



**Thunder Bay  
Public Library**

# Connect

**APRIL - JUNE 2026**



## A Season of Change

Big changes are coming to your Library. As part of our 2024–2028 Strategic Plan, we are revitalizing our spaces to ensure they are modern, accessible, and welcoming for every member of our community. The most significant project is a whole-building renovation of Waverley Library. We are working with local architects to reimagine this space, including a new accessible entrance and a ground floor dedicated to children and families. These updates will also integrate Indigeneity into the very fabric of the building, supporting our commitment to truth and reconciliation.

Closer to completion, County Park Library will soon debut a brand-new program room this April. From fresh paint to new lighting, these improvements create more opportunities for the social and interactive experiences you've asked for. Our goal is to create vibrant gathering spaces where anyone can learn, grow, and connect. Turn to page 6 for a deep dive into these projects and a first look at our progress.

Check out the  
**FREE** programs  
at your Library!



**7-11**

Kids  
Programming



**12**

Youth  
Programming



**13-18**

Adult & Senior  
Programming



**19-20**

IKC  
Programming

# Library Information

## Hours of Operation

### Waverley Library

285 Red River Road

**Monday – Thursday:** 9:30 am – 8 pm

**Friday – Saturday:** 9:30 am – 5 pm

**Sunday:** 12:30 – 5 pm

### Mary J.L. Black Library

901 Edward St. S

**Monday – Thursday:** 9:30 am – 8 pm

**Friday – Saturday:** 9:30 am – 5 pm

**Sunday:** 12:30 – 5 pm

### County Park Library

1020 Dawson Rd. (County Fair Mall)

**Monday – Wednesday:** 9:30 am – 5 pm

**Thursday:** 12:30 – 8 pm

**Friday:** 9:30 am – 5 pm

**Saturday & Sunday:** Closed

### Brodie Library

216 Brodie St. S

**Monday – Friday:** 9:30 am – 5 pm

**Saturday & Sunday:** Closed

## Scheduled Closures (All Branches)

### April 3 – Closed All Day

Good Friday

### April 5 – Closed All Day

Easter Sunday

### April 6 – Closed All Day

Easter Monday

### May 17 – Closed All Day

Long Weekend Closure

### May 18 – Closed All Day

Victoria Day

**Please Note:** Summer hours begin on Sunday, June 21. Updated hours will be posted on [tbpl.ca](http://tbpl.ca) and at the main entrance of each branch.

## Your Suggestions Are Welcome!

Is there a book or other item you would love to see in our collection? Let us know. We invite you to fill out a suggestion form online at [tbpl.ca/suggestions](http://tbpl.ca/suggestions) or in person at any branch.

## An Important Update to our Digital Collection

Libby and OverDrive are now live at Thunder Bay Public Library, giving you access to approximately 96,000 eBooks and audiobooks, including titles compatible with Kobo and other e-reading devices.

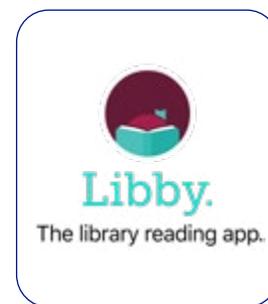
When you search for a title at [tbpl.ca](http://tbpl.ca), digital options will now appear alongside physical copies, making it easier than ever to find what you are looking for in one place. You can also browse and borrow directly through the free Libby app using your Thunder Bay Public Library Card.

With Libby, you can borrow up to 10 titles at a time and place up to 10 holds. Magazines do not count toward your loan limit.

Hoopla remains available for TV, movies, music, comics, and BingePass content, with its current borrowing limits unchanged.

Need help getting started or connecting your Kobo? Staff at any branch are happy to help.

Visit [tbpl.ca/digital](http://tbpl.ca/digital) to learn more.



**Thunder Bay  
Public Library**

Connect with us | Phone 807-345-8275

@TbayPL | Email [comments@tbpl.ca](mailto:comments@tbpl.ca)



| Online [www.tbpl.ca](http://www.tbpl.ca)

From the desk of the

# Head Librarian



While it may not look like it outside (at least not at the moment as I'm writing this and watching the snow come down), spring is on its way. Across cultures, spring is a time of growth and new beginnings, and it is no different at your Library. We are adding new collections, new programs, and new services. So, what's new at the Library?

Adult programs are blooming across the system with a vast variety of options. For those who are itching to create, we have Clay Flower Frog workshops and

Drop-In Beading among other offerings. If you are waiting to start growing, register for Wet Your Plants (this season's seeds include beans and beets). We also have an iPhone for Beginners course, a Puzzle Race, and a Canada Reads Watch Party. These programs are just a few of the options that await you this season. For the full listing and more details, check out our Adult Programming guide starting on page 13.

We have made additions to our library collection this year for all ages. OverDrive/Libby is now fully up and running with titles integrated into our catalogue. What does this mean for you, our members? When you search a title at [tbpl.ca](http://tbpl.ca), you will see all formats in one listing. This includes the book, large print copy, and audiobook, as well as digital copies. For our OverDrive/Libby titles, you can place a hold or check out the item directly from the Library catalogue and then open the item in your app.

On the physical side of the collection, we now have mini Yoto readers. These are small devices that allow you to play audiobooks stored on cards. They are designed to make it easy for children to listen to audiobooks independently and are a fabulous way to keep kids busy while you are occupied making dinner! We have added 10 Yoto readers, each of which comes with a set of cards. We are also circulating some sets of cards

for those who may have a Yoto reader at home. Please let us know what you think as we look at the future development of this collection.

To wrap up, we have a new service! While we have been offering battery recycling for many years, we are now trialling a water filter recycling project in partnership with EcoSuperior at our Mary JL Black Library. Drop off your used water filters in the handy box next to our battery recycling pail.

We look forward to seeing you this season at your Library.

