



Fall Back into Routine at Your Library

Back to school. Back to routines. Back to the Library. As a new school year begins, Thunder Bay Public Library is ready to help you settle into the season, and this issue of Connect is a great place to start.

Inside, you will find fall programs for every age and interest, and you will also find Library news worth knowing, including updates on the Waverley Library renovation, our municipal election coverage, and an invitation to celebrate Public Library Week with us.

There is no better time to get your first Library card, or dust off the one that has been hiding in your wallet for too long. Every program is free to attend, every card is free too, and you might be surprised by everything a Library card can do for you.

Take a look and try something new. This fall, make Thunder Bay Public Library part of your routine.

Check out the
FREE programs
at your Library!



8-13

Kids
Programming



14

YOUTH
Programming



15-20

Adult & Senior
Programming

Library Information

Hours of Operation

Waverley Library*

285 Red River Rd.

Monday – Thursday: 9:30 am – 8 pm

Friday – Saturday: 9:30 am – 5 pm

Sunday: 12:30 – 5 pm

Mary JL 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

*Waverley Library closes Monday, November 23 for renovation. See page 7 for more details.

†County Park Library hours will be expanding as of Monday, November 23. Stay tuned for details at tbpl.ca.

Full Day Closures (All Branches)

September 7 – Closed All Day

Labour Day

September 30 – Closed All Day

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

October 11 & 12 – Closed All Day

Thanksgiving

November 11 – Closed All Day

Remembrance Day

December 25-28 – Closed All Day

Holiday Closure

Half Day Closures

October 28 – Brodie Library

Branch OPEN 2 – 5 pm

October 29 – County Park Library

Branch OPEN 5 – 8 pm

October 30 – Waverley Library

Branch OPEN 2 – 5 pm

November 3 – Mary JL Black Library

Branch OPEN 2 – 8 pm

December 24 – All Branches*

Branches* OPEN 9:30 am – 1 pm

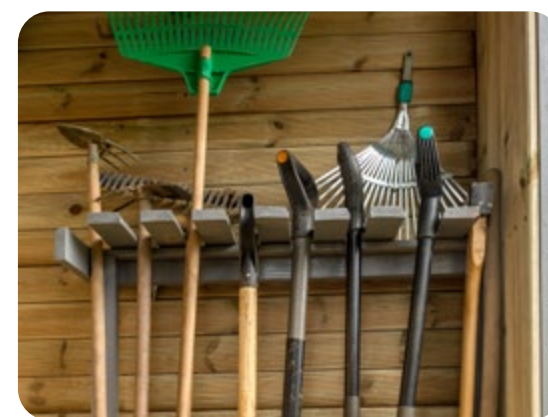
Garden Tools



Thunder Bay Public Library and Roots Community Food Centre have partnered to create Canada's very first Garden Tool Lending Library just for you! Our Garden Tool Sheds are located at the Brodie Library and the Waverley Library. Items borrowed from this collection are to be returned during opening hours to the location they were picked up from.

There's still time to finish your outdoor fall projects! **The Garden Tool Sheds are open until October 31.**

Be sure to come by and borrow some tools before the Sheds are closed for the season.



ROOTS
community food centre

From the desk of the Head Librarian



September brings a return to routine for many of us. At your Library, that looks like registration opening for Preschool Storytime and Tales for Twos, our knitting friends returning for Wit Knits, and a new session of Retirement Explorers. We are continuing to increase drop-in programming for families with Discovery Club at all branches, Game On! with the Interactive Projector at Mary JL Black and Waverley, and Play Day in the Waverley auditorium. Additionally, we have some exciting weekend and PA day programs for you. This fall brings back the YOUTH Action Council (we always take summers off!) and a variety of special programs for youth. Adults can look forward to craft programs, movies, and a special Waverley 75 whodunnit, among other programs.

All fall programming can be found broken down by children, youth, or adults and seniors in this issue of Connect.

This autumn also brings some change in our city and libraries. We have a municipal election and will be hosting election events for you to participate in. Within our libraries, Waverley's rejuvenation is no longer just a plan on paper. Waverley Library's last public day will be Sunday, November 22, and the branch will close on Monday, November 23 so that the work can begin.

What does this mean for you? Starting November 23, County Park Library will expand its hours to serve the north side while Waverley is closed. We are working now to find a home for every Waverley program that can move. In October we will share the full plans with you, the drawings, the layouts, the timeline, and what this building will become. You will find the closure dates on page 7, and we will keep tbpl.ca/waverley current as details are confirmed.

All of these changes will mean adjusting spaces and our collections. Through it all we remain committed to ensuring that you get the most out of your Library. We know how important access to library services and collections is for the community, and we take that responsibility very seriously. We also love to celebrate with you. Thank you to all of

you who joined us in celebrating 75 years of Waverley on August 1. We look forward to celebrating with you once again during Public Library Week. This year our "cake day" falls on Tuesday, October 20, and we invite you to join us for cake and refreshments from 10 am until 7 pm (or until we run out of cake).

However your September takes shape, whether that means new backpacks and school schedules or simply the return of familiar rhythms, we hope the Library is part of your routine this fall. Stop in, browse the shelves, join a program, or explore something new. We look forward to seeing you!

