

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

January was a very busy month in the office with lots of projects going on. The remainder of our new board games were catalogued and are currently available for patrons to borrow. Winter Whitehots orders were all submitted near the beginning of the month and shipments have begun arriving. Raina and I selected weekly book prizes to purchase for Bookland Explorers and we will be purchasing the rest of the grand prizes shortly. I also spent time prepping the 2024 blocks of DVDs, audiobooks, playaways, and large print books. Thank you to Alvina for helping out by labelling and stickering block items!

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### **Program Coordinator Report – submitted by Raina Teigrob**

No report.

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

January was a quieter month, which allowed us time to try and catch up on things in the branch.

We had our regular book club meeting, it was a smaller crowd this time due to having to shift the original date because of a storm day, but it was nice to have a more relaxed setting.

We also had our annual p.j. party, we were very fortunate to have a local children's author, Laura Siemens agree to be our guest. She read from her new book: Sophia's Suitcase and the children had a wonderful time!

We were very excited to finally have our inside signage installed. Alt Signs did a fantastic job & our walls look amazing. It is very easy to find the different sections now. We are hopeful that we can have some extra lighting installed at the back wall by the paperbacks, movies, games, and puzzles to help with darkness issues we noticed after we moved in. We have been here a full year now and little by little everything is getting done!

February is I Love To Read month and Black History month, we have been working on getting displays up for both. We also have a private event with Prairie Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre and some of our local classes, I will be visiting schools in February, our book club will have the author in attendance for February and we have prizes available for I Love to Read. February will be a busy month.

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

Welcome to our new clerk, Cherri, who will be working one Saturday a month and also picking up some casual shifts.

Our January programming was not the most successful. We had only two kids show up for our Lego Club on January 2nd and no-one for our Family Literacy Story Time on January 27th. As a result, we will try a PJ party and Story Time again for I Love to Read Month in February.

Book Club met on January 19 and are excited to read the Canada Reads contenders for February.

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

No report.

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

This was a busy month but in a very different way than our usual “busy”. We were closed for 2 weeks for Phase 1 of our desk renovation, while they replaced the flooring and started the electrical work. With all our shelving wrapped up to contain the mess, we were unable to circulate books for those two weeks, but we did still manage to get any ILLs out that came in during that time.

Our patrons were excited to come in again after reopening and we’ve had a ton of positive feedback on our new floor.

We hosted our first Spanish Conversation Group with around 12 people attending. We are hoping to make this into a weekly event.

We are all looking forward to February when the desk will be installed, and we can get back to the business of being a library and celebrating I Love to Read month!

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

We’ve had a busy start to the year at the Winkler Library. Our winter story time sessions have started and are going well, the kids are enjoying the crafts and the stories. Our Family Literacy Night went very well. The kids enjoyed having theme to the evening and our readers did a fantastic job, it was the most successful Family Literacy Night we have had in years. This year’s theme was Under the Sea, and it really helped get the kids excited for the event and several dressed up to match the theme. This month we also held our crochet marathon, and it was an overwhelming success. We had 8 completed blankets donated and enough squares created or donated to make another 7 blankets. There were people crocheting in the library from the time we opened until we closed. Three new outlets reported on the event, and we have had people asking about creating more crochet squares ever since. Several people have said they plan on stockpiling more squares for donation next year. It was amazing to see the response from the community and we are planning to make the marathon an annual event.

In February the focus will be on I Love to Read month and we have all our usual programming planned. We have a mural started where patrons can add the title of their favorite book as well as the ever popular scavenger hunt. We also have a Reading with Raptors visit that we are looking forward to. In addition to that we are also holding an embroidery workshop that several patrons have requested. We have also had people ask for a adult-only Nerf Battle night so we have added that in addition to still holding our regular Nerf Battle. This month the SCRL merch store will also be going live so we are looking forward to having that available for patrons. All in all, February is shaping up to be a very busy month.

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### **Additional Information – Cathy Ching, Director**

As I travel around to each of my branches, I pick up information that is not always noted in the branch reports. Rather than edit the reports, here is some extra information. Manitou Branch’s new book drop had some water issues as the humidity from the cold metal book drop caused condensation on the inside, causing damage to some books. The installer was called, and a modification was made & hopefully the problem was solved.

With the Morden Branch being closed for 2 weeks during the flooring installation, the Office “borrowed” some of their staff to help put barcodes on books to help the cataloguer with a huge backlog. Now all the branches are receiving many more books to get ready for the shelves.

Watching the story-time dinosaur waltz around the Winkler Library or listening to the additional help staff give to patrons, is very encouraging as everyone seems to embrace their jobs and their communities.