

Happy New Year

The Fort St John Public Library Association Staff and Board wishes everyone the very best for the New Year. We re-opened in January after the holiday closure and were very busy for the first few weeks. The demand for books, resources, computers and staff support was a good indication that our services and programs were missed. Morgan has been continuing with the Take N Make projects and is "Full Steam Ahead" with engaging children and families with the Science and Technology stream of projects sponsored by SHELL.

On December 1, 2020 I gave my resignation letter to the Board of Trustees as the Director of Library Services. This will be my last Director's Report and it is bittersweet as I have always enjoyed reflecting on the month. It can be difficult to narrow down what to choose to highlight as we continue to adapt and change and hear wonderful stories about our impact from our patrons!

I would like to thank the hiring committee back in September 2018 for giving me the opportunity to serve my community. I'd like to thank the staff at the library for their unwavering patron service and respect for all members of our large and diverse community. Thank you to the Board of Trustees for volunteering your time to support me and the library.

I wish everyone the very best in 2021 and I encourage you to read (or re-read) the Director's Reports online at www.fsjpl.ca for a chronicle of the FSJPL from the past to present.

Karlene

Hello Everyone!

As we leave the “cool” weather of February behind, lets look forward to a warmer March!

My name is Matthew Ryan Rankin, and I am the new Director of Library Services for Fort Saint John Public Library!

I grew up in Central Ontario, specifically a small town called Penetanguishene on the shores of Georgian Bay (Part of Lake Huron).

Education-wise, I went to Wilfrid Laurier University for my BA (graduating in 2011), and to the University of Western Ontario for my MLIS.

Since 2013, I have worked in Public Libraries. Prior to coming out to FSJ, I lived in Southeastern Saskatchewan in the city of Weyburn. My general hobbies include computers, reading, hiking, biking, astronomy, and drawing.

As I get familiar with my position, I am confident we can implement some great projects together. I am extremely interested in further developing Branch Technology (buying makerspace kits, etc.), diversifying the collection to meet community needs (including purchasing items in new subject areas, etc.), and getting as involved in the community as possible.

I love hearing ideas, and concerns on how the library is operating, so feel free to continue to speak with Marilyn, and myself.

I look forward to working with and learning from the Board and Staff!

P.S. Here is a picture of my cat Knight.



Director of Library Services Report – March 2021

Good Evening Everyone!

March was my first full month as Director of Library Services, it was very demanding, but equally rewarding.

Over the month, we celebrated *Pi Day*, *Saint Patrick's Day*, as well as *March/Spring Break*.

We welcomed Jill back on the 16th as our Access Services Coordinator, after a leave. We glad to have her back!

Community Outreach-wise, I had interviews with the Alaska Highway News, MooseFM, and on the 12th I was on Moose Talks.

Committee-wise, I attended the LDAG Meeting for the ABCPLD Meeting (10th) and NELF (11th).

Fundraising-wise, I presented our request for CLICK funding to the Rotary Club (11th).

Monthly Events, Reminders, and Observances

Going into April, we will be celebrating *Poetry Month*, as well as several other observances including *Volunteer Week* (11th-17th).

Closures

We will be CLOSED for Friday, April 2nd and Saturday, April 3rd in observance of the Good Friday Statutory Holiday.

Sincerely,

Matthew Rankin



DIRECTOR OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT – APRIL 2021

April was a productive month for the Library. We said goodbye to Claudette as our full-time Circulation Coordinator. We also welcomed Anne into that role. All staff members did an excellent job keeping the library on track, and keeping patrons safe.

Programming-wise, the month started on a funny note with the Donut Seeds Kit (see picture on right), which had a very positive online, and in-person response. April was also Poetry Month, with several events happening.

Committee/Community Outreach-wise, I attended the regular NP3, ABCPLD, NELF, and my first OHS meeting.

Fundraising-wise, I have been working with the fundraising committee regarding the GoFundMe Account.

Going into May, we have a lot to look forward to:

- ✓ *Star Wars Day – Tuesday, May 4th*
- ✓ *Mothers Day – Sunday, May 9th*
- ✓ *Victoria Day – Monday, May 24th*

I am continuing to monitor the COVID-19 Situation, as there have been recent developments.

Sincerely,

Matthew



Good Evening Everyone!

May 2021, started off with showers, but overall it was a sunny month for FSJPL!

We celebrated Star Wars Day on the 4th, which was capped off by two magnificent programs created by Morgan. The First was the Ewok Figure Kits, and the Jawa Rocks around FSJ!

