

News from New Brunswick Public Library Service

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The New Brunswick Public Library Service (NBPLS) has begun the process of **modernizing the subject headings** used in our catalogue that relate to Indigenous peoples in Canada. In the first phase of the project, outdated Library of Congress terms as well as obsolete English Canadian Subject Headings will be replaced with new authorized terms from Library and Archives Canada that are already available to Canadian libraries. The existing subject headings specifically related to New Brunswick First Nations will be updated at a later stage, as new terms are not yet available. A separate project to update French terms will be undertaken when appropriate terms are created.

The way that NBPLS staff handle **in-kind donations of library materials** made to the New Brunswick Public Libraries Foundation is changing to make the process more efficient and manageable for all. Staff members from libraries, regional offices and the provincial office helped develop these changes with the assistance of a Process Improvement Facilitator who used the Lean Six Sigma approach to recommend improvements.

The **Kennebecasis Public Library** has announced plans to reopen to the public on August 23rd. The library has been closed since late January due to a flood. The library has been serving patrons in the interim using curbside pickup, by creating Take & Make craft kits, and by offering programs outdoors on their patio or at a nearby Arts & Culture Park. The staff are looking forward to welcoming patrons back to the library soon!

Our public libraries have begun working with Public Health to act as **distribution centres** for COVID-19 point-of-care (POC) test kits (i.e., rapid tests). People with COVID-19 symptoms can register for an “appointment” to pick up their tests at the library using an online government form. The initiative is focused on libraries in rural communities where the distribution of rapid tests is more difficult. Six libraries in the Albert-Westmorland-Kent Library Region (southeast NB) are currently enrolled in the program.

