

News from New Brunswick

News from New Brunswick Public Library Service

Kate Thompson, Head of Public Services Development

The New Brunswick Public Library Service (NBPLS) launched the “Healing Books Project” this summer. The project is the result of a collaboration between NBPLS, the Horizon Health Network, and MindCare New Brunswick. It is a bibliotherapy program founded by a Horizon client and supported by Horizon’s Addictions and Mental Health team. The client was inspired to create the project by the support and hope she found in reading self-help and therapeutic books while in treatment. Thanks to this project, as well as grants received from additional funders, \$60,000 has been invested in making more mental health and addiction resources available to New Brunswickers through public libraries.

In October (to coincide with Canadian Library Month), NBPLS launched Read Local – a campaign designed to encourage discussion about New Brunswick creators and to raise public awareness about the New Brunswick collection that is available in public libraries. Throughout the month, library staff were encouraged to create displays of New Brunswick books, music, movies and art, host NB author readings, feature NB books in their book clubs, and promote Read Local on social media. It is hoped that through this campaign, New Brunswickers will learn more about their rich literary and cultural heritage.