! Since we had to close for our move, the club has been moved to a space in the mall right in front of our new location and will remain there till the club is done on August 17th.

We have spent a large portion of July packing and preparing for our move, as of July 31st we have already moved approximately 350 boxes and most of our storage items over to the mall. We closed the branch on July 29th so we could focus on packing the rest of the collection and preparing for the final moving of our items, we hope to have everything in place so we can start unpacking after August 16th.

For August we will be focusing on our move to the mall! .

Manitou Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Angela Lovell

The Bookland Explorers Club wrapped up this month and it was an amazing, record-setting summer program for our branch. Numbers were high with 71 children signed up and a total of 2,147 hours read. A total of almost 300 people also attended the crafts and events that Mya and Kieran put on over the summer. Thanks to them both for all their hard work – especially the last day to record points when Kieran was swamped by kids wanting to get their tickets for the prizes and store items, which everyone seemed excited about this year.

For four weeks in August, teacher Laurie also hosted her annual youth summer book club that was held in the reading garden. This is the eighth year Laurie has offered the book club, which gets stronger every year, with 12 kids participating. They also wrote a report on the club for the local newspaper, with some insightful observations about the book, and comments that they enjoyed seeing their friends again and having discussions about what they read. A big thank you to Laurie for another successful summer book club.

Book club met on August 19 and took notes on their discussion of the book they had just read for publication on the SCRL blog.

Admin also assisted with preparing materials and recruiting volunteers to help with the Acorns to Oaks program which will run from September to December, so it was a busy month.

Miami Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Raina Teigrob

Bookland Explorers club wrapped up in Miami with a fun team competition involving egg races, musical chairs, a water fight and more, as our own last hurrah for all the Miami kids enrolled in the program. After that, our last day to record minutes, hand out tickets and enter for draws was Tuesday the 16th, with our big windup at the drive-in on Wednesday the 17th!

In August we also had the pleasure of partaking in the 3rd annual Miami Community Showcase event that took place on the 19th. Miami library had a tent with a book and bake sale, and our summer programmers ran the free tie-dyeing event. Thanks to everyone who provided baking and time to this event-we had a blast! This was also the last official shift for Diego and Alyssa, and we wish them all the best!

The rest of August slowed down considerably compared to the previous weeks, but we used this time to put the library back in order and do some quick last minute “spring” cleaning. Our focus is now on prepping for the Fall program, “Acorns to Oaks”.



Morden Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Gail Hildebrand

August was a busy month with summer programming and wind-up at the Stardust drive-in. Morden was excited to host the wind-up party at such a fun venue and it sounds like those who made it had a great time!

The building saga continues to unfold, with finding out that the ground water is not ground water but more likely our air conditioner draining through one of our furnaces. My son found the problem when he came in on his own time to change our furnace filters and the one furnace room was a puddle with a soggy filter. Cathy emailed Garry regarding the problem, and he came immediately to see what was happening with this situation. After a walk-through of the building, he said he would be speaking with the CAO to discuss some of the issues and perhaps come up with some ideas on what can be done.

Bookland Explorers was great this summer, we had so much positive feedback from parents and kids about the in-house programming, the store and the paper reading logs. It was wonderful to have Eryn and Sara back for the summer, we will miss having them in the building! It was great to see everyone at the all-staff meeting and spend some time relaxing and chatting over lunch.

We ended the month with a book sale in our meeting room. People have been asking and it seemed like a good time to get rid of some of the books so that we don't have to move them from the building into the shed when it arrives. Yes, we ordered our shed! It should be here in 4 or so weeks.

Winkler Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Jess Martens

In August we ended the Bookland Explorers program. Overall, the program went very well, and the kids had fun. We had 521 kids sign up, 597 kids attended the workshops and story times, and 13,985 tickets were entered into our weekly book draws. This summer we had the best workshop attendance in the 9 years I have been working in Winkler, the kids were eager and excited for each program and our summer programmers did an excellent job. We are also continued work on the reading garden and currently the fence is up, the garden beds are in, and the pergolas and paving stones are almost done. Our contractors estimate that they will be done by approximately Sept 9th. After that we'll take a break until next spring when we start planting flowers, purchasing furniture and all the last-minute detail work. We are grateful to Martin Harder and everyone in the community that helped bring the garden to life. This month I also started working in the Altona Library sculpting their library tree, so it has been quite a busy month.

In September the focus is on finishing the garden, the tree and getting the shelves back in shape after the chaos of summer. Programs for the fall - Knit Lit will become the Yarn Club in and will meet once a month. We will be participating in the Acorns to Oaks program and are looking forward to it. We are also starting a Lego Club geared towards school age children that will take place on the GVSD early dismissal days. The Winkler Arts and Culture Centre contacted us about collaborating on a book club with them. We are still in the process of working out the details but currently the plan is to meet every month alternating between the two locations. We are running into issues with programming for November and December. Ten Thousand Villages has the meeting room booked from October 24th to December 31st which displaces our programs as well as several groups that were renting the space. While having Ten Thousand Villages in the library is great and brings in different people from the community it also means the room is not available for use by anyone else. We have submitted a proposal to turn the room in the library currently being used by the Winkler Heritage Archives into a teen room/meeting room, but we are still waiting to hear back from the city. For now, we will try to find alternate spaces to hold the programs.