Ruth Hawlin-Douglas

Head Librarian

Ruth's Fall Reading List:

The Midnight Library by Matt Haig

Inkheart by Cornelia Funke

Matcha on Monday by Michiko Aoyama

The Book of Goose by Yiyun Li

Christmas Feasts and Treats

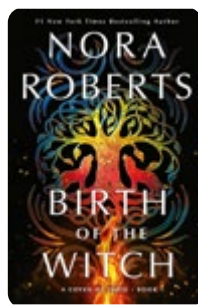
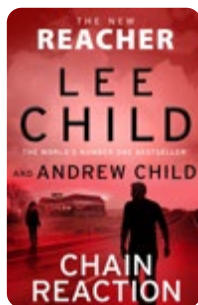
by Donna Hay



New & Notable

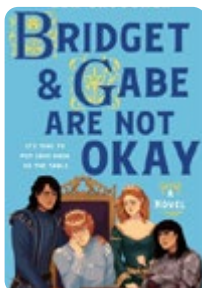
Adult

All In by David Baldacci
Chain Reaction by Lee Child
Face Last Seen by Jeffery Deaver
Hollywood, Ending by John Green
Other Worlds Than These
 by Stephen King
Brain Damage by Frieda McFadden
Birth of a Witch by Nora Roberts
Celebration by Danielle Steel



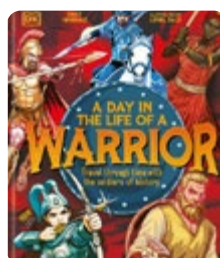
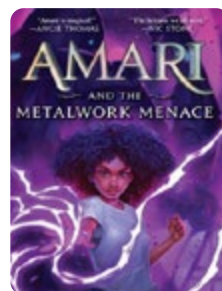
Youth

Bridget and Gabe Are Not Okay by Lex Croucher
Carnival Fantastico
 by Angela Montoya
Deathless by Julie Kagawa
The Gilded Blade
 by Jennifer Lynn Barnes
Gingerbread Bones
 by Lindsay Lovise
The Golden Huntress
 by Katherine Quinn
The Killing Rules
 by Bree Despain



Children

Pizza and Taco: Scariest Sleepover Ever!
 by Stephen Shaskan
Amari and the Metalwork Menace
 by B.B. Alston
Captain Underpants: The First Epic Manga
 by Dav Pilkey
Danny Go's Volcano Adventure!
 by Danny Go
A Day in the Life of a Warrior
 by Emily Hinsdale
A Day Off School by Oliver Jeffers



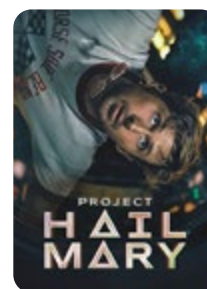
Adult Nonfiction

Mary's Comfort Classics: Food to Fill Your Plate by Mary Berg
Plot Twist: Life, Craft, and the Messy First Draft by Harlan Coben
Devil on My Shoulder by Alice Cooper
Is It Too Late to Make a Run for It?
 by Judi Dench
Simply Ina: A Barefoot Contessa Cookbook by Ina Garten
Here for Canada by Stephen J. Harper



DVDs

The Devil Wears Prada 2 The Drama
Kiss of the Spider Woman
Michael
Mother Mary
Obsession
Project Hail Mary
Star Wars: The Mandalorian and Grogu
The Sheep Detectives



Get More @ TBPL

Memory Kits at TBPL

The kits were assembled by Library staff and are designed for people living with dementia to enjoy together with their families, friends, and caregivers.

Each kit brings together items meant to engage the mind and hands in meaningful activity, helping to exercise fine motor skills, encourage social connection, and keep the brain active. Kits may include books, plush animals with sound, fidget items, reusable painting activities, word games, matching activities, and puzzles.

Head to tbpl.ca/memorykits to see the kit themes and place a hold today!

Say HELLO to YOTO!

Yoto readers are small audiobook players designed for kids to use on their own. Pop in a card, press play, and the story begins. No screens, no ads, and no setup.

The Library has 10 Yoto readers available to borrow, each with its own set of story cards. Extra card sets circulate separately, so you can keep the stories coming.

Search “Yoto” at tbpl.ca to place a hold, or ask at any branch.



No “Boring Games” Here!

Our Board Game collection contains over 80 board games to borrow and play anytime! Whether you’re looking for a two-player game, something for the kids, or a game fit for a party, our Board Game collection is always available!



More Than Books!

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

Visit: tbpl.ca/things

More Thunder Bay Attractions to Enjoy

Fort William Historical Park Family Passes



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.

Thunder Bay Art Gallery



Enjoy free admission for four people to a gallery known for its collection of contemporary Indigenous art and its rotating exhibitions by regional artists.

Ontario Parks Passes

Enjoy free day use of beautiful Ontario Parks, including Sleeping Giant Provincial Park.



Lakehead Region Conservation Authority EXPLORE Pass

Check out a Lakehead Region Conservation Authority EXPLORE Pass from our collection and enjoy free day use of any of their ten Conservation Areas, including Cascades and MacKenzie Point.



Arts & Culture



Ontario Public Library Week

October 18 – 24

This October, Thunder Bay Public Library joins libraries across the province for Ontario Public Library Week.

This year's theme is Loud for Libraries. Coordinated by the Ontario Library Association, the week is part of Canadian Library Month, a province-wide celebration of what public libraries make possible. The theme pushes back on the idea that libraries are quiet, passive spaces. Thunder Bay Public Library is a place for conversation, creativity, learning, and connection, built by the community who uses it every day.

We are marking the week with Member Appreciation Day on Tuesday, October 20.



Member Appreciation Day

Tuesday, October 20, 10 am – 7 pm
All branches

Drop in at your favourite branch (or visit them all for more fun) to celebrate Public Libraries Week and see what's new. Pick up some Library swag, enter to win prizes from nearby businesses, and enjoy a slice of cake with us (while supplies last!)



See Spectacular Shows with your Library Card!

Register to win on our website for a chance to attend.

Tickets will be available to a variety of shows hosted by our friends at the **Thunder Bay Community Auditorium**, including Sass Jordan and Sabaton! Learn more at tbpl.ca/tbca.

Starting in October, we'll be drawing for tickets to performances of the **Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra** in the Family, Masterworks, Pops, Voices, and Classical Plus series. Visit tbpl.ca/tbso for more information.



See You Under the Lights!

Join us **Friday, September 18 at 6 pm** in the Baggage Arts Building as we help the City of Thunder Bay kick off Culture Days with the Under the Lights Literary Stage, featuring readings from local authors.



