

News from Prince Edward Island

News from Prince Edward Island Public Library Service

Grace Dawson, Regional Librarian, PEI Public Service

Staffing

Graeme Magill has been appointed as Temporary Branch Technician at Breadalbane Public Library and Hunter River Memorial Library.

This April, Reference Librarian Gary Ramsay will be retiring from the Confederation Centre Public Library. Gary has worked for the PEI Public Library Service for the past 37 years and is well-known for his excellent customer service. We will miss you Gary!



Gary Ramsay (pictured at center)

Discover Winter: Snowshoe Lending Program

This winter, the PEI Public Library Service added snowshoes to its collection. The library purchased four pairs of different-sized snowshoes as a pilot project for seven library locations including Summerside, Charlottetown, Stratford, Montague, Kensington, Cornwall, and the French library at the Carrefour de l'Isle St. Jean in Charlottetown. All Islanders are able to borrow the snowshoes with their library card.



Sensory Kits

On World Autism Awareness Day (April 2nd), the PEI Public Library Service launched a new resource for patrons affected by sensory sensitivities. The library is now offering Sensory Kits which contain toys and tools that can help calm, soothe, and relax people affected by autism,



Alzheimer's disease, ADHD, dementia, and other sensitivities. In all, 30 kits were created for the system and are available at every library branch across the Province. This project was done in partnership with the Autism Society of P.E.I.

Drag Queen Storytime

This March, the PEI Public Library Service offered the Province's first Drag Queen Storytime at the Confederation Centre Public Library in Charlottetown. Whatshername, aka Nicholas Whalen – delivered a strong message both in reading the books *Morris Micklewite* and *the Tangerine Dress* and *King and King and Family* as well as through engaging in playful and thoughtful conversation with the attending children/parents. Around 80 adults/children attended the program.



Canadian Agricultural Literacy Month



For the 3rd year, the PEI Public Library Service participated in Canadian Agricultural Literacy Month. Ten library branches offered special programming which involved local farmers delivering story times to children and answering any agricultural-related questions.