



Maziniigan

Connecting First Nation Public Libraries

PARTNERSHIPS FOR FIRST NATIONS PUBLIC LIBRARY WEEK!



Atikameksheng Anishnawbek Public Library partnered with the Greater Sudbury Public Library this year, to offer unique programming in honour of First Nations Public Library Week. The two libraries hosted three major events throughout the Sudbury region, including jingle dress dancing, a drum circle and traditional story telling (at left, with Mary Fraser from Atikameksheng Anishnawbek).

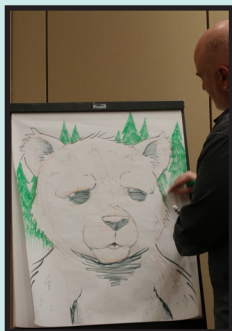
Meanwhile in James Township...

The public library staff in Elk Lake worked with members of Matachewan First Nation, the Timiskaming Child Care Centre and the local public school to organize a full afternoon of events. This partnership offered participants story time, a cooking class for how to make bannock and a craft lesson for making traditional dream catchers.



Issue 5 February 2017

Sneak Peeks



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Congratulations on these fantastic partnerships!

First Nations Public Library Week 2017 Evaluations

With the 2017 celebration of FNPL Week behind us, the annual evaluation is now available for all First Nation public libraries to complete.

This quick and easy online form gathers important data that assists the next planning committee to organize a successful program every year. This year's evaluation will be available through Google Forms until **March 24, 2017**.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfVWzEOVT7ZbZbzAQtOWYbXT1xymlGpUcES_FqayrjmRgpJWw/viewform

FIRST NATION PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENTS

FIRST NATIONS PUBLIC LIBRARY WEEK

The annual celebration of First Nations Public Library Week took place February 13-18, 2017. Now in its 17th year, the program has gained some unique and unexpected interest from many sources. Even though this year's celebration was unable to offer a launch event in a First Nation community, many of our First Nation public libraries hosted events and activities for all ages. Several municipal libraries in Ontario and university libraries have taken an interest in the program as well, sporting the posters and creating displays in support of the celebration. This year's committee worked hard to put together a program that was reflective of all our First Nation Public Libraries, offering a theme and customized poster that received widespread attention. Indigenous leadership from across the province stood up in support of the program, offering testimonials and endorsement for the role of public libraries in our communities.

Visit the First Nations Public Library Week website to see what leadership from the Anishinabek Nation and the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians had to say about the celebration.

<http://www.olsn.ca/fnplw/>

First Nations Public Library Week
17 Years of Celebration

2017



2003



2004



First Nations Public Library Week is a multi-purpose program that promotes Indigenous public library services and celebrates cultural uniqueness through creative librarianship.

First Nation Public Libraries designate one week every February to raise awareness of their resources, services, programs and activities.

2005



THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO:

- Increase local awareness of and support for the role of First Nation public libraries.
- Increase awareness of Indigenous peoples and cultures in Ontario public libraries and communities.
- Promote the importance of making available materials that portray First Nations accurately and sensitively.

2006



First Nations Public Library Week is librarian-led and community-focused. Each year's theme highlights important and timely elements of culture and tradition that carry significant value in all First Nation communities.

Learn how your library and community can take part in the celebration of First Nations Public Library Week by visiting the website.

www.olsn.ca/fnplw

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY



2008



2009



2010



2011



2012



2013



2014



2015



2016



At the request of the FNPLW committee, OLS - North hosted a poster session at the 2017 OLA Super Conference. The one-day event on February 2, was conducted to promote the program to new audiences and create awareness for the upcoming celebration.

FIRST NATIONS PUBLIC LIBRARY WEEK

Participation across the province!

FIRST NATIONS PUBLIC LIBRARY WEEK

Attend and get entered into a door prize draw!
All draws and awards will be held on Friday!

Nipissing First Nation Public Library

February 13-17, 2017

- NFN Heritage & Community Photos on display
- Nipissing Nation Trivia Game
- Crafts & Games
- Kids Scavenger Hunt & Colouring Contest

Come out and support your NFN Library!
We have something for everyone!

Nipissing First Nation



Oakville Public Library



Lakehead University Library

FIRST NATIONS PUBLIC LIBRARY WEEK
FEBRUARY 13-18

Revitalizing Community Spirit

LETHBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY
IN ALBERTA!



West Nipissing Public Library

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

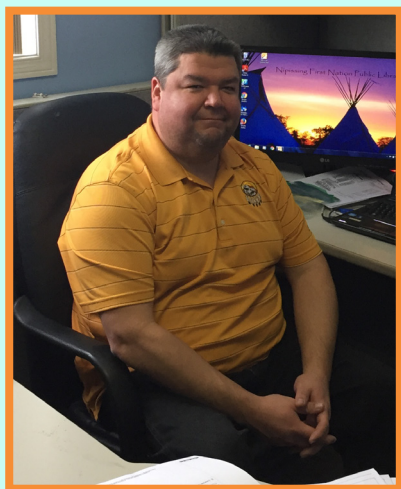
WELCOME NEW LIBRARIANS!