2026 Municipal Election Events

This fall, the Library is hosting free public events where you can meet and hear from the candidates in Thunder Bay's municipal election: panels for ward candidates, an at-large candidates' meet & greet, and a mayoral forum.

Ward Candidate Panels will be scheduled between September 15 - 24.

At Large Candidates' Meet & Greet to be held Wednesday, October 14

Mayoral Candidates' Forum to be held Thursday, October 15

Dates to be confirmed by September 1. Visit our website at tbpl.ca/election for the most up to date information.



Waverley at



A building the city grew into

In 1951, the Port Arthur Public Library moved into a brand-new building at 285 Red River Road. With its cream stone entrance and clean Art Moderne lines, the building that would become Waverley Library was a point of civic pride, built for a city that was growing fast.

The library of that era looked different than it does today. Patrons browsed card catalogues, borrowed books from quiet reading rooms, and asked reference questions at the desk. And they came in numbers. By the 1970s, demand had outgrown the building, and in 1974 a major addition was constructed to serve a public that kept asking for more.

2026 marks 75 years in the building, and 150 years of library service in Port Arthur. Few places in Thunder Bay hold that much shared history, connection, and community.

On August 1, more than 1,000 community members celebrated Waverley Library's 75th birthday with us. Families bounced, played, shared pizza and cake, and helped us seal a time capsule filled with memories for a future generation to open.



Waverley is ready for its next chapter

No major renovations have been made since the 1974 addition, and the building is showing its age, including structural issues with the foundation that need to be addressed. What patrons need from their Library has also changed. Today's Waverley Library hosts storytimes, STEM programs, digital services, and community gatherings that the builders of 1951 could never have imagined. The building needs to catch up to what our patrons need today, and in the future.

Work is underway to reimagine Waverley Library for the decades ahead. Plans include a fully accessible entrance built around a restored original 1951 entryway, an elevator retrofit, and a ground floor dedicated entirely to children and families.

The Children's Library will expand to more than double its current size, becoming

the largest dedicated children's library in Ontario. The revitalized space will offer bright, inclusive areas for active play, quiet reading, storytimes, family learning, and expanded collections. Indigeneity will be woven into the design of the entire building, supporting our commitment to truth and reconciliation.



What happens next

Waverley Library's last public day is Sunday, November 22. **The branch closes Monday, November 23.**

Because of the scale of the work, Waverley will be closed for the full renovation, which is expected to finish in 2028.

Starting November 23, County Park Library will expand its hours while Waverley is closed. We are working to find a home for every Waverley program that can move into County Park's programming spaces.

We will share the full renovation plan with the community in October. Visit tbpl.ca/waverley for updates as more details are confirmed.

Kids Programming

Family Storytime

Mary JL Black Library
Tuesdays @ 10:30 am
September 1 – December 22
No program Nov 3

Brodie Library
Thursdays @ 10:30 am
September 3 – December 17

Waverley Library
Fridays @ 9:30 am
September 4 – November 20
No program Oct 30

County Park Library
Wednesdays @ 10 am
September 2 – December 23
No program Sept 30, Nov 11

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. Craft and free play to follow. **(All ages) Drop in.**

Discovery Club

All Branches
Open during branch hours

Drop in to play with our collection of toys and activities that foster creativity, problem solving, and curiosity at our Discovery Clubs. Toys and activities vary by branch. **(Ages 4+) Drop in.**



Baby and Me Storytime

County Park Library
Mondays @ 11:15 am
September 14 – December 21
No program Oct 12

Mary JL Black Library
Wednesdays @ 11:15 am AND 1:30 pm
September 2 – December 16
October 28: Hallowe'en Party! Costumes encouraged and light snacks will be provided.
No program Sept 30, Nov 11

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

Chess Club

Mary JL Black Library
Mondays @ 5 – 7:30 pm
September 14 – December 21
No program Oct 12

Join local chess enthusiasts for a welcoming, low-pressure drop-in Chess Club. Improve your concentration and problem-solving skills while enjoying friendly games with other players. All ages and skill levels; boards provided. **(All ages) Drop in.**



Game On! with the Interactive Projector

Mary JL Black Library
Tuesdays @ 12 – 7:45 pm
Thursdays @ 4:30 – 7:45 pm
Fridays @ 9:30 am – 4:45 pm
Saturdays @ 9:30 am – 4:45 pm
Sundays @ 12:30 – 4:45 pm
September 1 – December 31
Program starts at 2 pm on Nov 3.
No program Sept 6, Oct 11, Dec 25-28.

Waverley Library
Mondays @ 10 am – 4 pm
Thursdays @ 10 am – 4 pm
Fridays @ 10 am – 4 pm
Saturdays @ 10 am – 4 pm
Sundays @ 12:30 – 4 pm
September 3 – November 22
Program ends at 12 pm on Sept 10, Nov 12.
No program Sept 6, Sept 7, Oct 11, Oct 12, Oct 26, Oct 30

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.**



Kids Programming

Play Day

Waverley Library

Mondays @ 10 am – 4 pm

Thursdays @ 10 am – 4 pm

Fridays @ 10 am – 4 pm

Saturdays @ 10 am – 4 pm

Sundays @ 12:30 – 4 pm

September 3 – November 22

Program ends at 12 pm on Sept 10, Nov 12.

No program Sept 6, Sept 7, Oct 11, Oct 12, Oct 26, Oct 30

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.



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,
phone: (807) 345-8275 or by visiting
any Library branch.

Preschool Storytime*

Waverley Library

Wednesdays @ 10:30 am

October 7 – November 18

Registration Opens:

September 23 @ 9:30 am

No program Nov 11

Mary JL Black Library

Mondays @ 10:30 am

October 5 – November 30

Registration Opens: September 21 @ 9:30 am

No program Oct 12

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.