*Ruth Haulin-Douglas*

Head Librarian

## Ruth's Spring Reading List:

**The Burning Library** by Gilly Macmillan  
**The Dallergut Dream Department Store**

by Miye Lee

**Full Moon Suppers at Salt Water Farm: Recipes from Land and Sea**

by Annemarie Ahearn

**All the Water in the World** by Eiren Caffall

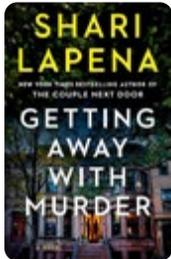
**Comfort Food** by Kate Jacobs



# New & Notable

## Adult

**Deceptions** by Jeffery Deaver  
**The Daisy Chain Flower Shop**  
 by Laurie Gilmore  
**Delivery** by Gregg Hurwitz  
**Getting Away with Murder**  
 by Shari Lapena  
**The Final Target** by Nora Roberts  
**This Changes Everything**  
 by Lisa Scottoline  
**Checkpoint** by Brad Thor



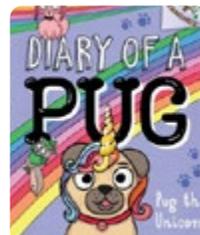
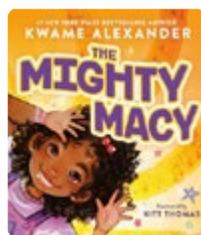
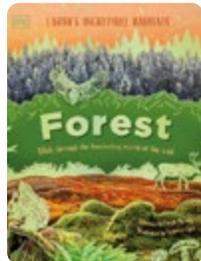
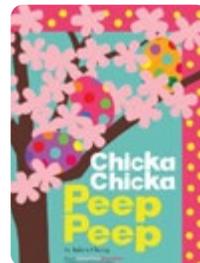
## Youth

**The Cursed Queen's Daughter** by Elly Blake  
**Love Me Tomorrow**  
 by Emiko Jean  
**Ms. Marvel: Remnants of the Past** by Saadia Faruqi  
**Queen of Faces**  
 by Petra Lord  
**Red Star Rebels**  
 by Amie Kaufman  
**Stolen Midnights**  
 by Katherine Quinn  
**Sybilline**  
 by Melissa De la Cruz



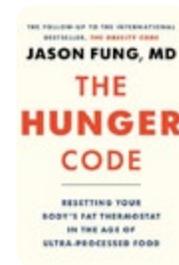
## Children

**Millie of the Manor: A Graphic Novel**  
 by Karina Evans  
**Chicka Chicka Peep Peep**  
 by Julien Chung  
**Forest : Walk Through the Fascinating World of the Wild**  
 by Derek Harvey  
**Hypergifted** by Gordon Korman  
**The Mighty Macy**  
 by Kwame Alexander  
**Pug the Unicorn** by Kyla May



## Adult Nonfiction

**Cut to Black: A Legendary Life in Sports**  
 by Rod Black  
**Protein Meal Prep Plan**  
 by Cassy Joy Garcia  
**Instructions for the End of the World**  
 by Maggie Helwig  
**The First Lady Next Door** by Eliza Reid  
**The Hunger Code** by Jason Fung  
**Future Rich Person** by Haley Sacks  
**Weeknight Winners, Family Dinners**  
 by Jack Zhang  
**Everyday Eats** by Alex Snodgrass  
**Kate! The Courage, Grace and Power**  
 by Christopher Anderson



## DVDs

**Bugonia**  
**Anaconda**  
**Wicked: For Good**  
**Zootopia 2**  
**The Running Man**  
**If I Had Legs I'd Kick You**  
**The Naked Gun**  
**Song Sung Blue**



# Explore Thunder Bay

## EXPLORE Our Beautiful Outdoors!



Check out a Lakehead Region Conservation Authority EXPLORE Pass from our collection and enjoy free day use of any of their ten Conservation Areas. Planning on launching a boat on the Big Lake this spring? Borrow one of these passes to do it FREE at Silver Harbour or Little Trout Bay Conservation Areas!

- Little Trout Bay
- Silver Harbour
- Mission Island Marsh
- Hurkett Cove
- Cascades
- Hazelwood Lake
- Cedar Falls
- Wishart
- Mills Block
- MacKenzie Point

## Garden Tools

Our tool sheds are opening and the Garden Tool collection is available to borrow from May 1st - October 31st. Tools can be borrowed and returned from the Brodie and Waverley Libraries.



## This Spring at the Art Gallery

Get inspired! Borrow a Thunder Bay Art Gallery pass from our collection and visit their spring exhibitions.



THUNDER BAY  
ART GALLERY

**sophia bartholomew: house holding**  
April 10 - June 14, 2026

**A Strong Law Bids Us Dance**  
April 10 - June 21, 2026

**Natalie King: Built, Not Inherited**  
April 3 - June 21, 2026

## TBSO's Season Wraps Up April 25

Two opportunities remain this season to see the Symphony with your Library Card! Visit [tbpl.ca/tbso](http://tbpl.ca/tbso) to enter your name for the free ticket draws for the final two shows of the year:



THUNDER BAY  
SYMPHONY  
ORCHESTRA

**Register March 27 - Apr 2** for your chance to see TBSO Masterworks: Behaving Badly on April 17.

**Register April 3 - 9** for your chance to see TBSO Pops: Sarah Slean sings Joni Mitchell on April 25.

Please join us in thanking the TBSO for making tickets for their 2025 - 2026 season available through our collection.

## More Thunder Bay Attractions to Enjoy

### Fort William Historical Park Family Passes



Fort William  
Historical Park

Enjoy free admission to the park for up to four people, including access to the park's special events.

### Thunder Bay Museum

Enjoy free admission for four people to three floors of galleries showcasing the vast and rich heritage of Thunder Bay and Northwestern Ontario.



### Ontario Parks Day Use Passes

Place your permit on your rear-view mirror and enjoy a free day at any Ontario Park, including Sleeping Giant Provincial Park.



### More Than Books!

Learn about all the amazing "things" available to borrow in our collection.

Visit: [tbpl.ca/things](http://tbpl.ca/things)

# Building for the Future

## What's Happening Across the Library System

The vision for a 21st-century public Library system in Thunder Bay is officially taking shape. We are currently managing several major infrastructure projects designed to improve your experience at every branch.

### Waverley Library Reimagined

We are collaborating with Form Architecture to redesign Waverley Library from the ground up. This renovation is an opportunity for us to redefine how we serve you.



#### Accessibility First:

We are restoring the original 1951 entrance to provide a warm, fully accessible welcome to all patrons.

**A Space for the Next Generation:** With support from the Friends 50/50 Lottery, we are building the largest Children's Library in our city. This redesign will add over 7,000 square feet of active space to the existing children's area, more than doubling the current footprint to meet the surging demands for children's programming in our city.