Sheshegwaning First Nation – April Folz

As the new librarian in Sheshegwaning First Nation, April started working in September 2016. She spent four months going through books and downsizing the collection, since the library was moved to a new, smaller location. April officially reopened the library's doors on January 9, 2017.

She was born and raised in Toronto, though her mother's family is from Cornwall/Quebec/Toronto area, and her father's family is from Serpent River First Nation. April's family moved to northern Ontario when she was 16 and they lived in Blind River and Cutler.

April has always loved books and reading. It is very rare to see her without a book in hand. She also enjoys listening to music of all kinds. She is a mother to four children, ages 13, 12, 5 and 1. She also has an older stepson and a daughter in law, and she and her partner foster a two-year-old. So far, April's favourite part about working in the library is interacting with the people who pop in, and seeing her own kids interact with others.



Nipissing First Nation – Randy Penasse

Randy began working as Nipissing's new librarian on January 30, 2017. He is a citizen of Nipissing First Nation and grew up in Garden Village, where his father's family is from. His mother's family is from Dokis First Nation, and Randy spent many summers and holidays there as well. He has two wonderful boys with his partner Tammy and he holds a background in business.

Randy has spent the last few years coordinating projects for Nipissing that include a Hydro One Energy Pilot, a Diabetes Integrated Service Team and NFN's Beautification effort. He enjoys helping Nipissing grow and seeing the benefits for all of its citizens come to fruition. Interacting with community members is especially gratifying for Randy, and the community is excited for the library to have a fresh face and voice.

Randy hopes to do everything he can to continue building upon the library's services and create a friendly atmosphere that encourages learning and opportunity!

In addition to April and Randy, four other librarians have recently joined the First Nation Public Libraries community. If you'd like to reach out, or if you expect to cross paths at any upcoming events, please take a moment to welcome our newest colleagues!

Chippewas of the Thames First Nation – Cynthia Tribe

Kanhiote Tyendinaga Territory – Barb Ross

M'Chigeeng First Nation – Connie Freeman

Ojibways of Onigaming – Miranda Shebagegit

FROM YOUR COMMITTEES



FIRST NATION COMMUNITIES READ 2017-2018

First Nation Communities READ is underway for another year. This year, the focus is on Young Adult and Adult titles from First Nation, Metis and Inuit authors/illustrators. The program is excited to have over 50 nominated titles this year, which speaks to the immense talent that can be found in First Nation communities and the conviction of publishers who ensure that these stories are heard.

The short list of selected titles will be announced in early May and then reviewed by a panel of First Nation librarian judges. The winning title will be announced shortly afterwards. The selected title's author/illustrator will then embark on a short tour of First Nation Public libraries in late June or early July.

Each FN library in Ontario will receive a FNCR poster and a copy of each of the selected titles in the shortlist. For more information, please visit:

<http://www.sols.org/index.php/fn-communities-read>

or contact:

Nancy Cooper, FNCR coordinator

ncooper@sols.org

FNCR @ OLA Super Conference

This year at the OLA Superconference the Southern Ontario Library Service was excited to have the author and illustrator of First Nation Communities Read 2016-2017 present a session.

Jennifer Harrington and Michael Arnott spoke about their writing process for the selected, *Spirit Bear*, as well as their passion for activism. Both Jennifer and Michael have been able to visit a few First Nation communities throughout the past eight months and Michael talked about how much it meant to him to have such great experiences with children during the presentations.

For more information about *Spirit Bear*, please visit www.ecobooks4kids.com.

STRATEGIC ACTION GROUP

The Strategic Action Group is planning a joint gathering with the northern and southern FNPLs, in North Bay on May 9-11, 2017.

Please anticipate 2.5 days of exciting sessions and activities. The agenda will include networking meetings, committee updates and round table discussions, among other things.

We are very excited to be planning this event, since the north and south haven't met in several years!

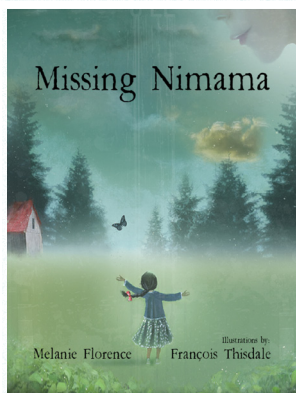
Our plan is to deliver great outcomes that work towards the betterment of our libraries and communities. This year, you are being encouraged to invite your community Chief, a councillor or your supervisor for a portion of the gathering.