Ms. Rachel Storytime

Waverley Library

Tuesday, September 22 @ 10:30 am

Let's celebrate Ms. Rachel with a special storytime featuring her favourite songs, rhymes, and activities! **(All ages) Drop in.**



Tales for Twos*

Waverley Library

Tuesdays @ 10:30 am

September 29 – November 17

Registration Opens: September 15 @ 9:30 am

Mary JL Black Library

Wednesdays @ 10:30 am

October 7 – November 25

Registration Opens: September 23 @ 9:30 am

No program Nov 11

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.

(Age 2) Registration required.

Kids Programming

Baby Café

Waverley Library

Thursday, September 10 @ 1:30 pm

Thursday, November 12 @ 1:30 pm

Babies 0-24 months and their grown-ups can enjoy this cozy fall afternoon filled with songs, lap rhymes, and bounces, a parachute and seasonal baby print. After circle time, settle in with a warm cup of coffee or tea and a light snack while little ones explore our baby friendly playroom. It's the perfect way to bond with your baby this fall while finding community with other families.

(Ages 0 – 24 months) Drop in.



Baby Prints

Brodie Library

Thursday, October 22 @ 1:30 pm

Thursday, December 17 @ 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.

Family Movies

Mary JL Black Library

Monday, September 14 @ 5:30 pm

Matilda

Sunday, September 20 @ 12:30 pm

Hoppers

Monday, October 5 @ 5:30 pm

Goosebumps

Saturday, October 17 @ 11:30 am

Frankenweenie

Monday, October 19 @ 5:30 pm

Angels in the Outfield

Saturday, November 28 @ 11:30 am

Anne with an E (Season 1, Episode 1)

Sunday, December 20 @ 12:30 pm

The Muppet Christmas Carol

Join us for a free screening of a family-friendly movie and a simple craft! Light snack provided. *Allergy alert*

(All ages) Drop in.



Things That Go Kit*

All Branches

Pickup: September 24 – 28

Registration Opens: September 3 @ 9:30 am

Planes, trains, and automobiles! Bicycles, rockets, and all things with wheels! This kit is about all things that go! Kits contain books (signed out on your Library card), a craft, and other fun activities!

(Ages 2 – 12) Registration required.



Nintendo Night

Mary JL Black Library

Thursday, September 24 @ 6 pm

Thursday, October 8 @ 6 pm

Thursday, October 22 @ 6 pm

Thursday, November 26 @ 6 pm

Thursday, December 10 @ 6 pm

Drop in for co-op video game fun on the big screen! Test your racing skills in Mario Kart, challenge your friends to a game of Mario Party, or try your hand at a new sport with Nintendo Switch Sports. *Allergy Alert* **(All ages) Drop in.**

Kids Programming

My First Pen Pal*

All Branches

Monday, September 28 @ all day

Registration Opens: September 14 @ 9:30 am

Start grade 1 off by making a new friend at the Library! Practise your reading and writing skills while answering questions, sharing stories, drawing pictures, and so much more! Children will receive up to three personalized letters in the mail from their TBPL pen pal. Parents/guardians are responsible for the initial pickup as well as returning student letters to the Library. Limited space available.

(Grade 1) Registration required.



Staff Favourites Kit for Kids*

All Branches

Pickup: October 22 – 26

Registration Opens: October 8 @ 9:30 am

Ever wonder what Library staff like to read? Sign up to find out! Rate our favourite books; are they the same as yours? Create a story of your own, and share it with us. Each kit will contain Staff Favourite books and activity sheets.

(Ages 4 – 12) Registration required.



Core Concepts Kit*

All Branches

Pickup: October 22 – 26

Registration Opens: October 1 @ 9:30 am

It's never too early to introduce core concepts like ABC, 123, colours, and more! Each kit will include books (signed out on your Library card), activities, and a craft all about core concepts!

(Ages 1 – 6) Registration required.



Trick or Treating in the Library

Waverley Library

Saturday, October 31 @ 10 am – 2 pm

Get an early start to trick-or-treating fun this Hallowe'en! Come to the Library dressed in your costume, and visit the staff for some special treats. While supplies last. (All ages) Drop in.

Go with Danny Go! Hallowe'en Edition

Mary JL Black Library

Saturday, October 10 @ 2:30 pm

Watch iconic Danny Go! Hallowe'en videos on our big screen and dance along 'til you drop! Danny Go! is a musical "brain break" star watched in schools and daycares everywhere to get kids (and adults) moving. (All ages) Drop in.

Monster Mash

Mary JL Black Library

Saturday, October 31 @ 2:30 pm

Put on your Hallowe'en costume and come shake your bones at our Monster Mash dance party! Light snacks will be provided. *Allergy Alert* (All ages) Drop in.

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, phone: (807) 345-8275 or by visiting any Library branch.

Kids Programming

PA DAY YAY!



Window Painting

County Park Library
Monday, October 26
@ 10 am

Drop in for a story and go wild painting our big windows. Let your creative self have some fun! **(All ages) Drop in.**

PA DAY Movie: Hocus Pocus

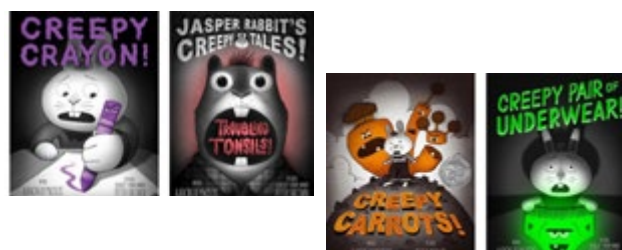
Mary JL Black Library
Monday, October 26 @ 5:30 pm

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

Rocks Rock!