**Essential Retrofits:** The 50-year-old elevator is also undergoing a complete retrofit to meet modern accessibility codes, ensuring every floor remains open and accessible to everyone.

### The Waverley Bathroom Project

Work has also begun on the main floor washrooms at Waverley. Our contractors have completed the demolition of the old Community Services office and are currently updating the auditorium ceiling to make way for new plumbing. While working with a 75-year-old structure presents unique challenges, this project is a critical step in making our facilities more functional for daily use.

### County Park: Opening Early April

The transformation at County Park Library is nearly finished. We have completed the drywall, painting, and flooring prep for the new program room. We are installing new



LED lighting with dimmer controls and modern sliding doors to finish the space. We are on track to host our first programs in this bright, updated room starting in April.



### Why We Are Investing

These renovations are driven by research and community demand. By modernizing our core infrastructure, we are slowing the rate of capital deficit and ensuring our buildings remain safe, inclusive hubs for the community for decades to come.

Stay tuned for updates as work progresses. We'll keep you informed every step of the way. We appreciate your patience as we navigate these construction phases. We can't wait to welcome you into these new spaces soon.

#### Pictured on front cover:

*"Every improvement we make is about making the Library more welcoming, more accessible, and more useful for the people of Thunder Bay." Richard Togman, CEO*

*"This is an exciting time for the Library. We're investing in spaces that will serve the community for decades to come." Ruth Hamlin-Douglas, Head Librarian*

# Summer Reading Club



The TD Summer Reading Club is Canada's biggest, bilingual summer reading program for kids of all interests and abilities ages 0-12. The Club celebrates Canadian authors, illustrators and stories, and inspires kids to explore the fun of reading their way. This is key to building a lifelong love of reading. Research shows that kids who read over the summer retain and build on the literacy skills that they have been practicing during the school year. Your child will receive a free notebook and participate in weekly check ins at their chosen branch to track their reading and pick up prizes and coupons.



## Registration Details

You can register for the TD Summer Reading Club **beginning June 12 at 9:30 am**. Pick up of materials at your selected Library location will be available weekly beginning June 29.

Register online at [tbpl.ca/src](https://tbpl.ca/src), in-person at any library location or by calling (807) 345-8275.

Proudly Sponsored by:



# Kids Programming

## Play Day

County Park Library  
Thursdays  
@ 1 – 7 pm  
April 2 – June 25

Waverley Library  
Fridays @ 10 am – 3 pm  
April 10 – June 26

*No Play Day on May 1*

Visit us for independent, self-guided free play with our toys and activities! Play is the work of childhood and helps kids develop many skills and literacies. **(All ages) Drop in.**



## Family Storytime

County Park Library  
Wednesdays @ 10 am  
April 1 – June 17

Mary JL Black Library  
Tuesdays @ 10:30 am  
April 7 – June 16

Waverley Library  
Fridays @ 9:30 am  
April 10 – June 5

Drop in for literacy-focused fun the whole family can enjoy! Children, parents, and caregivers are invited to join us for stories, songs, and rhymes followed by free play and socialization time. **(All ages) Drop in.**

## Baby and Me Storytime

County Park Library  
Mondays @ 11:15 am  
April 13 – June 15

*No Storytime on May 18*

Mary JL Black Library  
Wednesdays @ 11:15 am AND 1:30 pm  
April 1 – June 17

*No Storytime on May 13*

Drop in for fingerplays, bounces, stories, and songs followed by playtime and socializing with other parents and caregivers! Best for babies from birth through twelve months who are cuddling and crawling. **(Ages 0 – 12 months) Drop in.**

## Discovery Club

Brodie Library  
Mary JL Black Library  
Waverley Library  
Open during branch hours

Drop in for self-guided family exploration of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math) activities that foster problem solving, creativity, and curiosity at our Discovery Clubs. Toys and activities vary by location. **(Ages 4+) Drop in.**

**NOW AT  
BRODIE!**

## Game On! with the Interactive Projector

Mary JL Black Library  
Tuesdays @ 12 – 7:45 pm  
Thursdays @ 4:30 – 7:45 pm  
Fridays & Saturdays @ 9:30 – 4:45 pm  
Sundays @ 12:30 – 4:45 pm

Smash robots, play virtual soccer, or try one of the other games on the interactive projector. Get moving with physically engaging games that encourage hand-eye coordination, gross motor skill development, and socialization in one fun activity! **(All ages) Drop in.**



## Blissful Beading

County Park Library  
Thursdays @ 3 – 7:30 pm  
April 2 – June 25

Drop in and relax while you create beaded trinkets, necklaces, keychains, and more! **(Ages 4+) Drop in.**

# Kids Programming

## Family Movies

Waverley Library

Tuesday, April 21 @ 6 – 7:30 pm

Gabby's Dollhouse: The Movie

Tuesday, May 19 @ 6 – 7:30 pm

The Secret Life of Pets 2

Monday, June 8 @ 6 – 7:30 pm

Migration

Join us for a free screening of a family-friendly movie and a simple craft! Light snacks provided. **(All ages) Drop in.**

## Baby Prints

Waverley Library

Thursday, April 2 @ 1:30 pm

Thursday, June 18 @ 1:30 pm

Drop in and make a footprint or handprint craft with your baby! Stay for stories, songs, lap rhymes, and social time with other parents and caregivers. **(Ages 0 - 12 months) Drop in.**

## Chess Club

Mary JL Black Library

Mondays @ 5 - 7:30 pm

April 13 – June 29

No program May 18

Drop in to connect with other chess enthusiasts. Bring your own board or borrow one from the main desk! **(All ages) Drop in.**



## Stuffy Tea Party & Movie

Mary JL Black Library

Sunday, May 24

2 – 4 pm

Bring your favourite stuffy to the library to enjoy some tea, treats, and a craft while watching a free screening of Christopher Robin (2018, PG). \*Allergy Alert\* **(Ages 5+) Drop in.**

## Storytime with Mz Molly and Friendz

Waverley Library

Saturday, May 23

2:30 - 3:30 pm

Join us for an all-ages, family-friendly storytime of wonder and whimsy with Mz Molly and Friendz! **(All ages) Drop in.**



## Preschool Storytime\*

Waverley Library

Mondays OR Thursdays @ 10:30 am

April 9 – June 1

Registration: March 23 @ 9:30 am

No program on May 18

A school readiness program for children ages 3 and 4 to attend on their own while caregivers remain nearby in the Library. Caregiver participation is required for the craft and play portions of the program. **(Ages 3 – 4) Registration required.**



## Tales for Twos\*

Mary JL Black Library

Mondays @ 10:30 am

April 13 – June 8

Registration: March 30 @ 9:30 am

Waverley Library

Tuesdays OR Wednesdays @ 10:30 am

April 7 – May 27

Registration: March 24 @ 9:30 am

This program is for children ages 24 months up to 3 years of age with a caregiver. There will be stories, songs and rhymes, crafts and other activities, with time for play and socialization.

