

Cataloguing Technician Report – Office – submitted by Joanna Dueck

In November I was working on several side projects in addition to my usual cataloguing tasks. I spent a day shopping with Raina for summer reading prizes and MaPLE Lab kits during Black Friday sales, so we have a start on that for next year already. We also purchased 25 board games to launch a new collection for SCRL! The board games have already been catalogued and divided up among the branches. Patrons can check them out for 3 weeks and we will be purchasing more in the new year. We were also interviewed for the Winkler Morden Voice to promote our board game collection.

I have submitted the last DVD, junior audio, and young adult audio orders for 2023.

Program Coordinator Report – submitted by Raina Teigrob

November was busy for programming! Author Gordon Goldsborough was able to visit each of our branches and share a presentation on his latest book “On the Road to Abandoned Manitoba”. Gordon is a popular choice for patrons around here, and the events were well attended.

I have been in touch with Prairie Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre regarding visits for I Love to Read Month and have two individuals interested in author visits/presentations for the new year.

Joanna and I were stoked to be a part of the board game collection development and spent a day shopping, distributing, and cataloguing the games for our new collection. Thanks to Ashleigh Viveiros from The Voice who reached out for an interview about this! We hope to continue expanding this collection- checkouts have been great on these so far.

For December, branches will be focusing on Patron Appreciation days, and Fines for Food drives in their branches. I was also able to connect with Bill Redekop and plan two events for December in our Morden and Manitou branch. Bill will share on his latest novel “Don’t Fence Me In: True Stories About Rural Manitoba”.

Altona Branch Administrator’s Report – submitted by Rachael Friesen

November started with “Bring your child to work day” and we were fortunate enough to have a staff member’s teenager want to spend the day helping in the library. We kept them busy with decorating, sorting books and a variety of other tasks and were very grateful to have the extra help!

We had 2 author visits in November, first was Gordon Goldsborough and second was Mitchell Toews. Both visits went well, and we were very glad the authors chose to come to our library. We hope to have more visits throughout the next year.

During November we had many tours for the schools and for Regional Connections. We hope to continue that in the future.

At the end of the month Altona hosted its Night of Lights and the library stayed open to help with celebrating. We had many people come in that evening and were glad to be included in the celebration.

I spent a large part of the month working on the set up for some new subscriptions we will be rolling out for patrons. We just released ComicPlus for patrons and hope to have the other resource available soon.

For December we will be having a book/bake sale in the beginning of the month, fines for food and patron appreciation all before the holiday break.

Manitou Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Angela Lovell

There were five children taking part in the fourth session of our popular Acorns to Oaks Pre-Kindergarten program throughout November. The kids had a lot of fun and progressed amazingly well throughout the program, becoming comfortable with each other and sharing their 'homework' with their peers each week. Parent feedback was overwhelmingly positive also. Thanks once again to the volunteers Carol Frisch and Dianne Lussier and for clerk, Susan Pharaoh for helping out. We have already had inquiries about a spring program so will likely run it again in March.

On November 8 we welcomed Gordon Goldsborough who talked about his new book *On the Road to Abandoned Manitoba*. We had pretty much a full house, with 22 attending.

It was Manitou Branch's turn to host the Coffee House at the Manitou Opera House on November 11, and again thanks to all who donated dainties and snacks and volunteered to help. The event attracted a good crowd, and we raised over \$300 in donations, which we will use to purchase music-themed children's books for the library.

We also collected food items for the Pembina Manitou Christmas Cheer Board and PJs for Genesis House throughout the month. These causes are well supported in our community.

The month wrapped up with a book club meeting attended by five.

Miami Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Raina Teigrob

In Miami we hosted 4 events for the month of November. Gordon Goldsborough joined us Sat the 4th, and we had a grand total of 24 attendees! This is the highest number of event attendance we've had in Miami since I've joined as Branch Admin.

Our regular events for the month included: Crafters & Co., Book Club, and Lego Club.

I spent a little bit more of my time in Miami this month covering holidays and will for the beginning of December as well. It's been nice to spend extended time in the branch doing things like weeding and decluttering.

In the office, I've been busy learning end-of-year tasks and tying up loose ends. I'm currently working on employee agreements for the new year.

Morden Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Gail Hildebrand

This month we hosted 2 authors, Gordon Goldsborough and Michell Toews. Cathy and I were able to take Gordon to the local Legion for supper before his presentation.

We had a LEGO Club session where we introduced our new Braille LEGO (thanks to Chris Abrams). We also continue offering passive programming for people to drop in and take part in ... a puzzle table, a LEGO table, and quick table games.

Traffic through the library has picked up again as people have started to settle in for the winter. While the puzzle borrowing never stopped, it slowed down, but we see it picking up again. People are thrilled when they see new additions to our puzzle collection! We have also had a great response to our new game collection.

We were glad to be able to accept donations on behalf of Genesis House of pajamas. As usual, our patrons were generous and donated 3 extra-large recycling bags of items.

We started a fundraiser raffle at the end of the month. Any money earned from this will go towards our front desk renovation. We are still waiting to hear when that will happen, hopefully early in 2024.



Winkler Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Jess Martens

We had a lot of programming going on in November. We had three author visits, Kristina Falk, Gordon Goldsborough and Mitchell Toews. We found that were too many author visits in such a short time period and patrons would lose interest by the third visit. In the future we will limit it to two author visits per month. There are still classes visiting the library to check out books and they are hoping to continue for as long as the weather allows. We had a crochet scarf workshop that was well attended. Patrons have also already expressed interest in the crochet marathon in January. We also tried something completely different this month and held a chain maille workshop. It was run by Julia Hamm, the niece of one of our clerks and had 8 people attend. They had a great time and enjoyed trying something new. The SCRL podcast has also changed its name and will now be called 'Books & Banter'. It is now also available on Spotify as well as remaining on our YouTube channel.

We will be starting December with a Book & Art sale at the Winkler Arts & Culture Centre. We are looking forward to it and patrons have been asking about the next book sale for several months. In response to interest from the local community we will also be hosting a new group called Creatives Connect focusing on hand crafts like knitting, embroidery etc. People wanted a way to connect with the community and share their hobbies and we are happy to provide them with a space. We are also holding a Christmas story time and craft evening and already have several people signed up. There are of course also several staff taking vacation time throughout the month. December will be a busy month but it's a nice way to end the year.