Mary JL Black Library
Monday, October 26 @ 10:30 am

Come learn about local geology with the Ontario Geological Survey's Resident Geologist Program! Check out some magnificent minerals and bring your rock collection with you for identification! **(All ages) Drop in.**



Creepy Hallowe'en Party

Waverley Library
Monday, October 26 @ 2 pm

Creepy Carrots, Creepy Crayons, Creepy...Underwear?!? Wear your Hallowe'en costume and come join us for all things CREEPY at this extra special Hallowe'en party, with crafts and activities based on the very entertaining Jasper Rabbit books. Let's get creepy! While supplies last. **(All ages) Drop in.**

Countdown Calendar Craft for Kids*

County Park Library
Friday, November 27 @ 10 am, 12 pm, or 2 pm (choose one)
Registration Opens: November 13 @ 9:30 am

Make waiting for your favourite holiday more exciting by creating a 12-day countdown calendar with treats and goodies for each day! *Allergy Alert* **(Ages 4+) Registration required.**

Cardboard Creations

Mary JL Black Library
Friday, November 27 @ 2:30 pm

Design your cardboard creations and bring them to life with our Chompsaw, a kid-safe power tool for cutting cardboard! Create anything, from medieval castles to pirate ships to space helmets! Feel free to bring recycled materials from home. **(All ages) Drop in.**



Kids Programming

Mz. Molly & Friendz

Waverley Library

Saturday, November 14 @ 2:30 pm

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

Jungle Kits for Kids*

All Open Branches

Pickup: November 26 – 30

Registration Opens: November 5

@ 9:30 am



In the jungle...the lion sleeps tonight! ... and so do monkeys, snakes, and other animals! Take out a Jungle Kit for Kids and receive books (signed out on your Library card), activities and a craft all about the jungle!

(Ages 4 – 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, phone: (807) 345-8275 or by visiting any Library branch.

Tecky Brains: Save the Cats! Video Game Design with Scratch*

Waverley Library

Saturday, September 26 @ 10 am – 12 pm

Registration Opens: September 12 @ 9:30 am

Design your own fun rescue game while learning coding, game logic, and creative problem-solving.

(All ages) Registration required.

Tecky Brains: Hallowe'en Piñata: Scratch Animation*

Waverley Library

Saturday, October 31 @ 10 am – 12 pm

Registration Opens: October 17 @ 9:30 am

Create a spooky Hallowe'en piñata that swings, reacts when it is hit, and eventually reveals a surprise. Students will learn coding, animation, events, and creative problem-solving.

(All ages) Registration required.



Tecky Brains: Target Practice: Introduction to Python*

County Park Library

Saturday, November 28 @ 10 am – 12 pm

Registration Opens: November 14 @ 9:30 am

Level 1: Use Python to draw a target and score points by hitting it with arrows. Students will learn basic Python coding while creating their own interactive game. **(All ages) Registration required.**

Tecky Brains: Make a Face: Creative Design with Python*

County Park Library

Saturday, December 12 @ 10 am – 12 pm

Registration Opens: November 28 @ 9:30 am

Level 2: Use Python and geometric shapes to create a unique face or mask while learning about shapes, coordinates, layering, and creative coding. **(All ages) Registration required.**

YOUTH Programming

Hip Hop in the North

Mary JL Black Library
Tuesdays @ 5:30 – 7:30 pm
September 8 – December 15

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.

YOUTH Knitters

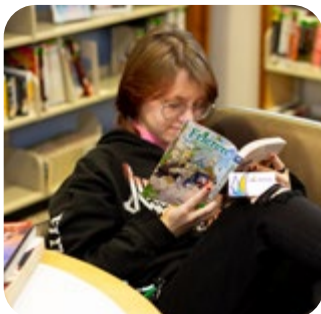
Knit or crochet hats or scarves for those experiencing homelessness and get volunteer hours. Knit a hat and earn two hours. Knit a scarf and earn three.

Sign up for the fall session at tbpl.ca/youth (Grades 7 – 12)

YOUTH Review

Help your fellow readers by writing reviews of the books, or movies you love (or hate) for community service hours. For each review, you can earn up to four volunteer hours! Reviews are posted to our blog.

Sign up for the fall session at tbpl.ca/youth (Grades 7 – 12)



YOUTH Action Council (YAC)*

Mary JL Black Library
Thursday, October 1 @ 6 pm
Thursday, November 5 @ 6 pm
Thursday, December 3 @ 6 pm

Returning this fall! 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 tbpl.ca/youth to learn more and sign up.
(Grades 7 – 12) Registration required.



Moonlit Masterpieces

Mary JL Black Library
Thursday, October 15 @ 6 pm

Join us for a frightful evening creating spooky masterpieces! Light snacks will be provided. *Allergy Alert*
(Grades 7 – 12) Drop in.

Trivia Quest*

Mary JL Black Library
Thursday, November 19 @ 6 pm
Registration Opens: November 5 @ 9:30 am

Are you smarter than a fifth grader? Grab your friends and embark on a side quest to become trivia champions! Light snacks will be provided. *Allergy Alert*
(Grades 7 – 12) Registration required.



Snowed In Kit for YOUTH*

All Open Branches
Pickup: November 30 – December 7
Registration Opens: November 9 @ 9:30 am

Winter is coming, so settle in with books of your chosen genre! Register for a Snowed In Kit and get 3-4 Library titles signed out on your Library card, along with a craft and activity.

(Ages 13+) Registration required.

DIY Tree Ornaments

Mary JL Black Library
Thursday, December 17 @ 6 pm

Create a unique clay ornament to hang on your tree or in your room! Light snacks will be provided. *Allergy Alert*
(Grades 7 – 12) Drop in.

Adult Programming

Spice Club

All Open 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+)**

Scan to Save Your Memories

All Open 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 to book an appointment.**



Please note that printing is NOT available.

Tea Club

All Open Branches
Last Wednesday of the Month
No program Sept 30

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+)**

Puzzle with Podcasts

County Park Library
Wednesday, September 16 @ 10 – 11:30 am
Wednesday, October 28 @ 10 – 11:30 am
Calling all puzzling enthusiasts! Let's work together on a 2,000-piece jigsaw puzzle as we listen to top podcasts on different topics. Light snacks provided.
(Ages 18+) Drop in.



