

News from Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries

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Love Our Local Authors Month 2026 and NL Reads Must-Read Book of the Year

Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries (NLPL) celebrated the relaunch of **Love Our Local Authors (LOLA)** this April. LOLA shines a spotlight on Newfoundland and Labrador books, authors, and readers. Throughout the month, NLPL hosted a series of events and initiatives, including the **NL Reads Must-Read Book of the Year** which came with the Margaret Duley Prize.

At the beginning of the month, the top ten local books were announced, selected through a combination of circulation statistics and staff feedback. To close out the festivities, NLPL held an award ceremony at the A.C. Hunter Public Library, where the top three authors gathered to learn which title would be named the 2026 NL Reads Must-Read Book of the Year Winner.

The winning title was *The Lucky Seven: The Story of the Elite Navigator* by Gary Collins, followed by *Openly Karl: A Memoir* by Karl Wells and *The Girls of Belvedere* by Michelle T. Clemens. It was a wonderful moment to celebrate and recognize the many talented storytellers of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Alphabetically, the top ten highest-circulating NL books for 2026 are:

- *Blinders* — Ida Linehan Young
- *The Crane* — Monica Kidd
- *Friends Are Forever: A Sgt. Windflower Mystery* — Mike Martin
- *The Girls of Belvedere* — Michelle Clemens
- *Just Around the Corner: A Memoir* — Yvonne Rumbolt-Jones



- *The Lucky Seven: The Story of the Elite Navigator* — Gary Collins
- *Murder of Painted Place: A Novel* — Emily Hepditch
- *Openly Karl: A Memoir* — Karl Wells
- *The Weather Diviner: A Novel* — Elizabeth Murphy
- *We Will Meet Again* — Helen C. Escott

