



Maziniigan

Connecting Ontario First Nation Public Libraries



Spotlight | Wabauskang First Nation

Join us in welcoming Wabauskang First Nation into the Ontario First Nation public library family.

The community's library shares space with the Youth Centre. There are plans to use the multi-purpose building for beading and regalia workshops, gatherings, and Youth Centre and library programs.

The conceptualization and implementation of the library would not have been possible without the dedication of Wabauskang First Nation's member Terri Meekis. Ms. Meekis was key in establishing multiple partnerships to see the realization of the building and library.

Volunteers from Wabauskang First Nation helped prepare the old Youth Centre and transform it into library space.

First Nations Public Library Week will be launched in Wabauskang First Nation!

Community Facts

- 156 Band Members
- 1 hour north of Dryden, Ontario
- Land mass approx 12.5 sq miles
- Community members speak multiple Oji-Cree dialects



(Left) Wabauskang volunteers setup Ikea furniture for the library.

(Right) Youth from Wabauskang painted a mural in the library space.

Photos provided by Rashed Ahmad, Skills Development Office with OLS - North

Listen to a CBC report with Terri Meekis!

Chi-niishin, Wabauskang First Nation!

Wabauskang First Nation is our newest Ontario First Nation Public Library. Wabauskang First Nation is a Saulteaux First Nation in northwestern Ontario, located in Treaty 3 territory. The opening of the Wabauskang First Nation library will coincide with the launch of First Nations Public Library Week the first week of October.



Wabauskang First Nation is located 100km south of Red Lake, Ontario.

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Volume 2, Issue 7



You're Invited!

Wabauskang First Nation's
Public Library Opening
Ceremony
Monday, October 1, 2018 @
11:00 am



First Nation Spring
Gathering Summary (p. 3)

May 8 - 10, 2018
Sudbury, Ontario

Overview

The gathering is an annual opportunity for First Nation librarians to network, share ideas, work on common issues, and continue to develop collaborative projects. First Nation librarians explore issues related to leadership, grant opportunities, advocacy, and more. The First Nation Strategic Action Group programs the event.

Tuesday, May 08

1. Opening Ceremonies by Julie Ozawagosh from Atikameksheng Anishnawbek.
2. Business meeting to review issues for discussion, highlight vacancies on committees and working groups.
3. First Nations Strategic Action Group: Randy Penasse (Nipissing First Nation). Newly elected committee members are Fran King (Wasauksing First Nation) and Krista Commanda (Curve Lake First Nation), Feather Maracle (Six Nations).
4. Library leadership session.
5. Grant sessions from the Ontario Trillium Foundation and Ontario Arts Council.
 - www.otf.ca
 - www.arts.on.ca
6. Banquet and Forest of Reading book giveaway.

Thursday, May 10

1. Brainstorming session with First Nation Strategic Action Group
2. Inform the support services and needs of First Nation public libraries.
3. The day ended with a brainstorming session on how to prepare for succession planning and a roundtable.

Vendors

Za-geh-do-win Information Clearinghouse
Art Gallery of Sudbury | Galerie d'art de Sudbury

Wednesday, May 09

1. Stephen Abram, Federation of Ontario Public Libraries
 - Preparing for provincial elections advocacy.
2. Carol Daniels (Regina, SK), Author and Artist
 - Experiences as an Indigenous author and reading her poetry novel Hiraeth.
3. Steven Kraus, Ontario Library Service – North Ontario Public Library Guidelines and how to use it as a tool for building a stronger local public library. A message from Steven Kraus is on page 4.
4. Marjatta Asu, Ontario Library Service – North
 - Using the Northern Libraries Values Toolkit to help libraries advocate using social return on investment (SROI). Link on page 8.

Thank you to all of the attendees for joining us at this event, we hope to see you again next year!

If you have session suggestions, presenter recommendations or feedback for the next gathering, please contact your First Nation Strategic Action Group members.

A Message from Steven Kraus

Skills Development Advisor with Ontario Library Service - North

Greetings First Nation Librarians,

I wanted to take a moment to thank you all for such a warm welcome at the recent First Nation's Public Library Gathering which was held in Sudbury, Ontario back in May 2018!

It was my pleasure to be with you and to speak on the topic of the Ontario Public Library Guidelines 7th Edition.

As we discussed during our session together, the fundamental purpose of the OPLG Guidelines is centred and focused on improving the collections, programs and services your public library offers to your community. This is accomplished through formulating strong policies, plans, procedures and frameworks which will help you, as First Nation Public Library CEOs, better organize your business, implement your amazing and creative ideas which will help your library grow in your community.

If you are interested in discussing OPLG related activities, please contact Rashed and me to schedule a Google Hangout session. If enough librarians are interested in participating, we can choose relevant Guideline topics to work through and develop the necessary pieces for success.

We'll consult, help you build drafts, and set you on the way to regular development activities in your public library.

