

## News from New Brunswick Public Library Service

**Kate Thompson, Head of Public Services Development**

In response to requests from library staff and other stakeholders, NBPLS has made changes to the online catalogue to enable library patrons to see the objects that they can borrow. The Objects “room” is now part of the “Easy Searches” section of the online catalogue. Since the size and shape of some objects makes them difficult to ship between libraries, the patrons must pick the items up at the owning library and return them to the same location. The Objects room allows patrons to filter the results by library so that they can see which objects are available at their local branch.

NBPLS is increasing its investment in multilingual collections. In the spring, the provincial library service purchased 2,500 eBooks and digital audiobooks in languages other than English and French. Most of these titles were in Spanish, with another large portion in Ukrainian. A smaller collection of books in Portuguese and Italian were also purchased, along with a few titles in Arabic. In July, the Collections Management Unit purchased a collection of physical books in Spanish, German, and Korean. This investment is part of an ongoing commitment to acquire and catalogue books in multiple languages to respond to the needs of our diversifying population.

NB Public Libraries’ pass lending program continues to grow. This year, the library service collaborated with the Albert County Historical Society to lend passes to the Albert County Museum. Nearly 850 passes were borrowed for the small, community-run museum during a 10-day campaign. With the addition of the Albert County Museum, New Brunswickers can now obtain passes to 10 different tourist attractions through this initiative.