More details will follow soon. We hope to see you and your support person there!

From your committee members:

Karen Foster, Sheri Mishibinijima & Sabrina Saunders

BOOKS AND AUTHORS



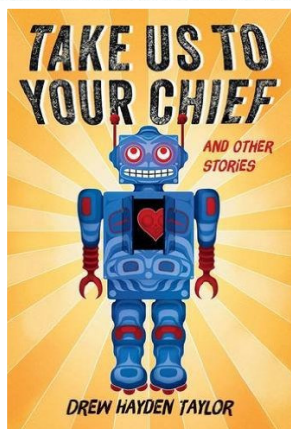
Missing Nimama

Melanie Florence

Ages 8 + (2016 TD Canadian Children's Literature Award Winner)

Kateri is a young girl, growing up in the care of her grandmother. We see her reaching important milestones, like her first day of school, first dance, first date, wedding, and first child, along with her mother who is always there, watching her daughter growing up without her.

Told in alternating voices, *Missing Nimama* is a story of love, loss, and acceptance, showing the human side of a national tragedy. An afterword by the author provides a simple, age-appropriate context for young readers. Includes a glossary of Cree terms.



Take Us to Your Chief

Drew Hayden Taylor

Adult Fiction

The nine stories in this collection span all traditional topics of science fiction - from peaceful aliens to hostile invaders; from space travel to time travel; from government conspiracies to connections across generations. Yet Taylor's First Nations perspective draws fresh parallels, likening the cultural implications of alien contact to those of the arrival of Europeans in the Americas, or highlighting the impossibility of remaining a "good Native" in such an unnatural situation as a space mission.

Infused with Native stories and variously mysterious, magical and humorous characters, *Take Us to Your Chief* is the perfect mesh of nostalgically 1950s-esque science fiction with modern First Nations discourse.

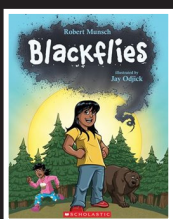
Jay Odjick and Robert Munsch

Well-known Indigenous artist Jay Odjick has recently teamed up with the renowned children's author, Robert Munsch, on his latest book titled *Blackflies*.

When Odjick was approached to illustrate the book's images, he accepted the opportunity without hesitation. CBC's *Unreserved* interviewed Odjick about his experience working with such a famous author.

Blackflies will be made available in Spring 2017.

Just in time for black fly season!



Listen to the full interview on CBC:

<http://www.cbc.ca/radio/unreserved/art-representation-and-why-it-matters-1.3953926/jay-odjick-inspired-to-illustrate-robert-munsch-s-new-book-blackflies-1.3954198>

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

ONTARIO LIBRARIES CAPACITY FUND *Information Technology and Service Capacity*

The final year of this three-year fund was released in October 2016.

Purchasing Deadline

March 31, 2017

Reporting Deadline

April 28, 2017

Please contact your ministry representatives for any assistance required with this fund:

Jennifer Green

Culture Programs Advisor

(416) 326-8536

jennifer.green@ontario.ca

Sebastian Mortillaro

Program Officer

(416) 314-7126

sebastian.mortillaro@ontario.ca

Eligible purchases and reporting details can be found here:

<http://www.grants.gov.on.ca/GrantsPortal/en/OntarioGrants/GrantOpportunities/PRDR013723>

THE HEALING FUND

The Healing Fund supports grassroots projects that are First Nation initiated and community-oriented. It is not intended for building projects, salaries and wages, or purchases of furniture or capital equipment.

The fund was established in 1994 by the United Church of Canada. It offers financial support to grassroots projects that focus on healing and reconciliation. The Healing Fund Council, with representatives from the All Native Circle Conference, British Columbia Native Ministries, and Ontario/Quebec Native Ministries, seeks to represent the diversity of Indigenous communities across the country.

Upcoming Application Deadline :

MARCH 15, 2017

More information can be found at :

<http://www.united-church.ca/sites/default/files/resources/healing-fund-brochure.pdf>

SAVE THE DATE! **SPRING GATHERING for FIRST NATION PUBLIC LIBRARIES**

Ontario Library Service - North, Southern Ontario Library Service and the Ontario Library Association are working together to organize a joint gathering of ALL First Nation Public Libraries in SPRING 2017.

MAY 9-11, 2017
CLARION RESORT PINEWOOD PARK
NORTH BAY, ON

The First Nation Strategic Action Group will be the lead planning committee for this unique event.
More information from the committee on page 4.

TRENDING IN THE FIELD

FOSTERING COMMUNITY HUBS WITH MAKERSPACES

Public libraries in northern Ontario often have to get creative to engage their communities in library programming. First Nation public libraries regularly offer cultural arts and crafting, and OLS – North is hoping to add to the culture of making in these communities, by injecting some high-tech and low-tech options into their library programming.

