

Branch News

- All library branches experienced power outages due to the March 30 ice storm. Several branches in the north area of Kawartha Lakes closed for up to two weeks with Kinmount being the final branch to re-open on April 15.
- **Dalton branch** was initially closed due to the ice storm power outage and then subsequent flooding of Young Lake, which surrounded the Dalton Community Centre facility. Floodwaters abated late in the week of April 14 and Hydro One restored power to the facility on April 17. The facility remained closed as CKL Parks and Rec crews worked to clear debris around the building, and repairing the building's furnace. There appears to be no damage to the library branch itself, which is located on the second floor of this building. The branch reopened to the public on April 24.
- The first phase of renovations to **Fenelon Falls'** branch began the week of April 21 with work commencing on the roof and HVAC system. The full renovation project of this building will take place over two years.
- The Lindsay Library Branch was a voting location during the Ward 5 by-election. As in previous municipal election, this went off without issue.
- The Library's Growth Strategy Plan will kick-off early May, after some initial delays because of the ice storm.

Programs, Outreach and Partnerships

Programs/Services

- **March Break 2025** was a huge success with over 2,500 children participating in programs. This is almost 800 more children attending events this year compared to 2024. **Make It! Spikey Hedgehog** (where kids learned how to use basic tools) and **Make It! Candy Sushi** were big hits this year. The Library also collaborated with the City's Waste Management team to offer a **Rag Pet** program at the Lindsay and Omemee branches, which was also a popular program. Staff implemented a ticketing system to address surges in attendance at events in certain branches. *See attached infographic for more details.*
- Patron Frances Lavery has donated her completed scrapbooks of **Bolsover Families Book 1 and Bolsover Families Book 2**
- All 30 spots for the spring edition of the **teen subscription box** filled up quickly.
- The adult **Craft and Connect** programs have proved to be quite popular and the Library is working ensure that as many people as possible are able to participate.
- On Saturday, April 19th, all branches hosted a special **Earth Day** drop-in craft called **Invention Lab: Recycled Crafts**, where participants can use the random craft materials provided to create something new.
- Rainbow Story and Play offers a monthly drop in space where 2SLGBTQIA+ families can connect and building community. Offered at the Lindsay branch,

younger children can enjoy a staff-led story time while older children can participate in games, crafts and other activities.

- Library staff are delivering **monthly story time** programs at almost all library branches. April's story time theme was Dinosaurs.

Outreach

- Classes from **Dunsford Elementary School** make monthly visits to the library branch over the school year and enjoy stories, activities and a book exchange. Volunteers with the Friends of Dunsford Library assist with the delivery of library material to and from the school.
- Outreach staff provided book exchanges with care homes located in Bobcaygeon (Aspira Retirement and Case Manor) and Lindsay (William Place, Frost Manor, and Caressant Care)
- Kawartha Settler's Village in Bobcaygeon received a new story walk boards for March and April 'Sheep Take a Hike' by Nancy Shaw.
- The library installed new story walk titles at **Kawartha Conservation Area**. March's title was 'The Very Impatient Caterpillar' by Ross Burach. The library installed a special earth day themed story walk for Ken Reid's Earth Day event on Saturday, April 26th. The title for this story walk was 'One Earth' by Eileen Spinelli.

Partnerships

- Staff from **Children's Aid Society** are visiting all library branches in an effort to inform residents of the need for families willing to be foster parents to local children.
- The Kinmount Friends Group/Gardening Group hosted a **Seedy Saturday** on April 26th. The event offered seed and plant swaps, as well as activities for children and the monthly used book sale.
- Library staff toured the new headquarters and Maker Space of **Ampere**. Staff discussed partnerships with this organization including One-on-one tech training sessions.

KPIs to March 31 2025		
Branch Visits	Overall Circulation	Event Attendance
40,813	95,835	13,132