

Celebrating Ontario Public Library Week at Hamilton Public Library

The Hon. Neil Lumsden, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport to Celebrate OPLW at the Hamilton Public Library

PRESS RELEASE

HAMILTON, ON (October 16, 2023) – It's time to celebrate **Ontario Public Library Week (OPLW)** taking place on October 16 to 20. This year, the theme is "Libraries for Life / Biblios pour la vie."

The Ontario Library Association (OLA), in partnership with the Hamilton Public Library (HPL), are excited to welcome the Honourable Neil Lumsden, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport to host the celebration of Ontario Public Library Week at the Stoney Creek Branch this Friday, October 20 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

"Ontario Public Library Week is a time to recognize and celebrate the important contributions that our public libraries make to communities across the province," said Neil Lumsden, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport. "Libraries provide a safe space for patrons of all ages to explore, connect, grow and share their passion for literacy and lifelong learning. Our government is proud to support Ontario's public libraries and the many ways they make our province the vibrant and welcoming place that we are proud to call home."

October is **Canadian Library Month (CLM)**. During this month, libraries and library partners across Canada raise awareness of the valuable role libraries play in the lives of people in Canada. **First Nations Public Library Week (FNPLW)** is celebrated on the first week of October to raise awareness of First Nation public library resources, services, programs, and activities. This year's theme is: "SKA'HWAT | DGOGAABWI | STANDING TOGETHER."

"Libraries are fundamental to thriving communities and crucial for local economies. They help our neighborhoods develop, making sure everyone has the chance to learn and be part of a community," says Michelle Arbuckle, Executive Director, OLA. "Libraries bring us all together and play a big role in helping Ontarians learn throughout their lives."

During this month, the OLA encourages members to share the joys, possibilities, and connections that libraries bring to people of all ages in Ontario. Learn more and access OPLW resources [here](#).

"Ontario Public Library Week is a great opportunity to celebrate the role libraries play in fostering strong, connected and inclusive communities," says Paul Takala, CEO and Chief Librarian, Hamilton Public Library. "Hamilton Public Library welcomes everyone to visit their local library and discover the valuable services, resources and programming that bring us all together for the common good."

Join the conversation and share how you use your local library space with #OPLW and #LibrariesForLife.

The Ontario Library Association (OLA) is thankful to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport for their support of Ontario Public Library Week. Ontario Public Library Week is made possible with sponsorship by the Canadian Urban Libraries Council and Library Services Centre.



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Ontario Public Library Week Celebration

Date: Friday, October 20, 2023

Time: 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Location: Hamilton Public Library – Stoney Creek Branch

Address: 777 Highway 8, Stoney Creek, ON

Website: <https://www.hpl.ca/stoney-creek>

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About the Ontario Library Association: The Ontario Library Association (OLA) is a centre of excellence for the library and information sector, with 4,000 members who work in public, school, academic and special libraries. OLA members advocate for the right of individuals to have free and equitable access to information. Our members research, develop and participate in educational programs designed to provide exemplary library services. Signature OLA events include the annual Super Conference and the Forest of Reading® program.

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