



*The winner of the Rural Nintendo Lite was 13 year old **George Dodds of Loreburn** who won for answering his questionnaire of the Crown of Thorns. George read over 17 graphic novels this summer and enjoys graphic novels and lots of other books.*

*The **Moose Jaw** Nintendo was won by **Iram Ahmed**. He is 12 years old and is a recent immigrant who is using the library collections to help him learn English.*

Board Member Receives Council of the Federation of Literacy Award

Colleen Christopherson-Cote is the 2007 Saskatchewan recipient of the **Council of the Federation Literacy Award**. Colleen is a grant writer extraordinaire and has obtained **\$350K** in grants for the town of Coronach in the past 18 months. She is a member of the Palliser Regional Library's Executive Committee and is a member and chair of the Coronach Branch Library Board. She is the Economic Development Officer for Coronach, the mother of 2 preschoolers, and she is the founder and executive director of the Prairie Literacy Awareness Network and has been working to promote literacy both in Coronach and the Palliser Region. Premier Lorne Calvert will honour Colleen with a medallion and certificate at a ceremony this fall. Congratulations to Colleen from everyone at Palliser!

FALL REGIONAL BOARD MEETING – November 1, 2007

The annual Fall Regional Board meeting will be held in the Herb Taylor Meeting Room at Moose Jaw Public Library on November 1, 2007. The meeting will be held from 1:30 – 4:00 with registration beginning at 1:00.

The main topics for discussion include the proposed 2008 Budget and the proposed 2008 Rural Library Levy. Due to the impact of the census on the rural library levy, letters were sent in June to every RM, town and village concerning the originally proposed \$1.21 increase to the base levy. Upon careful consideration and the realization that over 70% of the towns, villages and RMs would see either a decrease or a very minimal increase to the actual dollars paid to Palliser to operate the rural branches, when compared to 2007, 20 Councils approved the increase, while 7 disapproved. All requested that we contact Provincial Library and let them know that the rural library branches

require more assistance re: open hours than has been previously allocated. This has been passed on to the Provincial Librarian. **Good news: We have been able to reduce the increase to \$1.00.**

Bill C-458 – Library Book Rate Dies on Order Table

The library community serving your constituents was thrilled when Merv Tweed, Manitoba MP for Brandon-Souris tabled Bill C-458 in the House of Commons as it would have entrenched and expand the National Library Book Rate for all libraries across Canada. It offers an expansion of service that is very much required by all Canadians, *rural* and urban, as it facilitates recreation, small business and life-long learning.

We were devastated to learn that the bill died on the order table this fall. Please, for the sake of your community, encourage Mr. Tweed to resubmit his bill and support its passage in the House of Commons.

SaskSmart Family Literacy Grant: The Storytelling Revival of South Central Saskatchewan

In these days of declining rural populations, fewer rural schools, less free time, video games and instant internet gratification, there is a great need to re-teach people how to organize and tell a story that will truly captivate an audience (young or old).

To that end, we have also received \$7,500 funding to run 6 workshops over the next 6 months in the Palliser area. The sessions include:

1. 3- one day Story Sack Creation workshops to be offered in Davidson, Moose Jaw and Assiniboia. This will reduce the preparation workload, re-energize the programs and make local story time possible again. It is our vision that the organized sharing of the “story sacks” would be done through our automated library catalogue and could be borrowed by any branch or, community organization.
2. 3-one day story-telling workshops to be offered in Davidson, Moose Jaw and Assiniboia.

How Green is My Saskatchewan – Teaching Information Literacy and Online Databases Through Environmental Issues.

Palliser Regional Library and the Prairie South School Division # 210 applied for the third and final year of funding from the Foundation Operation Grant’s Special Joint Projects Program. We have received \$65,000 to teach information literacy in the schools and the public libraries. We will be hiring a 0.8 time teacher/teacher librarian for October through May 20th to go into the schools and teach the students how to use the online database and, more importantly, to evaluate what they are finding online. The aim is that the teacher and the Cap Youth Intern will also be offering evening sessions at each of the branches to the general public. Finally we are able to address some of the computer issues that were brought forward in the strategic planning environmental assessment meetings!

CAP Youth Internship Grant 2007- 08

The Palliser Regional Library System applied for and received a \$5,200 grant to hire a youth (ages 16 to 30) for 520 hours to go out with the teacher librarian, and offer basic computer workshops (e-mail, chat, blogging, Face Book, security etc) at the different CAP sites within the region. This position is scheduled to start in October and will terminate by March 20th 2008. **Coronach Branch Library** also applied for and received 580 hours of funding to hire an intern to work at their branch.