We sadly said goodbye to Conda as a circulation services coordinator this month. They will be missed. Consequently, we hired Jill & and welcomed Kalyn back to the team!

On Monday, May 17th, K-Mac Graphics installed a new sign for the front desk, and Book Sale Area.

For SRC we are in the process of hiring a Summer Reading Coordinator, as we received grant funds from CSJ.

Operations-wise:

- ✓ Sunrise Rotary Presentation – May 12th 2021 – Request for Funding for Laptops.
- ✓ Final 2020 Reports were submitted. Specifically: SOFI and Annual Survey.
- ✓ City Update – Update Meeting with Milo on NPCC Relations.

Moving-Forward to June 2021

- ✓ June is National Indigenous History Month
- ✓ Start of the SRC – Tuesday, June 21st
- ✓ Father's Day – Monday, June 20th
- ✓ Start of 2021 CLICK Program – Tuesday, June 1st *

Otherwise, a very good month.

Sincerely,

Matthew



Director of Library Services Report – June 2021

Good Evening Everyone!

June was a rapid-fire month for the Library, lots of project and programs began. Specifically on June 1st we saw the re-starting of the CLICK program under Tanya Boyd, our Lead Library Assistant.

We also received funding from *Canada Summer Jobs & Young Canada Works* for two Summer Coordinators. We are happy to welcome Azaria back, and as well as welcome Morgan to the team.

We also hired an additional three casual staff members, Jill, Judy, and Jane. We welcome them as well.

On June 14th, it was officially announced that the City of FSJ will be taking over management of the NPCC. More information to come.

Community Outreach-wise, I attended my regular ABCPLD, NELF(LDAG), Staff, NP3, and Sunrise Rotary (I became a member on June 16th) Meetings.

Monthly Events, Reminders, and Observances

Going into July & August:

- ✓ Summer Reading Club Starts (Officially) the week of July 6th and will end in mid-August.

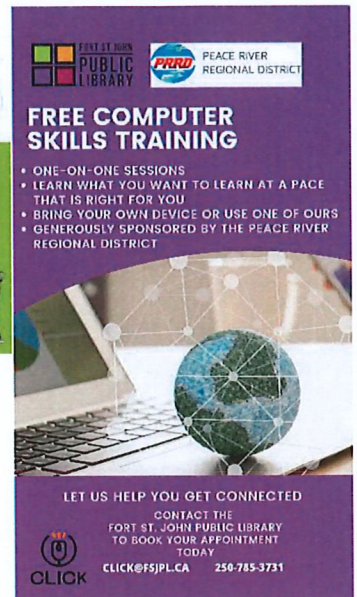
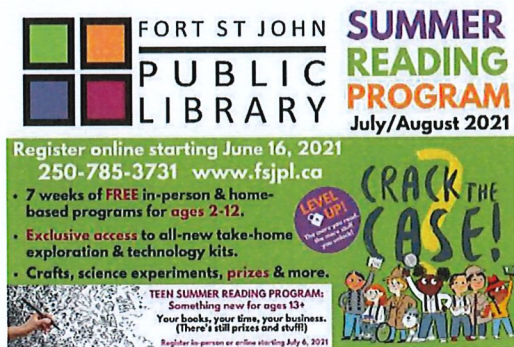
Closures

- ✓ We will be CLOSED for Thursday, July 1st for Canada Day.

On June 22nd I officially marked my 4th month on the job.

Sincerely,

Matthew Rankin



September/Summer 2021 Director's Report

Summer 2021 was a huge success for FSJPL! We saw a great amount of interaction with families, and children participating in the program. Our success was due to the diligent planning of Morgan, and our two amazing Summer Students, Azaria Richards, and Morgan Wiede. We also saw a return to seating, and mask recommendations in July, with a return to a mask mandate in late-August, as well as the launch of the Vaccine Cards in Mid-September.

Operations-wise:

- ✓ We said goodbye to Anne (as she heads back to University), and hello to Carlos as Full-Time Circulation Coordinators.
- ✓ Christian, and Kalyn also returned to school.
- ✓ CLICK continues to be successful, due to the hard work of Tanya.
- ✓ Strategic Plan – Google Form was posted to Solicit Public Input.