Chess Club

Mary JL Black Library
Mondays @ 5 – 7:30 pm
September 14 – December 21
No program Oct 12

Join local chess enthusiasts for a welcoming, low-pressure drop-in Chess Club. Improve your concentration and problem-solving skills while enjoying friendly games with other players.
All ages and skill levels; boards provided.
(All ages) Drop in.



Seniors' Tech Time

County Park Library
Wednesday, September 9 @ 1:30 – 3 pm
Wednesday, September 16 @ 1:30 – 3 pm
Wednesday, September 23 @ 1:30 – 3 pm
Drop in help with your iPhone or iPad. Remember to BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) and learn how to make your device work for you. **(Ages 18+) Drop in.**

Afternoon at the Movies

Mary JL Black Library

Saturday, September 5 @ 1:30 pm
Star Wars: The Force Awakens
Tuesday, September 29 @ 1:30 pm
Knives Out

Tuesday, October 6 @ 1:30 pm
Dead Poets Society
Tuesday, October 20 @ 1:30 pm
Jurassic World: Rebirth

Saturday, November 7 @ 1:30 pm
The Hunger Games

Tuesday, November 24 @ 1:30 pm
The Monuments Men

Tuesday, December 15 @ 1:30 pm
Cool Runnings

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.

Adult Programming

Seniors' Coffee Chat

Mary JL Black Library
Thursday, September 10 @ 10 am – 12 pm
Thursday, October 8 @ 10 am – 12 pm
Thursday, November 12 @ 10 am – 12 pm
Thursday, December 10 @ 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

Seniors' Tea Time

County Park Library
Thursday, September 24 @ 1 – 3 pm
Thursday, October 22 @ 1 – 3 pm
Thursday, November 26 @ 1 – 3 pm
Spend a relaxed afternoon at Seniors' Tea Time. In partnership with Age Friendly Thunder Bay, adults 55+ can connect over tea and light snacks while enjoying conversation, crafts, puzzles, and games.
(Ages 55+) Drop in.

Retirement Explorers

Mary JL Black Library
Fridays @ 1 – 2:30 pm
September 25 – December 11
No program Nov 27

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 – 3 pm
September 10 – December 17

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.

Getting the Most out of Your Health Care Appointment

Waverley Library
Wednesday, September 23 @ 5 – 6:30 pm
Designed to make every minute count, this brief session equips you with strategies to prepare for medical visits and ask the right questions. You will leave with the skills to partner effectively with your healthcare provider, ensuring you get the answers and care you need.
(Ages 18+) Drop in.

Digital Skills for Older Adults

County Park Library
Tuesdays @ 1 – 2:30 pm
September 8 – November 17
No program Oct 27

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 55+) Drop in.



NorWest Community
Health Centres
Centres de santé
communautaire NorWest



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,
phone: (807) 345-8275 or by visiting any Library branch.

Adult Programming

80s Murder Mystery Game*

Waverley Library

Tuesday, September 15 @ 6 – 7:30 pm

Registration Opens: September 1 @ 9:30 am

Tuesday, November 17 @ 6 – 7:30 pm

Registration Opens: November 3 @ 9:30 am

You're invited to an awesome 80s murder mystery! Work together with other participants to deduce the killer in 1980s Hollywood.

(Ages 18+) Registration required.

Book Bedazzling*

County Park Library

Wednesday, September

23 @ 10 – 11:30 am

Registration Opens:

September 9 @ 9:30 am

Wednesday, October 21

@ 10 – 11:30 am

Registration Opens:

October 7 @ 9:30 am



Bring your favourite book cover to life with dazzling jewels. We provide the rhinestones, you bring the book! Learn how with the provided tools and add some sparkle to your shelf. Please note that within the timeframe of this program, most people only complete the main title or part of the cover image.

You may register for a second session to complete your cover.

(Ages 18+) Registration required.

Evening at the Movies

Mary JL Black Library

Wednesday, September 9 @ 5:45 pm

This Is It

Wednesday, October 14 @ 5:45 pm

Signs

Wednesday, December 9 @ 5:45 pm

Fargo

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

(Ages 18+) Drop in.

Practical Magic Party: A Witchy Gathering for Adults*

Mary JL Black Library

Saturday, September 26 @ 2 pm

Registration Opens: September 12 @ 9:30 am

It's the season of the witch! Learn the basics of Tarot, practise tea leaf reading, and make runestones, all in one witchy afternoon. Light refreshments will be provided.

(Ages 18+) Registration required.



Shut Up and Write!



Mary JL Black
Library

Monday, September 14 @ 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Monday, October 5 @ 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Monday, November 2 @ 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Monday, December 7 @ 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Shut Up and Write! is a monthly session for writers to come together and write. Each session involves a couple of exercises aimed at helping writers to strengthen their creative muscles, with a bit of discussion of writing craft.

(Ages 18+) Drop in.

Autumn Foliage Painting Workshops*

Mary JL Black Library

Wednesday, September 16 @ 6 pm

Monday, September 21 @ 2 pm

Tuesday, September 22 @ 2 pm

Registration Opens: September 2 @ 9:30 am

Celebrate the start of autumn and make an autumn foliage painting using acrylic paints and Q-Tips!



All workshops are identical, so kindly register for only one to allow others the opportunity to attend.

(Ages 18+) Registration required.

Adult Programming

Thunder Bay Repair Café**



Mary JL Black
Library

Saturday, September 19 @ 10 am – 1 pm
Registration Opens: September 5 @ 9:30 am

Waverley Library

Saturday, November 21 @ 10 am – 1 pm
Registration Opens: November 7 @ 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, jewellery, computers, and more.