In March 2017, a series of rotating makerspace kits will be delivered to northern First Nation public libraries. As part of a unique program, two sets of 14 different makerspace kits will rotate to each library every three months. The goal of the program is to introduce technology that would otherwise be unavailable, and to engage community members, especially youth. The kits listed below will be included in the special rotation - they can be created by any library for ready-to-go library programming!

For more information, please contact **Rashed Ahmad** at rahmad@olsn.ca.

Movie Special Effects Studio

A green screen and tablet take patrons to faraway places and create short movies with special effects.



Cubelets Robotics

Cubelets by Modular Robotics make it fast and easy to engage in learning by building robots.

Zombonitron Robotics

Unleash your imagination by combining a custom-built robot with a light sensor, or proximity sensor.

Stop-Motion Animation Studio

Comes complete with a stop-motion camera, animation book, stop-motion editing software, and plasticine.

Build and Play

Classic LEGO® is paired with K'NEX for timeless fun with kids.

LittleBits™ Electronic

The beloved easy-to-use electronic building blocks empower children to invent anything from remote controlled cars, to a smart home device.

Game On @ Your Library

A collection of board games, including Dungeons and Dragons and Settlers of Catan.



Virtual Reality Exploration

This Hootoo Virtual Reality Headset can be paired with an iPod loaded with VR apps.

Beading and Leather

Design elaborate creations with a beading loom, or get creative with the Ultimate Crafting Tool, a device for stencil cutting, wood and leather burning, fusing and soldering.

Electronic Creations Kit

The Elenco® Snap Circuits SC-750R Student Training Program comes with 80 parts and the chance to build over 750 experiences.

Fly Tying and Button Maker

Equipped with everything you need to create unique buttons and learn how to tie fishing flies.

Visual Arts

A kit to unlock the artist within. Coloured pencils, crayons, and watercolours for maximum artistic expression.

Fibre Arts

Not your average Sit N' Stitch, try the table-top weaving loom with crochet and knitting needles of all sizes.



Electric Circuits

Squishy Circuits and Makey Makey foster learning and fun with unique electronic circuits.

THAT'S COOL

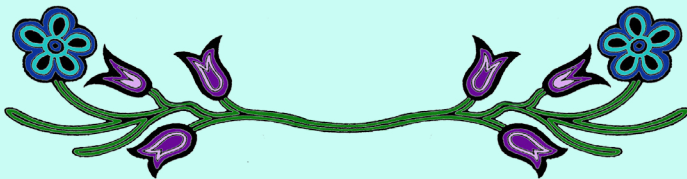
NATIONAL ABORIGINAL LANGUAGES DAY MARCH 31

For more than 23 years, the Assembly of First Nations has declared March 31 the national day to honour and celebrate Indigenous languages in Canada. The day is used across the nation to remember the challenges that Indigenous languages have faced over the years, but it also celebrates the resiliency and revitalization of our languages in recent history.

Ontario Library Service - North offers access to many great resources and information for Indigenous languages on its [First Nation Languages Portal](#). As an ever-evolving online resource for First Nation public libraries, the portal can be used by librarians to provide services in various areas of Indigenous language learning and revitalization.

For more information on National Aboriginal Languages Day, please visit www.afn.ca.

FIRST NATION LANGUAGES PORTAL



LEARN HQ Free EXCEL for Beginners

Beginning in Winter 2017, the Introduction to Public Libraries course will be offered free of charge as a 6-week self-directed course, in English and in French (E01 and F01). The course can be taken as part of the EXCEL certificate, or on its own as an introduction to public libraries for new staff.

For more information on this course and the EXCEL program, please visit the SOLS website at:

<https://www.sols.org/index.php/develop-your-library-staff/training/certificate-programs/excel>

Inquiries can be directed to Gelja Wegman or Alexandra Taylor by emailing excel@sols.org

THE ADVOCATE



A new publication created by the Chiefs of Ontario is now available for free online. The Advocate, a magazine dedicated to issues and events relevant to Ontario First Nations, is published twice a year. There are now two editions available through the Chiefs of Ontario website, and the magazine is distributed to all 633 First Nations across Canada.

The publication offers a wide variety of reading, from politics and governance to arts and current events. The mandate of the magazine is to coordinate information and policy discussion of interest to 133 First Nations in Ontario.

<http://www.chiefs-of-ontario.org/node/1454>

First Nation Public Libraries Maziniigan

Writers: Staff of OLS - North and SOLS
Librarian contributions
Layout: Ontario Library Service - North

Maziniigan is a triannual publication.

Ontario Library Service - North
334 Regent St. Sudbury, ON P3C 4E2
1-800-461-6348
www.olsn.ca

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This publication is developed in partnership by:



Ontario Library Service – North
Service des bibliothèques de l'Ontario – Nord