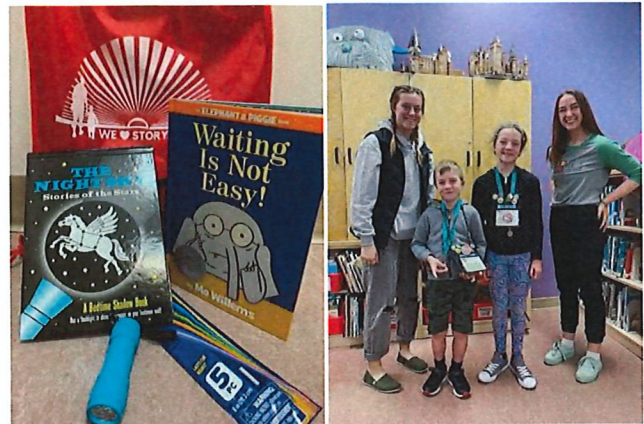
Fundraising-wise:

- ✓ We received a large donation from the Afternoon Rotary Club of FSJ for \$3,400.00. This money was used to purchase five laptops, laptop carrying bags, and a 12 month subscription to Adobe Photoshop.
- ✓ SJA Promo store was launched on September 7th, and ended September 19th.
- ✓ Sunrise Rotary also dedicated their September Bottle Drive on the 11th to the Library raising: \$600.00.
- ✓ Shaw has also approached the Library regarding a possible on-going technology partnership with the Library. More to come.

Overall, staff have had a busy summer at FSJPL. I am again thankful for their dedication, and spirit.

Sincerely,

Matthew





OCTOBER 2021 – DIRECTOR’S REPORT



Good Evening FSJPLA Board Members,

October was a productive month for the Library. Unfortunately, due to the continued persistence of COVID-19 cases in the Northern Region, both the Province and Northern Health instituted new restrictions regarding vaccine cards, and access to services on the 14th. Prior to this, the existing mask mandate was updated to require children (5+) to wear masks.

As of October 27th, Libraries have not had any additional items added to current restrictions. I will update the Board when necessary. October was also Canadian Library Month.

Operations-wise:

- Eye-Wash Station Installed in Bathroom.
- Fire Extinguishers and AED were inspected.
- Budget Presentation was successful on October 18th.
- New Open Sign purchased for street-facing windows.

Programming-wise:

- CLICK has been a success so far, in large part to Tanya’s hard work.
- Our Programmer is still on leave, however FSJPL will be participating in the City’s Pick-A-Path Program on October 30th.

Otherwise, nothing new to report.

Sincerely,

Matthew



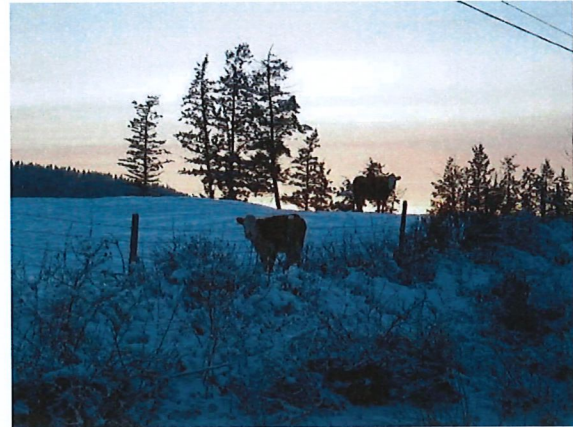
NOVEMBER 2021 Director's Report

Good Evening Everyone!

November was an interesting month for the Library. We saw winter re-assert itself, and the days become shorter.

Operations-wise:

- ✓ Not much to report overall, November was more or less a typical month for operations.
- ✓ We received our 3rd and final Calm Talk Speaker for the Connectivity Centre, and our new Open Sign. These items were purchased using a donation from the Sunrise Rotary Club.
- ✓ Closures:
 - The Library will officially closed for 2021 @ 5pm on Saturday, December 18th 2021, and will re-open @ 10am on Tuesday, January 4th 2022.



Programming-wise:

- ✓ CLICK Continues to thrive, despite limitations placed on us by COVID.
- ✓ On a sad note, Morgan Churchill, our Children's Service and Program Coordinator will be leaving us after 11 years at her post. She wanted to express how grateful she is for her time here, and for the support the Board has shown. Suffice it to say, we are sad to see her go, but we know she will be awesome wherever she lands next. We wish her all the best.

As of Monday, November 22nd, I have served in my role as Director for **9 months**, and I look forward to seeing what 2022 brings for us. I am deeply grateful for the Board and the Community of Fort St. John being so welcoming and friendly so far. I feel at home here. As will be discussed in the November meeting I will be starting work on the 2021 Annual Report soon.

Sincerely,

Matthew