**** Visit tbayrepaircafe.org to register.**

Ambulance Visit for Seniors

Mary JL Black Library
Thursday, September 24
@ 3:30 – 4:30 pm

Medical emergencies can be scary and stressful. Join us for an ambulance visit to get familiar with the vehicle, ask questions, and learn about community resources for seniors. Caregivers and other adults are welcome to attend!
(Ages 18+) Drop in.



Oil Pastel Landscapes with the Thunder Bay Art Gallery*



THUNDER BAY
ART GALLERY

Mary JL Black Library
Monday, October 19 @ 1:30 pm
Registration Opens: October 5 @ 9:30 am

Join the Thunder Bay Art Gallery for a free, fun, and welcoming art session. Explore oil pastels while learning about Canadian landscape art history. Practise observation, colour matching, and layering techniques to recreate familiar natural scenes.

(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,
phone: (807) 345-8275 or by visiting any Library branch.

Learn How to Do Market Research*

Mary JL Black Library
Tuesday, October 27 @ 1 – 2 pm
Registration Opens: October 13 @ 9:30 am

Whether you're starting a new business or looking to expand a current business, join us to learn how to use our business databases to gather demographic data on customers, insights into other businesses, and so much more. These databases can help inform your business plan, grant or loan applications, and future business development.

This workshop is ideal for entrepreneurs who are working on their first business plan or are looking to expand an existing business.

(Ages 18+) Registration required.

iPhone for Beginners*

County Park Library
Wednesdays @ 1:30 – 3:30 pm
October 21 – November 25
Registration Opens: October 7 @ 9:30 am
No program Nov 11

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 Programming

Cookbook Club: Fall 2026

Mary JL Black Library
Wednesdays @ 5:30 pm
September 23, October 28,
November 25, December 30
Registration Closed. Refer to p.20 for
Winter Registration Dates.

Join us for our monthly Cookbook Club!
Register and pick up a cookbook on that
month's theme. Try a few of the recipes
and share your review at our meeting!
Light refreshments will be served.
(Ages 18+) Registration required.

Embroidered Tea Bag Bookmark Workshops*

Mary JL Black Library
Tuesday, November 17 @ 2 pm
Wednesday, November 18 @ 6 pm
Thursday, November 19 @ 11 am
Registration Opens: November 3 @ 9:30 am

Embroider the
perfect tea-inspired
bookmark to use
with your next cozy
read!

All workshops are
identical, so kindly
register for only
one to allow others
the opportunity to
attend.

(Ages 18+) Registration required.



Booked by Betrayal

Waverley Library
Friday, October 23 @ 7 pm
Doors open at 6:30 pm



Continuing our year-long
celebration of Waverley's 75th Birthday,
the Research Department is marking the
milestone with a production that is part
history lesson, part murder mystery.

Here is the catch: the history is real, the
crime is not. Woven through the true story
of the building is a fictional whodunnit
involving the cast of a long-running soap
opera, "Booked by Betrayal," and a jewel
theft that takes place soon after the
Library officially opened in 1951. As the
building's history unfolds, the clues start
piling up. What does the soap opera cast
have to do with the theft? That is for the
audience to figure out.

Join us after hours for an evening of real
history and invented crime, with 75 years
of Waverley Library setting the stage.

Doors open at 6:30 pm and the
program begins at 7 pm. Admission is
guaranteed to the
first 140 people.
This program is
free to attend. No
registration required.
(Ages 18+) Drop in.



Backyard Bird Watching with Sam Krause

Mary JL Black Library
Wednesday, October 21 @ 6 pm

Join Sam Krause, a tropical ecologist,
to learn tips and tricks about how to
become a master birdwatcher from your
backyard! (Ages 18+) Drop in.

YQT Mingle*

Waverley
Tuesday, October 27
@ 6 – 7:30 pm
Registration Opens:
October 10 @ 9:30 am



Are you tired of swiping on dating apps?
Do you crave a real connection with a
real person over real topics? The first
step will be mingling! Join YQT Mingle
and come out and mingle like you mean
it! The best part: if it works out with
you and the other person, you can tell
everyone you met at the Library!
(Ages 18+) Registration required.

Adult Programming



Mini Book Ornament*

County Park Library

Wednesday, November 18 @ 10 – 11:30 am

Wednesday, November 25 @ 10 – 11:30 am

Registration Opens: November 4 @ 9:30 am

Create a charming ornament featuring your top 2026 reads or favourite holiday classics!

All workshops are identical, so kindly register for only one to allow others the opportunity to attend.

(Ages 18+) Registration required.



Cookbook Club: Winter 2027*

Mary JL Black Library

Wednesdays @ 5:30 pm

January 27, February 24, March 31

Registration Opens: December 3 @ 9:30 am

Join us for our monthly Cookbook Club! Register and pick up a cookbook on that month's theme. Try a few of the recipes and share your review at our meeting! Light refreshments will be served. (Ages 18+) Registration required.



Calling All Cooks!

- Head to tbpl.ca/cooks for all of TBPL's food related content, including past brochures of both Spice Club and Tea Club. Also, find staff book lists created for culinary inspiration!



Adult Winter Reading Club*

All Open Branches

Pickup: December 17 – 21;

January 21 – 25; February 18 – 22

Registration Opens: November 30 @ 9:30 am

Cozy up with a good book this winter!

Register for the Adult Winter Reading Club and receive a themed book bag each month, from December

2026 through February 2027. Select your book format and pickup branch during registration and we'll do the rest!

(Ages 18+) Registration required.



Hobbit Door Ornament Workshops*

Mary JL Black Library

Monday, December 14 @ 2 pm

Wednesday, December 16 @ 6 pm

Registration Opens: November 30 @ 9:30 am

Let's get hobbity this holiday season and create wooden ornaments inspired by Bilbo's iconic front door!

All workshops are identical, so kindly register for only one to allow others the opportunity to attend.

(Ages 18+) Registration required.