**(Ages 24 – 36 months)**

Registration required.

# Kids Programming



## Family Movie: The Wild Robot

Mary JL Black Library  
Friday, May 1 @ 2 pm

Join us for a free screening of The Wild Robot (2024, PG) and a simple craft. We'll bring the snacks! **(All ages) Drop in.**

## DIY Flower Pot Craft

County Park Library  
Friday, May 1  
10 am – 4 pm

Drop in and decorate a small plant pot to take home! Available while supplies last. **(All ages) Drop in.**

## Sock Hop\*

Waverley Library  
Friday, May 1 @ 2 pm  
Registration: April 17 @ 9:30 am

Turn back the clock with a kid-friendly sock hop! Music, games, crafts and root beer floats! So slip off those shoes, slide into your snazziest socks, jitterbug down to this toe-tappin', knee-slappin', high-energy, old-school dance party! Vintage vibes for a totally memorable time.

\*Allergy alert\*  
**(All ages) Registration required.**

## Family Movie: Surf's Up

Mary JL Black Library  
Friday, June 12 @ 2 pm

Join us for a free screening of Surf's Up (2007, PG) and a simple craft. We'll bring the snacks! **(All ages) Drop in.**

## Pig's Picnic Puppet Show\*\*

County Park Library  
Friday, June 12  
10 am AND 10:30 am  
**\*\*Free tickets required, available starting May 29 at County Park Library**

Percival wants to go on a picnic with Priscilla, but his friends keep trying to change his appearance! What will Priscilla think of the new and "improved" Percival? Craft to follow the puppet show.  
**(All ages) \*\*Tickets required.**

## Under the Sea Party

Waverley Library  
Friday, June 12 @ 2 pm

Mermaids, pirates, and sharks - oh my! Let's DIVE IN to some exciting crafts and activities.  
**(All ages) Drop in.**



## Craftapalooza

Mary JL Black Library  
Friday, June 12  
10:30 am – 12:30 pm

Drop-in to help us reuse some of the crafts and parts of crafts from various programs throughout the year.  
**(All ages) Drop in.**



**REGISTRATION OPENS JUNE 12 FOR TD SUMMER READING CLUB!**

Register in-person at any June 12th program, over the phone, or online at [tbpl.ca/src](https://tbpl.ca/src)

# Kids Programming

## Springtime Kits for Kids\*

All Branches

Pickup: April 23 – 27

Registration: April 2 @ 9:30 am

Spring is a time of new beginnings and rejuvenation. Register for this kit starting April 2 at 9:30 am and receive books (signed out on your library card), a craft, and activities about springtime.

**(Ages 2 – 12) Registration required.**

## Awesome Animal Kits (Ages 0 – 4)\*

All Branches

Pickup: May 21 – 25

Registration: April 30 @ 9:30 am

Lions & tigers & bears, oh my!  
Explore these animals - and more - by signing up for an Awesome Animals Kit! Kits will contain books (signed out to your library card), songs, and simple activities all about animals!

**(Ages 0 – 4) Registration required.**

### HOW TO REGISTER

For events with an \* asterisk, registration begins at 9:30 am two weeks prior to the program date.

Online: [tbpl.ca/onlinecalendar](http://tbpl.ca/onlinecalendar), phone: 807-345-8275 or by visiting any Library branch.

## Awesome Animal Kits (Ages 5 – 12)\*

All Branches

Pickup: May 21 – 25

Registration: April 30 @ 9:30 am

Lions & tigers & bears, oh my!  
Explore these animals - and more - by signing up for an Awesome Animals Kit! Kits will contain books (signed out to your library card), activities and a craft all about animals!

**(Ages 5 – 12) Registration required.**



## School's Out Kit\*

All Branches

Pickup: June 18 – 22

Registration: May 28 @ 9:30 am

Hooray for summer! Each kit will include books (signed out on your library card), activities and a craft all about summertime and outdoor activities!

**(Ages 2 – 12) Registration required.**

## Tecky Brains:

### Code Your Own Game with AI\*

Waverley Library

Saturday, April 25 @ 10 am

Registration: April 11 @ 9:30 am

Design, build, and launch a browser game using HTML Canvas and vibe coding.

**(All ages) Registration required.**

## Tecky Brains:

### Pop the Balloons!\*

Mary JL Black Library

Saturday, May 30 @ 10 am

Registration: May 16 @ 9:30 am

Code and design your own interactive balloon-popping game using Scratch.

**(All ages) Registration required.**



## Tecky Brains: Turtle Race - Build Your First Game with Python\*

Waverley Library

Saturday, June 27 @ 10 am

Registration: June 13 @ 9:30 am

Learn how to use loops to design a race track and code a turtle racing game.

**(All ages) Registration required.**

# YOUth Programming

## YOUth Action Council (YAC)

Mary JL Black Library  
Monday, April 13 @ 6 – 7 pm  
Indigo Bookstore  
Monday, May 4 @ 6 – 7 pm

The YOUth Action Council meets monthly to discuss changes to the Library, suggest programs, and buy young adult books. Earn volunteer hours and develop your event planning and teamwork skills. Visit our website to learn more.  
**(Ages 12+) Drop in.**



## Bad Art Night

Mary JL Black Library  
Monday, May 11  
6 – 7 pm

Not an artist? Not a problem! Join us for a silly night where you will be awarded prizes for creating the worst art possible.  
**(Ages 10+) Drop in.**



## YOUth Knitters

Knit or crochet hats or scarves for those in need to earn community service volunteer hours. Visit [tbpl.ca/youth](http://tbpl.ca/youth) for more info. **(Grades 9 - 12)**