CAP 2007-08

Provincial Library negotiated with the federal government on our behalf to enable Regional Library System participation in the “new” CAP. The 14 branches previously designated as CAP sites will be sharing \$29,400. We are putting in the new dual core computers to ensure that the computers will be able to handle the new online circulation system which we anticipate will be in place by 2011.

SILS – The Single Integrated Library System

Dynix, our provider for our online catalogue and circulation system (Dynix Classic) was recently sold and has been undergoing several major shakeups. As a result, all, and I mean all, circulation systems (Saskatoon’s and Regina’s too) must be replaced. The Library Directors and Provincial Library see this as an opportunity to bring the entire province under one centralized library system.

Provincial Library submitted a Business Case to the government. It was successfully presented to the Information Technology Office in August. It is now off to the Executive Management Board for consideration on September 25th. The anticipated cost of the project is \$1.6 million. Although at first pass, it seems like a lot of money, but consider this: the estimates for Palliser, the smallest system, to go to Horizon were \$147,000. In the case of the City of Regina it was over \$500,000. There are 9 individually owned and maintained systems in Saskatchewan that would need replacing. The current maintenance costs per year paid to the vendors by these 9 systems exceed \$200,000.

This is a priority for the Palliser Executive. We will keep you apprised of developments. In the interval, and to buy time, we purchased a new Dynix Classic server as the original server had reaches its “end of life”. This will serve us until we can either get SILS or another consortium up and running or, should no good solution be available (a distinct possibility) it will buy us time to look at other systems and for ROME to be out of beta testing and full tested for the market place.

REGIONAL NEWS



Davidson is preparing to move into a New Facility

The Town of Davidson has bought the old School Board offices. As this goes to print they are replacing all the flooring. It is hoped that the renovations will be completed by late summer with an early fall move-in date. The renovations have been delayed due to the difficulty in finding contractors and crews – sound familiar?

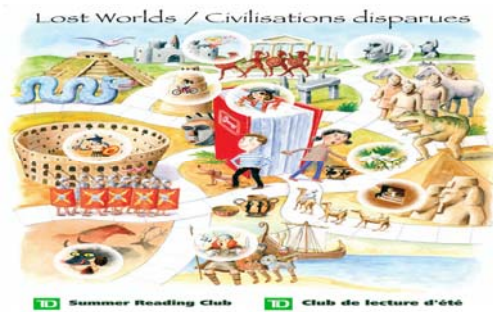
Spring and Summer '07 Highlights

Branch Renovations

Many thanks to the Town of Craik for investing in their library. The library was closed for one week in June as they replaced the library roof.

Upcoming Trade Shows

☀ Rouleau –November 3rd, 2007



Lost Worlds

TD Summer Reading Club 2007

Drop in at your local library branch to see what is happening in your community. We will be having games, contests, draws, teas, special programming and other activities for all to participate in.

It's a Graphically novel Summer!



We had a smashing spectacular summer. 5,518 graphic novels were read between July 2nd and August 23rd of this year. The novels read during this 6 week period represents between 38% and 53% of all the graphic novels read between January 1 and August 31st, 2007. Over 2,800 surveys were filled out and brought us some valuable insights and comments.

Headquarters News

Branch Librarian's Workshop: is scheduled to be held in Moose Jaw on **October 10th, 2007**. The hot topics are genealogy, the grants and, by request, "Working Alone at Night - Your Personal Security"

Staff News

Effective July 3, 2007, Carolyn Graham, the Rural Branch Supervisor, will be going to one half time for a period of one year while she recuperates. **Tiffany Olsen**, a Library Tech from Pennant, has joined us for one year to assist Carolyn with the day-to-day activities involved in supervising the rural branches.

Melissa (Mel) (Library Clerk 3 – New Technologies) and her husband **Stephen Frank** are pleased to announce the arrival of their son, Justys Edward. Mel will be on maternity leave until September of 2008. During the interval, **Jan Smith, Trish Leidal and Tiffany Olsen** will provide general computer telephone assistance to the rural branches.

Welcome to **Chelbie Wilson**, Community Programming Coordinator, Coronach Library. This position was made possible by 4 streams of funding and has generated new enthusiasm for Coronach Library youth patrons, allowed for a fantastic summer reading program and for the launch of our fall program 2008 by 2008 with minimal commitment from our tiring volunteer board.

Departing Staff: Our Best Wishes to

- **Donna Daly** of Moose Jaw Public Library after 6 years of service.
- And many thanks go to **Kathryn Kelly**, our excellent 2007 Summer Student for her invaluable assistance with the Moose Jaw Summer Reading Program.

Welcome to :

- Moose Jaw Public Library page, **Lori Malloy**