At the Library, for April 2024 (Antigonish & Pictou Counties)

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It's time to Spring into the library!

April is another of our favorite month's at the library - National Poetry Month. To celebrate, we invite you to borrow a book or two, (or more!) of some of your favourite poets and to explore the displays at several of our libraries. We'll also take time to celebrate Poem in your Pocket Day on April 18. In addition, there is a Poetry Open Mic event at the New Glasgow Library on Saturday April 20, at 2pm. All are welcome to drop by, share and listen. And to help more folks discover their inner wordsmith, there is a "Found Poetry" workshop at the Trenton Library on Saturday April 27 at 11am, led by local poet Mal Kishii. Seating is limited, and pre-registration is required by contacting the Trenton Library.

With April's showers bringing all those May flowers, it's time to get growing – with some gardening workshops to share precious Green Thumb tips. "Gardening on a Budget... Food is Free" workshops with Mandy Sandback will be held on Thursday April 4 (1pm) at the River John Library, and Thursday April 25 (1:30pm) at the Stellarton library. The River John Library will also offer a 3-part children's gardening series, "Let's Get Kids growing" on Tuesday April 9, 16 and 23 at 6pm. Seating is limited, all supplies are provided – and pre-registration for each workshop is required by contacting the library. Looking for more floral inspiration? The library also carries several of the popular gardening magazines and many gardening books. Feel free to drop by and browse the stacks.

National Canadian Film Day brings another reason to celebrate April, and great Canadian films. This year we are excited to host 3 free screenings of 'Ru'. "Brilliantly adapted from Kim Thúy's Governor General Award-winning novel of the same name, this compassionate story of resilience in the face of adversity is stunningly captured and deeply moving. After a perilous journey across the pacific, a family of Vietnamese refugees settles in Montreal, in the hopes of starting a new life. Through a series of flashbacks, the whole picture of their story comes into view, as seen by the youngest family member, who is still processing the trauma of what they left behind, and struggling with her new setting and language". 'Ru' will be shown at the Westville and Pictou Libraries on Wednesday April 17 at 2pm, and at the River John Library on April 18, 2024 at 5:30pm. Other movies on the library's big screens include 'Migration' on Saturday April 13 at 1:30pm, and 'It's a Beautiful Day in the Neighbourhood' on Thursday April 18 at 1:30pm at the New Glasgow Library. The Antigonish Library will show 'Wish' on Saturday April 20, at 1pm. All are welcome to drop by and join us, and bring your favorite moviewatching snacks too!

Plus, some exciting news to share, PARL is home to a CNIB Play Collection (of accessible games and gadgets for persons with vision loss) through a collaborative partnership with the CNIB - Maritimes, Visually Impaired Pictou County and made possible by a Community Wellness Grant from our Community Health Boards in Pictou County. The CNIB Play collection has an array of items, with some old family favorite classic games in the mix, to a few intriguing new board games. The CNIB Play collection is located at the New Glasgow and Pictou libraries.

For more information on all our upcoming library programs and services, please call or drop by your local library, follow us on X (*Twitter*) and *Instagram*, find us on *Facebook*, or visit us online at www.parl.ns.ca.