## YOUth Review

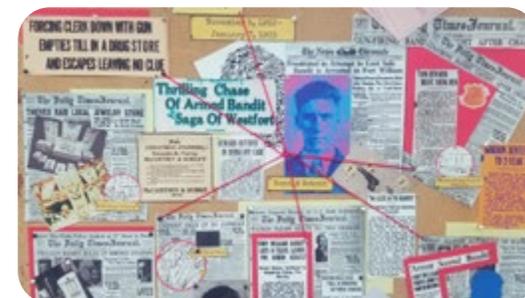
Review books or movies that you loved (or hated) for community service hours. For each review, you can earn up to 4 volunteer hours! Visit [tbpl.ca/youth](http://tbpl.ca/youth) for more info. **(Grades 9 - 12)**



## TBPL Files: Teen Edition

Mary JL Black Library  
Monday, June 15  
6 – 7 pm

Fraud, bootlegging, robberies, hijackings and murder! The District of Thunder Bay has borne witness to many unique and interesting tales of crime. Join us for a Spring drop-in session to delve into a gripping crime narrative from our past.  
**(Ages 12+) Drop in.**



## Teen Poetry Night

Mary JL Black Library  
Monday, April 27  
6 – 7:30 pm

Join us for a night of fun and creativity in honour of National Poetry Month. Collaborate with others to create a poem, share a poem you have already created, try blackout poetry, or just sit back and enjoy with some yummy snacks!  
**(Ages 12+) Drop in.**

# Adult Programming

## Tea Club

### All Branches

#### Last Wednesday of the Month

Available on the last Wednesday of the month at all Library branches, Tea Club packages contain a sample for a perfect cup of tea, an information brochure and book recommendations! Pick up is first-come, first-served with a limit of one per person. **(Ages 18+)**

## Scan to Save Your Memories

### All Branches

Don't let your old photos get lost, faded, or damaged - scan, save, and share them as digital files and preserve your precious memories! **Email us at [adults@tbpl.ca](mailto:adults@tbpl.ca) to book an appointment.**

Please note that printing is NOT available.

## Spice Club

### All Branches

#### Third Wednesday of the Month

Available on the third Wednesday of the month at all Library branches, Spice Club packages contain a spice sample and an information brochure with recipes and book recommendations! Pick up is first-come, first-served with a limit of one per person. **(Ages 18+)**

## Retirement Explorers

### Mary JL Black Library

#### Friday, April 10 @ 1 – 2:30 pm

Retirement Explorers is a free program for retirees who love to learn, explore new ideas, engage in meaningful discussions, and connect with friends. This program is offered in partnership with the City of Thunder Bay Recreation and Culture Division. **(Ages 55+) Drop in.**



## Wit Knits

### Mary JL Black Library

#### Thursdays @ 1:30 – 3 pm April 2 – June 11

For new and experienced knitters aged 55+. We gather weekly to knit (and crochet). Share stories and laughs with fellow group members while you work. This program is offered in partnership with the City of Thunder Bay Recreation and Culture Division. **(Ages 55+) Drop in.**



## Superior Seed Producers

### Mary JL Black Library

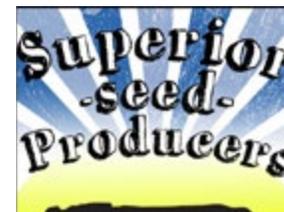
#### Monday, April 13 @ 6 – 7:30 pm

#### Monday, May 4 @ 6 – 7:30 pm

Superior Seed Producers is a collective of local Thunder Bay area growers who promote the saving and distribution of locally adapted, sustainably grown, open-pollinated non-GMO seeds in Northwestern Ontario, while educating and supporting those who want to learn more about saving seeds.

April session: cucurbits (cucumbers, melons, watermelons, squash, etc.)

May session: umbellifers (carrots, parsnips, dill, fennel, etc)  
**(Ages 18+) Drop in.**



## Chess Club

### Mary JL Black Library

#### Mondays @ 5 - 7:30 pm April 13 – June 29

Drop in to connect with other chess enthusiasts. Bring your own board or borrow one from the main desk! **(All ages) Drop in.**



# Adult Programming

## Introduction to Bird Watching presented by the Thunder Bay Field Naturalists

**Mary JL Black Library**  
**Wednesday, April 22 @ 6 pm**

Join us for this informative session on the basics of bird watching presented by Sam Krause of the Thunder Bay Field Naturalists.

**(Ages 18+) Drop in.**



Thunder Bay  
Field Naturalists

## Afternoon at the Movies

**Mary JL Black Library**  
**Friday, April 17 @ 1:30 pm**  
Singin' in the Rain

**Sunday, May 3 @ 1:30 pm**  
The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift

**Tuesday, June 30 @ 1:30 pm**  
The Mummy

Bring a friend or meet new ones for an afternoon watching a great film on the big screen! Light snacks provided; bring your own chair cushion for extra comfort.

**(Ages 18+) Drop in.**



## Canada Reads 2026: Your Pick!

**All Branches**  
**April 1 – 15**

We know which celebrities are championing this year's Canada Reads picks, but what's YOUR pick? Visit any Library branch between April 1-15 to vote for your favourite, plus enter a draw to win the Canada Reads 2026 shortlist book of your choice! **(Ages 12+)**



## Canada Reads Watch Party

**Mary JL Black Library**  
**Thursday, April 16 @ 5:30 pm**

Join us and the folks from CBC Radio to watch the final Canada Reads debate and see who will be crowned 2026's champion. Light refreshments will be provided. Admittance guaranteed to the first 50 attendees.

**(Ages 12+) Drop in.**

## Digital Skills for Older Adults

**Mary JL Black Library**  
**Tuesdays**

**1 – 2:30 pm**

**April 7 – June 23**

*(No program April 28)*

Technology changes fast, but you do not have to figure it out alone. This 10-session class helps adults of all skill levels build digital confidence. Whether you want to talk with family, manage your health, or fix a slow phone, we are here to help. **(Ages 18+) Drop in.**



## Getting the Most from Your Healthcare Appointment

**Presented  
by: NorWest  
Community  
Health Centres**



NorWest Community  
Health Centres  
Centres de santé  
communautaire NorWest

**Mary JL Black Library**  
**Monday, April 27 @ 6 pm**

Kevin Ng from NorWest Community Health Centres will be teaching tips and tricks to help you get the most out of your future healthcare appointments. **(Ages 18+) Drop in.**

# Adult Programming

## Seniors' Coffee Chat

Mary JL Black Library

Thursday, April 9 @ 10 am – 12 pm

Thursday, May 14 @ 10 am – 12 pm

Thursday, June 11 @ 10 am – 12 pm

Come socialize at our relaxed, welcoming Seniors' Coffee Chat in partnership with Age Friendly Thunder Bay. Meet new people, engage in crafts and activities, and learn about resources in the community. Refreshments are provided.

