

News from New Brunswick Public Library Services

Kate Thompson, Head of Public Services Development/Chef du développement des services publics

In June, it was announced that planning is underway to open five large, urban libraries seven days a week on a permanent basis. In the fall, Campbellton Centennial Library, Mgr. W.-J. Conway Public Library (Edmundston), Fredericton Public Library, Moncton Public Library, and the Saint John Free Public Library – Central Branch will be open from Sunday to Saturday. These libraries had been open seven days a week since May 2016 as part of a pilot initiative, but were operating on reduced hours during the COVID pandemic.

Our pass lending partnerships have continued this summer. At different points over the last few months, NB Public Library patrons have been able to check out passes to the Village Historique Acadien, the Fundy Trail Parkway, Kings Landing, and the Huntsman Fundy Discovery Aquarium. This year to date, nearly 13,000 passes have been loaned through these partnerships.

NB Public Libraries have been working with Nova Scotia Public Libraries and Halifax Public Libraries to promote the Atlantic Publishers Marketing Association's *100 eBooks: All Atlantic Canadian. All Accessible* campaign. The campaign features new releases and backlist titles (in English and French) from Atlantic Canada that have accessible features. These eBooks have been made available in OverDrive and Pretnumerique for simultaneous use for a limited time.

Management of the NBPLS Books by Mail Service has been decentralized. Patrons who require library materials to be sent to their mailing address will now be served by their local library rather than the Library Services by Mail unit that was formerly located in Moncton.

The Médiathèque Père Louis Lamontagne in Miramichi has changed its name. It is now called Carrefour Beausoleil Library. The change was made to better align the name of the library with the school in which it is located – Centre Communautaire Carrefour Beausoleil.