As a bonus, we'll also be available to review your work and make sure the policies, plans, and frameworks you create are perfectly suited for your unique public library's environment and structures.

Stay tuned to the listserv as we will be announcing our first virtual meeting date shortly!

Steven Kraus, Skills Development Officer
Ontario Library Service - North

Click to find out more!



Biindige | Wa'tkwanonhwerá:ton'

As First Nation libraries grow, we welcome new colleagues and say "see you later" to old ones. This section highlights our new colleagues from First Nation libraries and Indigenous and non-Indigenous library allies in Ontario.

Temagami First Nation Public Library Jamie Friday

Aanii, my name is Jamie Margaret Friday, and I am the new Librarian with the community of Bear Island, or also referred to as Temagami First Nation. I am a band member of Temagami First Nation, and after leaving the community to attend high school over 20 years ago, I returned in 2014 with my family. I started working in this position on May 8, 2018, and in addition to my Tuesday-Thursday schedule I am also a mother to three children, and a Band Councillor for Temagami First Nation.

Temagami First Nation has recently hit the ground running with a Capital Project that includes a new Multi-Use Facility that will hold our community hall, band administration department, council chamber/meeting area, lands and resources office, library, store, post office, office rental space and a state of the art kitchen! It is expected to be complete by July 2019.

Over the next year, I will be working to plan the move into the new space and look forward to the sense of "community and strength" that the new Multi-Use Facility will bring to Temagami First Nation.



Architectural drawings of Temagami First Nation's Multi-Use Facility



Naotkamegwaning First Nation Lavonne Kabestra

Lavonne Kabestra is from Naotkamegwaning First Nation. Lavonne started working at the library on August 01, 2017. The library, which is open year-round, services the 700 members living in the Anishinaabe community. Currently, the library is offering programming that combines sewing and electronic circuitry. Palm-sized robots are lighting up the community thanks to Lavonne and funding from the Improving Library Digital Services (ILDS) grant.

Biindige | Wa'tkwanonhwerá:ton'

M'Chigeeng First Nation Public Library Joanne Debassige

Joanne Debassige is a band member of M'Chigeeng First Nation (Manitoulin Island). After graduating from Fanshawe College's Library Technician program, Joanne worked in libraries in London and Ottawa where she worked at the Indian Claims Commission Library until retirement. Joanne returned to M'Chigeeng First Nation and took a job as the librarian in June 2017. This summer, Joanne is tackling the primary task of inventorying the entire library collection in M'Chigeeng with a summer student.

Ga-waabminnim | Ó:nen:ki'wáhi

Garden River First Nation Irene Gray

Irene Gray is retiring after 17 years of working with Garden River First Nation. Irene had multiple roles with the band including librarian, education department secretary, and community newsletter editor. Chi-miigwetch, Irene Gray for all you have done for the past 17-years. Ontario Library Service – North staff wishes you the best on your next adventure!

Michipicoten First Nation Wendy Peterson

Wendy Peterson will be moving on to another position in Michipicoten. For more than 10-years, Wendy has provided excellent library programs for her community. Take care, Wendy!



Irene Gray in the community garden.

Ontario Library Service - North

Deanna Nebenionquit, First Nations Capacity Building Advisor



Deanna Nebenionquit is Anishinaabe from Atikameksheng Anishnawbek. Deanna is a graduate of the Applied Museum Studies program at Algonquin College in Ottawa, Ontario (2012) and a graduate of the RBC Aboriginal Training Program in Museum Practices at the Canadian Museum of History in Gatineau, Québec (2013). From 2014 - 2018, Deanna curated art exhibitions and managed the permanent art collection at the Art Gallery of Sudbury | Galerie d'art de Sudbury in Sudbury, Ontario.

Ontario Library Association welcomes Sarah Roberts and Katie Needs.

Over the course of the summer, Sarah Roberts will be calling First Nation librarians to complete a phone survey. Katie Needs will be coordinating a fall semester program. OLA has extended an invitation to submit a proposal to present a web platform training opportunity.



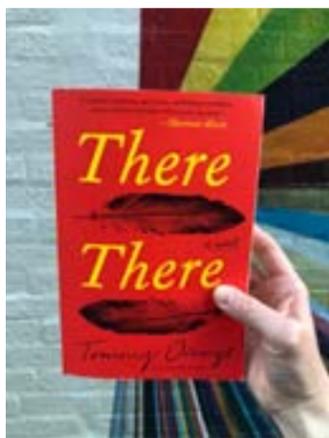
Chiefs of Ontario Elect Ontario Regional Chief

During the 44th annual Chiefs of Ontario meeting on June 27, 2018 at Nipissing First Nation, RoseAnne Archibald was elected as the Regional Chief. Ms. Archibald is the first female Regional Chief of Ontario in the organization's history. In a CBC interview with Waubgeshig Rice, Chief Archibald comments on the significance of having a female Chief of Ontario, "I believe that there's a central way that women carry themselves in life and we bring that to leadership."