(Ages 55+)

Drop in.



Age Friendly  
THUNDER BAY



## Adult Colouring

County Park Library

Wednesday, April 15 @ 1:30 – 3 pm

Wednesday, April 29 @ 1:30 – 3 pm

Wednesday, May 13 @ 1:30 – 3 pm

Unwind. Colour. Repeat.

Join our adult colouring session. No pressure, no rules—just calming colours, creativity and good vibes.

(Ages 18+) Drop in.



## The TBPL Files: True Crime Edition

Mary JL Black

Wednesday, May 13

@ 6 – 7:30 pm

County Park Library

Thursday, May 14

@ 6 – 7:30 pm

Fraud, bootlegging, robberies, hijackings and murder! Thunder Bay has witnessed many interesting tales of crime. Come join us as we delve into two gripping crime narratives from our past. The same information is presented at each.

Due to the nature of this program, it is only offered to adults

(Ages 18+) Drop in.



## Writing Your Will presented by the Ontario Bar Association

Mary JL Black Library

Wednesday, April 15 @ 6 pm

Learn about the will-writing process and the importance of having end-of-life plans with lawyers from the Ontario Bar Association (OBA).

(Ages 18+) Drop in.



## Postcards From the Edge (of Town)\*

Mary JL Black OR Waverley Library

Tuesday, May 12 @ 6 – 7:30 pm

Registration: April 28 @ 9:30 am

Complete a postcard, make a penpal. Enjoy an evening of colouring and send your creation across town (to the library) for a blind penpal match!

(Ages 18+) Registration required.

## Evening at the Movies: Jaws

Mary JL Black Library

Wednesday, June 3 @ 5:45 pm

Join us for a special evening to watch a great film on the big screen! We'll be watching Jaws (1975, dir. Steven Spielberg). Light snacks provided; bring your own chair cushion for extra comfort.

(Ages 18+) Drop in.

# Adult Programming

## Apple Express\*

County Park Library @ 1:30 – 3 pm

Wednesday, April 22 (NOTES)

Registration: April 8 @ 9:30 am

Wednesday, May 6 (MAPS)

Registration: April 22 @ 9:30 am

Wednesday, May 20 (PHOTOS)

Registration: May 6 @ 9:30 am

Can't commit to a five-week how-to-use-your-device course? Try a topic-specific mini course instead! Learning how to use these apps will make your Apple experience more valuable. iPhone and iPads welcomed  
(Ages 18+) Registration required.

## iPhone for Beginners\*

County Park Library

@ 10 am – 12 pm

Wednesdays, April

15 – May 13

Registration: April 1

@ 9:30 am

New to iPhone and want to master the basics? This five-week course will help you feel confident with the technology in no time! This class is for Apple iPhone users only (no Android, no iPad).  
(Ages 18+) Registration required.



## Adult Book Bags\*

Biographies and Memoirs\*

All Branches

Pickup: April 23 – 27

Registration: April 9 @ 9:30 am

Deep dive into a different life through the wonderful world of biographies and memoirs! Select your book format and pickup branch and we'll prepare a book bag with a selection of books that match the monthly theme.

Asian Authors\*

All Branches

Pickup: May 21 – 25

Registration: May 7

@ 9:30 am

Embark on a new reading journey with this book bag featuring fiction and nonfiction written by Asian authors! Select your book format and pickup branch and we'll prepare a book bag with a selection of books that match the monthly theme.  
(Ages 18+) Registration required.



### HOW TO REGISTER

For events with an \* asterisk, registration begins at 9:30 am two weeks prior to the program date.

Online: [tbpl.ca/onlinecalendar](http://tbpl.ca/onlinecalendar), phone: 807-345-8275 or by visiting any Library branch.

## Wet Your Plants\*

Carrots\*

All Branches

Pickup: April 23 – 27

Registration: April 9 @ 9:30 am

Foster a love of gardening and register for Wet Your Plants! This carrots-themed kit for adults includes seeds, growing instructions, recipes, and activities.

Beans\*

All Branches

Pickup: May 21 – 25

Registration: May 7 @ 9:30 am

Foster a love of gardening and register for Wet Your Plants! This beans-themed kit for adults includes seeds, growing instructions, recipes, and activities.

Beets\*

All Branches

Pickup: June 18 – 21

Registration: June 4 @ 9:30 am

Foster a love of gardening and register for Wet Your Plants! This beets-themed kit for adults includes seeds, growing instructions, recipes, and activities.  
(Ages 18+) Registration required.



# Adult Programming

## Hockey Jersey Keychain Workshops\*

Mary JL Black Library  
Wednesday, April 8 @ 6 pm  
Saturday, April 11 @ 11 am  
Monday, April 13 @ 2 pm  
Registration: March 25 @ 9:30 am

Create a hockey jersey keychain inspired by Heated Rivalry (or your favourite NHL or PWHL team) using polymer clay! Please choose one workshop date to allow others to participate.  
**(Ages 18+) Registration required.**

## Making Miniature Insect Prints with the Thunder Bay Art Gallery\*

Mary JL Black Library  
Monday, May 11 @ 1:30 pm  
Registration: April 27 @ 9:30 am

Join the Thunder Bay Art Gallery for a free, fun, and welcoming art session. Celebrate the small wonders of spring and create a shareable work of art! In this workshop, we will carve up to two eraser stamps inspired by moths, monarchs, and more.  
**(Ages 18+) Registration required.**



## Thunder Bay Repair Cafe\*

Waverley Library  
Saturday, May 16  
@ 10 am – 1 pm  
Registration: May 2 @ 9:30 am

Toss it? No way! Do you have a broken household item? Our volunteer Fixers will show you how to fix it for free! We accept small appliances, electronics, clothes, jewelry, computers, and more.

\*\* Visit [tbayrepaircafe.org](http://tbayrepaircafe.org) to register.



