

News from New Brunswick

News from New Brunswick Public Library Service

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In March, the New Brunswick Public Library Service (NBPLS) held its first ever all-staff virtual Employee Development Day. In the past, employee development days have been in-person gatherings held regionally. Due to public health regulations related to COVID-19, however, an online event became necessary. Organized by the York Library Region, with help from staff volunteers from around the province, the day was centered around the theme of “NBPLS Goes to Camp” – complete with camp mascots and participation badges. Staff embraced the theme by changing their Zoom backgrounds or decorating their offices and meeting rooms to look like camping scenes. Keynote speakers were New Brunswick author Beth Powning for the English stream and Kayla BreeLove Carter for the French stream. Breakout sessions included a panel on racism, instruction on improving readers’ advisory skills, and advice for new managers.

Over the winter, New Brunswick Public Libraries created and participated in a promotional campaign for social media called *Indigenous Voices / Voix Autochtones*. The aim of the campaign was to promote awareness in our communities of the importance of storytelling in Indigenous culture. The social media images featured titles from our Indigenous collection and encouraged patrons to check out books by Indigenous authors.

The Library of Craft & Design will be closing to the public on Friday, May 14, 2021. The New Brunswick College of Craft and Design will be absorbing the library collection back into their space and will serve college staff and students only. The public library system will continue to build up their collection of books on fine craft and design as we know New Brunswickers are interested in this content.