RoseAnne Archibald hopes to achieve several goals during Chief Archibald term including clarifying how the Chiefs of Ontario works, building and rebuilding relationships by establishing common ground and strategizing, and positively engaging the Province of Ontario.

RoseAnne Archibald is Cree from Taykwa Tagamou Nation near Cochrane, Ontario. She was also formerly the Deputy Grand Chief of Nishnawbe Aski Nation and the Grand Chief for Mushkegowuk Council.

This year, Ontario Library Service – North and Ontario Library Association held a booth at the Chiefs of Ontario conference in Nipissing to speak with First Nation communities on establishing public libraries.



There, There by Tommy Orange (Oakland, CA)

Written by an Institute of American Indian Arts graduate (Santa Fe, New Mexico), Tommy Orange seamlessly sews together several narratives of mothers, children, boyfriends, and young adults. Tommy Orange's captures the essence of growing up Indigenous in the city while trying to find family and identity through social media and YouTube channels.

Tommy Orange is from the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma. This debut novel was on New York Times Best-Seller List in 2018.

Photo links to Chief Archibald's Twitter account!

Register Now!

Ontario Library Service - North Fall Conference
Delivering Change, Transforming Libraries
September 25 - 27, 2018
Sudbury, Ontario

[Click to register online!](#)

Click on the following logos to learn more about free professional development opportunities on LearnHQ.



UN Declares
2019
"International
Year of
Indigenous
Languages"

[Click to find out more!](#)

EXCEL is a practical, flexible, distance education program that provides an opportunity to upgrade library skills and management techniques. Courses cover a wide variety of topics and can be taken individually. In order to qualify for a Certificate in Managing a Small Public Library students must complete at least ten EXCEL courses, including six mandatory courses. For more details on this program, please see sols.org or contact excel@sols.org

There is no charge to take E01 EXCEL – Introduction to Public Libraries.

The APLL Institute is a two year certificate program designed to expand and advance the leadership capacity of public library CEOs and managers. A new cohort moves through the program every two years, making their way through 12 online courses and attending highly interactive classroom sessions twice a year where participants learn together from expert presenters and from each other.

Registration Deadline: August 29, 2018

Upcoming Grant Deadlines

Ontario Arts Council - Indigenous Culture Fund
Project Grants (Individuals | Collectives | Organizations)
Deadline: November 15, 2018 @ 1:00 pm

[Click to find out more!](#)

[Click to find out more!](#)

First Nations Public Library Week

IN THE KNOW

First Nation Public Library Week

The Future of First Nation Public Libraries

October 1-7, 2018

Launch: Monday, October 01, 2018, 11:00 am
Wabauskang First Nation

First Nations Public Library week is just around the corner!

This year marks 18-years of celebrating libraries in First Nation communities and the First Nation public libraries have selected "The Future of First Nation Public Libraries" as our theme. It's a great time to start thinking about future goals for your library. There are opportunities to grow by getting your communities involved in language revitalization projects, cultural activities, and of course, reading new books by Indigenous writers!

To gear up for celebrating, let's look at our past and current histories in our provincial First Nation Public Library community:

- As of 2018, there are 47 First Nation libraries across the province.
- Some First Nation libraries have been around since the 1960's - shaataaha!
- Ontario is the only province in the country that has libraries in First Nation communities.

As our library community grows, and the portfolio of activities taking place in libraries expands, it's important to highlight and share your successes and challenges. It would be much appreciated if you emailed a listing of activities taking place in your community during First Nations Public Library Week. OLS - North can cross-promote through social media or other librarians may scoop up some of your original ideas.

This year our poster is designed by Jason Petiquan from Wabauskang First Nation.



Jason Petiquan (Wabauskang First Nation)
Library Generations, 2018
Clip studio and substance painter render

Chi-Miigwetch | Niá:wen

First Nations Public Library Week Planning Committee

Joanne Debassige, M'Chigeeng
Randy Penasse, Nipissing
Beverly Bressette, Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point
Lynda Lou Classens, Bkejwanong

Please let us know what you are planning!
Email info to dnebenionquit@olsn.ca
Miigwetch!

Looking for a new way to communicate library value to your stakeholders?

The Valuing Northern Libraries toolkit provides a step-by-step process to assess libraries' social return on investment (SROI) within a holistic, cross-sectoral framework.

Contact OLS - North today to get started on your customized toolkit!

<-----Link

Atikameksheng Anishnawbek Kendaasii-Gamik hosts Jingle Dress Making Workshop



Atikameksheng Anishnawbek community members participated in a four-day intensive workshop facilitated by Sophie Pheasant (Wikwemkoong First Nation). Participants learned the history of the jingle dress (from Lac Seul perspective), took measurements, designed, sewed, and completed the dresses in four nine-hour sessions.

We would love to hear from you! Email story suggestions, articles, or library highlights. Photos are always a plus!
Contact Deanna Nebenionquit dnebenionquit@olsn.ca

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