HOW TO REGISTER

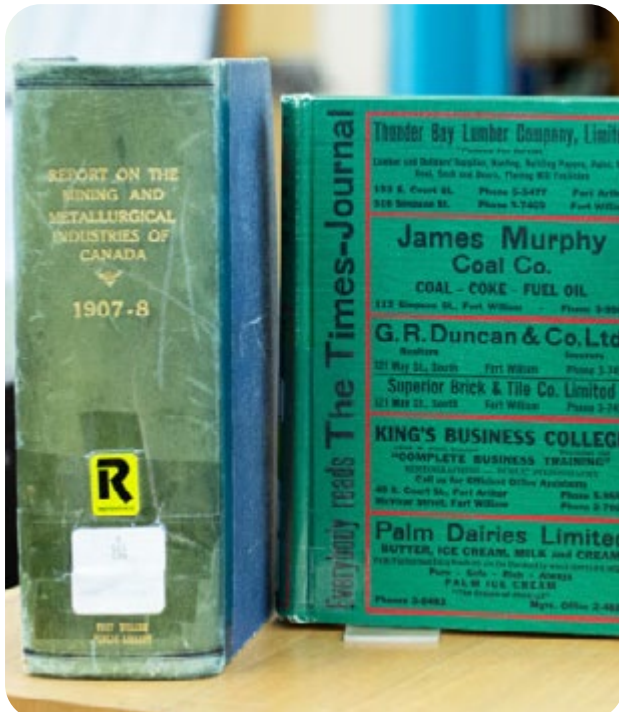
For events with an * asterisk, registration begins at 9:30 am two weeks prior to the program date. Online: tbpl.ca/onlinecalendar, phone: (807) 345-8275 or by visiting any Library branch.

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 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: tbpl.ca/reference



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 or phone the TBPL Research Department at (807) 345-8275 ext. 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



Teacher Love 2026

With Thanks

These teachers turned up day after day. And this year, so did the people they inspired. Through Teacher Love, donors made gifts to honour the teachers, daycare providers, and educators who first opened a door to reading, curiosity, and learning. Here are the educators our community chose to celebrate.

Ms. Everett
Ms. Frattaroli
Mr. Trewin
Coach Dave
M. Riley Corbin
Mme. Jo-Anne Lacroix
Mrs. Cameron
Mrs. Tallari
Mr. Keith Ailey
Mr. Galley
Benoit Lavoie
Ms. Kristina Bright
Mr. Todd Sloan
Mr. Dino Pepe

Mr. Derek Di Blasio
Mme. Sertic
Mme. Rybar
Miss D'Angelo
Mme. Leanne Tarnawsky
McKayla Lockman
Mme. Jacqueline Brusset
Mrs. Kristine Gascon
Mme. Rasul
Leeann
Meghan
Stephanie
Ada
Rylee

Manpreet
Julie
Nirali
Mme. Santerre
Mme. K. Naroski
Mr. Armstrong
Ms. Himanen
Mme. Dziurda
Miss Lacroix
Mme. Bell
Mrs. Steele
Mme. Sherwin
Mme. Gleeson
Mrs. Fors
Mme. Lee

Mr. Rosella
Mme. Backor
Staff at Kinderplace Gron Morgan
Ms. Michele Roberto
Ms. Allison Chambers
Ms. Paula-Mae Lombardo
Ms. Lyra Renaud
Ms. Sarah Izzo
Mme. Claudia Blier
Ms. Aubrey Joseph
Ms. Andrea Lampo
Mr. Dan Turk
Ms. Becky Krawchuk
Ms. Jeannie McWhirter
Mr. Jason Pilot

You don't have to wait until June to honour someone who shaped you. A teacher, a bus driver, a mentor, a parent ... anyone can honour anyone, any time of year, at librarylove.ca.

Your tribute helps keep the collections, learning, and discovery they believed in open to the next reader.



Teacher Love returns every June, but the door to honouring a teacher stays open all year.

Friends of the Library

Friends Used Bookstore Hours

until November 22

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



Toonie Tote Sales @ County Park

Fill a bag of used books for only \$2.00!

September 17 & 18
12 – 7 pm

September 19
10 am – 4 pm

.....

October 15 & 16
12 – 7 pm

October 17
10 am – 4 pm



The Bookstore is Moving!

While Waverley Library is closed for renovation, the Friends Used Bookstore is moving to County Park Library at 1020 Dawson Rd. in County Fair Mall.

Visit tbpl.ca/friends for hours and updates, or call (807) 684-6810.

We will be back at Waverley when it reopens in 2028!

Donations of used books will still be accepted at Brodie, Mary JL Black, and County Park Libraries.

Thank you!

A heartfelt thank you to our Friends volunteers who pitched in at Waverley's 75th Birthday Party on Saturday, August 1! Andy Feng and George Kaufman kept the bookstore humming through one of its busiest days ever, while Odessa Opas, Carson Goddard, James Diotte, and Pauline Parker lent a hand to staff outside amid the pizza, cake, face painting, and bouncy castles. With over 1,000 people through our doors, your extra hands made a big day run smoothly.

No Book Left Behind

Wondering what happens to all the books? Beyond the bingos, the home delivery service, and the bookstore, the Friends give every donated book a second life.

Titles the Library retires and donations from patrons all pass through the Friends' hands. Some hit the bookstore shelves, some join the Toonie Tote sales, and many travel on to correctional centres, the Elizabeth Fry and John Howard Societies, non-profit daycares, and the Flybrary at the Thunder Bay Airport.

The rest go to Better World Books, a social enterprise that resells them to fund global literacy and sends a share of every sale back to the Friends. Good books stay out of the landfill and stay hard at work.

For the Friends, no book is ever left behind.





 **TICKETS STARTING 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 every ticket helps build the **incredible new children's library** at Waverley.

Buy your tickets at any Thunder Bay Public Library branch, at friends5050.ca, or by scanning the QR code below with your phone's camera.

Licence #RAF1565326

SCAN TO BUY



friends5050.ca

