



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

I did a presentation to the Morden Area Foundation on behalf of the Morden Branch shed fund-raiser. I also applied for 2 small capital grants for Manitou and Miami branches through the Art, Culture and Sport Community Fund for renovation projects.

Thanks to June Letkeman & Heather Imrie for their time on the SCRL Board.

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

In October we received over 50 boxes from Whitehots with a total of 1312 new books! That's in addition to the puzzles, audiobooks, and DVDs that also arrived, so I've been working hard at cataloguing almost non-stop to get all these incoming items ready for the branches! There were a couple hundred holds on my pull list throughout the month so that shows there is a high demand for new releases and items purchased by patron request.

I also assisted Raina with filming a Halloween crafts video for the SCRL Youtube channel. We made Halloween glow jars, garland, and polymer clay charms.

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### **Programmer Report – submitted by Raina Teigrob**

October was library month and to celebrate we planned a simple bookmark and greeting card contest. All branches would collect designs throughout the month and put them on display in branch, so patrons could participate in voting for their favorites. The winning designs are now being replicated and available for the taking.

During October I was also in contact with Caleb Winterburn, who is a local author from the Altona area. Two dates have been set up for an author visit during the month of November, at our Winkler and Altona branches. I look forward to setting up more visits with local authors next month for the new year.

I was also busy filming for Acorns to Oaks with Cathy, as well as some spooky Halloween crafts with some help from Joanna. Thanks to everyone who participated! Keep an eye out for some winter and Christmas themed videos coming soon!

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

We have more class tours and visits during October, we really enjoy having the classes come use our space.

Acorns and Oaks has been running throughout October and seems to be doing quite well.

We had local author: Stan Hildebrand and his illustrator: Wendy Wall come for an author read for Lil Dragon, it was well attended, the kids really liked the story, and we were very glad to have them.

We hosted our last book club night for the book: Black Water by David A. Roberston and later in October we were very lucky to have an author visit by David. The event was well attended, we had great discussions and we are so grateful he was able to come visit.

At the end of October, we had another staff lead fundraiser in partnership with the Altona Motor Hotel. We had a Halloween Fundraising Social, all door and raffle ticket sale proceeds came to the library fundraising expansion fund. We were very fortunate to have many businesses donate amazing prizes for our raffle and we are so grateful for the continuing support we receive.



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

For November we will be having in local author Caleb Winterburn, the remaining sessions of Acorns & Oaks, and a garage sale to sell off furniture and shelving we do not need.

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

The Acorns to Oaks program had two sessions in October. Feedback about the program has been positive and some useful suggestions have come from parents that will help improve the program for future years.

For library month this October, the library held several events and promotions. Staff put together a display of challenged books in the library, and we also received around 32 entries for the children's bookmark and greeting card design challenge, with many coming from the Manitou Elementary School Grade 6 class. The Book Club members chose three winners during their meeting on October 28th. The winning bookmarks will be printed and laminated, and each winner will receive some to give to families and friends, while the rest will be made available in the branch for patrons to take.

On Saturday, October 29 the branch held a Halloween Story Time with Xander Klassen kindly volunteering to read. In addition, the kids did a Halloween scavenger hunt which earned them the chance to pop a balloon that had candy inside and receive a bonus candy if they found all the scavenger hunt items. Eight kids and four adults attended and had a lot of fun.

The author visit on October 22 with Lil' Dragon author, Stan Hildebrand and illustrator, Wendy Wall went well, and he was pleased with the attendance, although staff felt it might have been higher if it had been held sometime other than late Saturday afternoon.

Our patron appreciation day on October 20 was not well attended and it didn't appear anyone coming to the library that day came specifically for the event, but they enjoyed the free coffee and cookies anyway.

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### **Miami Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Raina Teigrob**

For October, we were excited to welcome Stan Hildebrand (and his wife) for a presentation of his children's book Lil Dragon, for the first author event in Miami in years. Though patrons seemed excited, we unfortunately had zero attendees for the evening. Thanks to Stan having such a great attitude nonetheless and spending time with staff answering questions. 😊

During October we also had two Acorns to Oaks meetings, which continue to go over well. Currently, we have two local ladies as our Oaks and swap between them each session.

Our volunteers had fun setting up a banned book display, and a Halloween book display and bulletin board.

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

With a full month of programming behind us, things are starting to settle down. Pre-school story & craft has continued running on Wednesdays and Acorns to Oaks every other Thursday.

We have had a few new volunteers start this month, helping with everything from shelf reading to general cleaning. We are sad to say goodbye to our regular Wednesday volunteer/casual clerk who is moving on to a part-time position in Winkler. Our loss is their gain!

Our long-awaited shed arrived this month and we couldn't be happier with it, now we just have to find time to fill it up!

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



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

I did an interview with CBC Talk Radio's Marcy Markusa to talk about our challenged book display as well as a bit on our policy on intellectual freedom. It was good to be able to defend SCRL in a respectful way with the recent book challenges. Again, I can't express how proud I am of our communities for taking such a solid stand against censorship and book banning. It's good to know that there is an overwhelming amount of trust in us to represent our communities.

The month ended with Covid running through our building, leaving us with 2 staff running the show. Thank you, Cathy, for all the help!

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

October was a quieter month at the library. The new programs we started in September are going well and patrons are enjoying them. In October we lost two more of our staff, we wish Nicole and Colt all the best in their new endeavors. We had several school tours come through this month and a couple classes that are intending to visit the library on a monthly basis. The shed for the reading garden was moved in and we will be working on reorganizing our storage areas for the next few months. I continued weeding and updating our collection and we have moved several sections around to make better use of the space. Weeding and reorganizing the collection will be an ongoing project over the next several months.

In November Ten Thousand Villages will once again be renting our meeting room. The Christmas store will be operating the same hours the library is open from Nov 1st to Dec 24th. The staff are looking forward to the new patrons it will bring in and doing some Christmas shopping for themselves. In November we also have two authors that will be visiting the library, Stan Hildebrand and Caleb Winterburn. Other than that we will be continuing with our regular programming and decorating the library for Christmas.

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