## Puzzle Race\*

Waverley Library  
Tuesday, May 19 @ 5:30 – 7:30 pm  
Registration: May 5 @ 9:30 am

Do you fancy yourself a puzzle pro? Test your skills in a puzzle race! Sign up alone or as part of a team to compete in a timed competition and win a fun prize pack. **(Ages 18+) Registration required.**



## Clay Flower Frog Workshops\*

Mary JL Black Library  
Wednesday, May 13 @ 11 am  
Friday, May 15 @ 2 pm  
Wednesday, May 20 @ 6 pm  
Registration: April 22 @ 9:30 am

Explore floral design and make an air-dry clay flower frog! Please choose one workshop date to allow others to participate.  
**(Ages 18+) Registration required.**

## Puzzle Swap

Brodie Library  
Thursday, June 4 AND Friday, June 5  
10 am – 4:30 pm

It's time for a puzzle swap! During the month of May, drop your puzzle(s) off at any Library branch and receive a Puzzle Swap coupon for each puzzle. Then, join us on June 4 - 5 at Brodie Library to redeem your coupon(s) for a new-to-you puzzle! **(Ages 18+) Drop in.**

# Adult Programming

## Crochet Market Bag Workshop\*

Mary JL Black Library  
Sunday, May 24 @ 1:30 pm  
Registration: May 10 @ 9:30 am

Crochet a reusable market bag to take to the grocery store or farmer's market! This workshop is designed for experienced beginners- some crochet knowledge is required.

(Ages 18+)  
Registration required.



## iPad for Beginners\*

County Park Library  
@ 1:30 – 3:30 pm  
Wednesdays, May 27 – June 24  
Registration: May 13 @ 9:30 am



New to iPad and want to master the basics? This five-week course will help you feel confident with the technology in no time! This class is for Apple iPad users only (no Android, no iPhone).  
(Ages 18+) Registration required.

## Astrology and Painting Workshops\*

Mary JL Black Library  
Wednesday, June 10 @ 6 pm  
Sunday, June 14 @ 2 pm  
Thursday, June 18 @ 11 am  
Registration: May 27 @ 9:30 am

Interested in astrology? Learn about your star chart while making a watercolour galaxy painting. Please choose one workshop date to allow others to participate.

(Ages 18+) Registration required.



## Adult Summer Reading Club\*

All Branches  
Pickup: June 18 – 20, July 23 – 25, August 20 – 22  
Registration: June 4 @ 9:30 am

Let's get reading this summer! Register for the Adult Summer Reading Club and receive a themed book bag in each summer month, from June through August. Select your book format and pickup branch during registration and we'll do the rest!  
(Ages 18+) Registration required.

## Spelling Bee\*

Waverley Library  
Tuesday, June 16 @ 6 – 7:30 pm  
Registration: June 2 @ 9:30 am

Think you're smarter than autocorrect? Prove it at the Adult Spelling Bee. Whether you're a Scrabble enthusiast, grammar nerd, or just looking for a unique night out, join us for an evening that proves adulting doesn't have to be boring.  
(Ages 18+) Registration required.



## Spelling Bee Audience

Waverley Library  
Tuesday, June 16 @ 6 – 7:30 pm

Drop in to cheer on the spellers in friendly competition and feel glad you aren't the one having flashbacks to grade school. Light snacks and big laughs provided.  
(Ages 18+) Drop in.



# IKC Programming



## Hip-Hop in the North

**Mary JL Black Library**  
Tuesdays @ 5 – 7:30 pm  
April 7 – June 30

Learn to write and produce your own hip hop music with songwriting and beat production specialist Nolan Schmerk (AKA Solomon) at weekly drop-in workshops where you'll explore building beats, writing rhymes, sampling, deejaying, battling and more.  
**(All ages) Drop in.**



**Ontario**

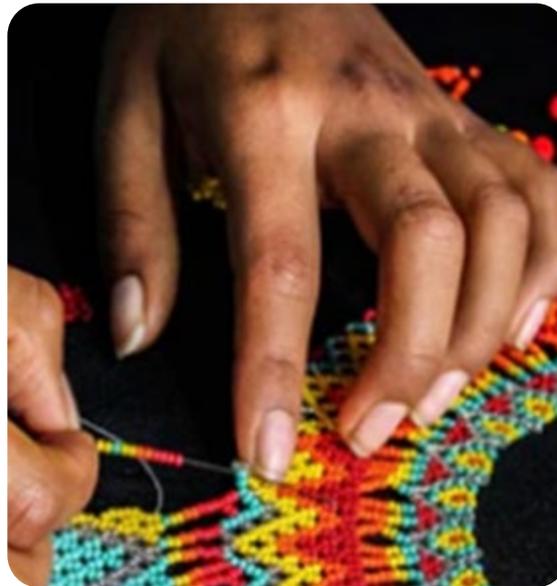


## Drop-In Beading

**Waverley Library**  
every second Thursday  
April 23 – June 18 @ 5:30 – 7:30 pm

**Brodie Library**  
every second Friday  
April 17 – June 26 @ 2 – 4 pm

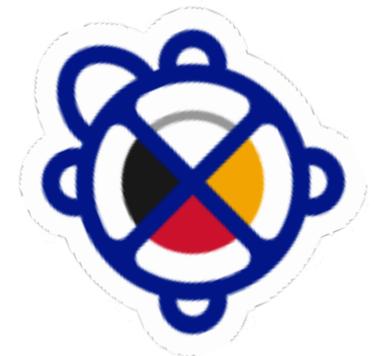
Join our inclusive drop-in beading program celebrating Indigenous artistry! All skill levels welcome—learn, share, and create beautiful beadwork rooted in tradition. Stay as long as you like; all materials provided. No experience needed! **(Ages 12+) Drop in.**



## Indigenous Paint Social\*

**Mary JL Black Library**  
Saturday, April 4 @ 2 – 4 pm  
Registration: March 21 @ 9:30 am

Join us for an inspiring Indigenous Paint Social, an afternoon of creativity, culture, and community. Guided by the Indigenous Facilitator, participants will explore traditional teachings, symbolism, and stories reflected through painting.  
**(All ages) Registration required.**



# IKC Programming



## Indigenous Author Series: Helen Knott\*

Waverley Library

Tuesday, May 5 @ 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Registration: April 21 @ 9:30 am

Thanks to the KM Hunter Foundation, The Thunder Bay Public Library is happy to bring in Helen Knott, who is a Dane Zaa and Nehiyaw (Cree) writer and activist from Treaty 8 territory. We are proud to host her as she reads from her acclaimed works, blending poetry, memoir, and advocacy on Indigenous rights, reconciliation, and healing.

