

May 2023 Branch Reports

Cataloguing Technician Report – Office – submitted by Joanna Dueck

May felt like a very busy month! To start off, I was helping at the Morden Firefighter's book sale on the afternoon of May 5 along with other library staff. Raina was away on vacation for most of the month, so I took over the supply orders for those weeks.

I also attended the virtual Manitoba Library Association conference on May 18-19. This year's theme was Access and Accessibility. I especially enjoyed the NNELS (National Network for Equitable Library Service) workshop as well as the Book Challenges and Intellectual Freedom panel.

With the Bookland Explorers program approaching soon, all grand prizes and weekly prizes have now been sorted and sent out to the branches.

Programmer Report – submitted by Raina Teigrob

Summer reading grand prizes & weekly book draw prizes have officially left the building and have started making their way to the branches. Joanna and I are very excited about them this year and hope everyone else thinks they're pretty cool too. This month we were also able to work on a few projects for the Bookland program, including the space "credits," store prizes and brochures. I've also been able to start some interviews and have met with multiple candidates for the Miami, Winkler, and Altona positions so far. I look forward to continuing these going into June and connecting with Morden and Manitou candidates as well.

Altona Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Rachael Friesen

May has been a very busy month, we have had many classes come to visit the library and are very glad they are choosing to spend their free time here!

Morden library helped with the Firefighters book sale in the beginning of the month, and I was able to spend the day there helping, it was a very successful sale and I hope we can have similar sales in the future. We were very appreciative to the Morden Fire Department for sending a large selection of books to Altona for our own sale later in the month.

Altona hosted a weeklong \$10 dollar bag sale for books right before the long weekend. It was very successful. We brought in over \$1700.00 for the weeklong sale. Having a set flat rate for the books made the sale much easier to run and prompted people to buy more. We hope to have more sales like this in the future.

May 18th & 19th was the MLA conference. They hosted it virtually this year, it was very nice to be able to attend right from my desk, I watched multiple sessions including the session Gail and Cathy were a part of.

For June we will be focusing on getting things ready for summer reading. We already have a bunch of classes scheduled to visit the library and are looking forward to getting them excited to come back for the summer.

Manitou Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Angela Lovell

Manitou branch was closed from May 1 to May 25 for renovations that included new flooring throughout the building, repainting, and some re-arranging to create a more spacious reading area for patrons that can also be used for library events and book club meetings etc. It was a lot of work, but so worth it – everyone is enjoying our new, fresh look.

There are still a few things to complete this first phase of updates; the new circulation desk should be completed and installed shortly, and the new book return has been ordered and installation arranged when it is received.



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

We can't thank enough the contractors, volunteers and staff involved in this project, with a special thank you to the students of Nellie McClung Collegiate who helped load and unload everything into the storage truck, and to Ryan and Stacy who picked up and returned the truck and stored our library safely at their farm while renos took place.

Phase two of the project will be to move the staff kitchenette to the west wall at the back of the library and create a dedicated display space for new books in the junior section, which will also free up floor space to better accommodate children's programming.

We plan to have a grand reopening when all the phase one work is completed, likely towards the end of summer. Now, back to serving our patrons!

Miami Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Raina Teigrob

In Miami, staff have started decorating and brainstorming ideas for Adventures in Space. We've also been planning and preparing for renovations that will be coming soon, thanks to the grant received earlier this year. In May, Miami hosted a Lego club, a plant & seed swap with help from the horticulture society, and a book club discussion with a joint movie night. Our book club and movie night were very successful, and we hope to continue these joint events in the future.

Morden Branch Administrator's Report - submitted by Gail Hildebrand

We have kept busy this month with the normal, everyday tasks as well as decorating for Bookland Explorers in Space! The kids coming in are getting excited from what they've seen so far, hopefully it will be a busy summer with the program.

We were also very busy helping set up the Morden Fire Department Book Sale. Thank you to the MCI classes who came when we called to assist us getting the books out of the boxes and onto the tables. This is the last year the Fire Department will be doing this sale and SCRL is considering taking it on in the same location and with the same bag sale. Details still need to be worked out.

We hired 2 new casual pages for the summer, welcome to the Morden branch Chloe and Vlada!

Winkler Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Jess Martens

May has been a busy month at the library. We were closed for a week at the beginning of the month and were able to accomplish quite a lot in that time. We weeded and shifted the Junior Non-Fiction section and moved the shelves and shifted the Junior Fiction section to allow for better access to the reading garden door. We were also able to get a start on our Bookland Explorers program decorations and finish several other small projects.

The Winkler Community Foundation was also very helpful in prepping the garden for planting. We've also been working on the reading garden. The rubber paving for the outside pergola is now finished and ready for furniture and the furniture for the rest of the garden is in place. Most of the plants in the garden have been generously donated by the staff and apart from some bushes and petunias everything has been planted. Martin Harder and his family would like to do some planting as well so we will be setting up a day at the beginning of June for them to plant petunias. Unfortunately, the garden is not yet open to the public, the door from the library to the garden still needs work, currently patrons can exit through the door but won't be able to get back in. For the time being we have left the exterior gates open so that the public can use the garden.



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

Our regular programs are going well and most of them will be taking a break for the summer months. We normally schedule Lego Club on GVSD early dismissal days so the program would be done in June but since we have great turn out we will be scheduling several extra sessions in July and August. We are still working on decorations for the summer program and have several more tours scheduled for June.

I visited Southwood School last week and the kids were very excited about the program and are looking forward to it. In May a resident at the Buhler Active Living Centre reached out asking if we had a book delivery service to the centre. That has led to a program we are hoping to start in June where we deliver books, puzzles, audiobooks etc. to the centre every two weeks. This will make are collection much for accessible to their residents and brings them a variety of formats like audiobooks they don't normally have access to at the centre's library. The library remains a busy place and will only get busier in the coming months.