

April 2023 Branch Reports

Cataloguing Technician Report - Office - submitted by Joanna Dueck

I've been working with Raina to finish ordering and sorting prizes for Bookland Explorers. We're still waiting for a couple of items to arrive for grand prizes, but the rest are all sorted and ready to be sent to the branches. We ordered all the weekly book draw prizes, and most of those have arrived already. More perler beads have also been ordered to restock our MaPLE Lab kit for Bookland Explorers programming.

Besides helping with prizes, I have still been busy keeping up with new books arriving for cataloguing. I had 281 titles on my holds lists this month. These are holds placed on books which have not even arrived yet!

Programmer Report – submitted by Raina Teigrob

All branches of SCRL were approved for Green Team funding at \$2500 per position.

Altona Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Wendi Friesen – Library Clerk

Weather wise, April was an unpredictable month, however we at the library remained on point. Our classroom visits have not slowed down, which is so exciting. Drop in Lego was at an all-time high with 77 kids joining in throughout the day. Our monthly Book Club get together was a success as we talked about the popular novel Women Talking by author Miriam Toews. It was nice to sit and chat and hear each other's take on the book.

It's beginning to look a lot like Summer Reading in the Altona Library. A "Coming Soon" display for Bookland Explorers is up and this has piqued interest, which is exactly what we were hoping for. Staff are busy getting decorations planned and put up.

We featured three movies throughout the day in celebration of Canadian Film Day with several patrons visiting for this event.

Patrons continue to show the Altona staff their support with kind words, thoughtful gifts, and treats. This kindness and support mean the world to all of us and brings sunshine into our lives. Looking ahead in May, we plan on having another Book Club and anticipate many school visits as we continue to prepare for Summer Reading.

Manitou Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Angela Lovell

No report – busy month getting ready for the renovations.

Miami Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Raina Teigrob

No report this month.

Morden Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Gail Hildebrand

We have kept busy this month with programming, including Lego Club (almost 40 kids again!), Story & Craft Time, and National Canadian Film Day movie night (27 people total).

Our patrons have continued to show their support for all our branches, with a fresh wave of baking, coffee, flowers, and kind words with each reminder that we are still facing criticism from a very select group. The message we are hearing loud and clear at our branch is that a public library is about having options for everyone, and that the average person stands behind our intellectual freedom policy and a parents' obligation to supervise their own children.



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

We are starting to plan for our summer program and are eager to start "spacing up" our library with some fun decorations. We are very excited to find out we have received funding for at least one summer student and look forward to meeting them.

Winkler Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Jess Martens

Despite the fickle spring weather, the library has remained busy in April. Apart from our regular programming we had National Canadian Film Day on the 18th and 19th. We showed the film All My Puny Sorrows and Ballerina, an animated children's film. Both films were well attended with 23 people between the two days.

Our Books & Brew book club is still going strong with the members deciding that they would like to continue the book club through the summer months rather than taking a break like most of our adult programs. We look forward to being able to offer some adult programming in summer and it will be interesting to see what attendance is like since we normally focus on the summer reading program.

We have been showered with support this month as patrons have been dropping off goodies for the staff on a regular basis and asking if there is anything else they can do. Despite the situation being challenging at times the support from our patrons has been fantastic and it has really emphasized how important the library and its resources are to the community.

The first week of May the library will be closed for maintenance. There are quite a few large projects that need to be finished before summer and closing for the week allows us to get them done. There are also countless smaller projects that we are trying to finish as well, and it is going to be a very busy week.

The Winkler Community Foundation board has volunteered to help prep and plant the reading garden at the beginning of May and we are looking forward to being able to open up the garden to the public. Part of the closed week projects will be installing the new door latches for the garden so it is accessible from the outside and once that is done patrons will be able to use it. After the closed week we get right into promoting the summer program, this year's theme is space, and we are all excited for it. We already have 6 schools tours and visits scheduled and I have several more teachers waiting to confirm dates. The next several months are going to be hectic but we are looking forward to it.