**(Ages 12+) Registration required.**



In its third year of support, the K.M. Hunter Charitable Foundation continues to strengthen the Library's Indigenous Author Series, helping amplify Indigenous voices and stories across our community.

## Indigenous Author Series: Drew Hayden Taylor\*

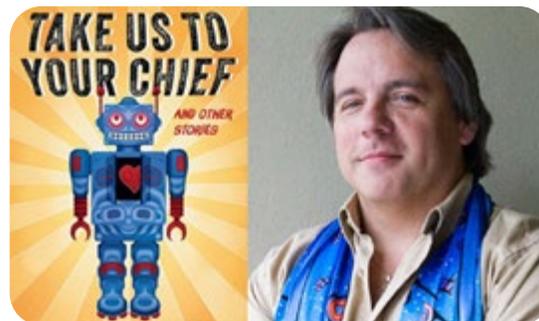
Waverley Library

Thursday, June 11 @ 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Registration: May 28 @ 9:30 am

Award-winning Anishinaabe author Drew Hayden Taylor brings humour and insight to stories of Indigenous life and identity. Thunder Bay Public Library is thrilled to host him for an engaging and inspiring literary event thanks to the KM Hunter Foundation.

**(Ages 12+) Registration required.**



### HOW TO REGISTER

For events with an \* asterisk, registration begins at 9:30 am two weeks prior to the program date.

Online: [tbpl.ca/onlinecalendar](http://tbpl.ca/onlinecalendar), phone: 807-345-8275 or by visiting any Library branch.



## NDN Book Club: Reading Our Way Home\*

Mary J.L. Black Library

Sunday, April 26 @ 2 – 4 pm

Saturday, June 27 @ 2 – 4 pm

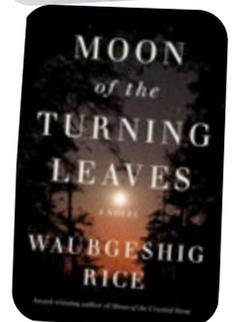
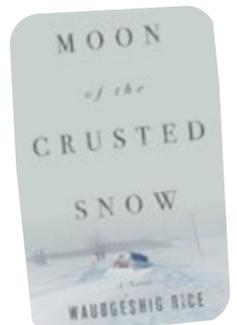
Registration: March 26 @ 9:30 am

Celebrate Indigenous voices and stories with us! The NDN book club is your space to read, share, and connect through Indigenous literature. Sign up and start your journey today.

April's book will be *Moon of the Crusted Snow* by Waubgeshig Rice

June's book will be the sequel, *Moon of the Turning Leaves* by Waubgeshig Rice

**(Ages 12+) Registration required.**



# Research

## Local History

Curious about the history of Thunder Bay, local businesses, schools, or even your house? Are you researching your family tree? The local history and genealogy collections at your Thunder Bay Public Library have been in development since the early 1900s.

The collections include everything from newspapers on microfilm (dating back to 1875), city directories, maps, rare books, and photographs. For more information, and to start browsing our local history collection, visit: [www.tbpl.ca/reference/local-history-and-genealogy](http://www.tbpl.ca/reference/local-history-and-genealogy)



## Family History 1:1s

### Brodie Library

Looking for some help with your family history research? The Brodie Library offers genealogical and local history resources to help you on your way! We offer personalized one-to-one sessions for anyone who would like assistance getting started with local history research, or perhaps deciding on the next steps in your quest. To set up a one hour session at the Brodie Library, please email [research@tbpl.ca](mailto:research@tbpl.ca) or phone the TBPL Research Department at (807) 345-8275 extension 4200

## Market Research

Starting or growing a business? Get FREE market research help at your library!

### Individual Market Research Help

Book a one-to-one research session and get help from knowledgeable library staff based on your unique business needs. Staff will help you navigate through our business databases and get the most out of the Library's resources.

### Market Research Workshops

Small group workshops are available for you and your fellow entrepreneurs. Learn about market research with your colleagues in an interactive setting.

For more information or to book a research session or workshop, email [research@tbpl.ca](mailto:research@tbpl.ca)



# Library Love

Thank you to everyone who chose to support TBPL in 2025. We are deeply grateful for each and every gift. While space does not allow us to list all of our generous donors, the following pages recognize those who contributed \$100 or more in 2025. We have made every effort to ensure accuracy and sincerely apologize for any errors or omissions.

\*Those names marked with an asterisk indicate our monthly donors.

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## Flying Off the Shelves!

- Did you know the Friends of the Library keep the airport's "Flybrary" stocked with free books for travellers? Volunteer Maria says it is "not hard work at all, it's a lot of fun," and she loves meeting the passengers, from a self-taught French learner heading north, to a mom visiting from India for the first time.
- With children's books and romance novels flying off the shelves, and even airport staff borrowing titles on their coffee breaks, the little bookshelf is a big hit. It is just one more way the Friends help stories take flight in our community.



# Library Love

## Bronze Donors

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## You never know what you'll find at the Friends Used Bookstore!

Visit us to browse through an always-changing selection of used books, audiobooks, DVDs, CDs, and vinyl, in every genre, for every age.

We also accept donations of lightly used books, textbooks, and media.

Visit [tbpl.ca/friends](http://tbpl.ca/friends) for more details on what we accept.



## Friends Used Bookstore Hours

Waverley Library, Main Level  
285 Red River Road

**Monday, Tuesday & Friday**  
10 am – 4 pm

**Wednesday & Thursday**  
10 am – 7 pm

**Saturday**  
11 am – 2 pm



# TICKETS START AT JUST \$10

## Play for your win-win story

Join the excitement of the Friends 50/50 Lottery! Thunder Bay residents are winning **life-changing jackpots** every month, and each ticket **supports children's literacy** initiatives at Thunder Bay Public Library.

Buy your tickets at any Thunder Bay Public Library Branch, at [friends5050.ca](https://friends5050.ca) or by scanning the QR code below with your phone's camera.

SCAN TO BUY



[friends5050.ca](https://friends5050.ca)



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