

At the Library, for the week of June 18, 2018

By Holly MacLean, Community Outreach Assistant for Pictou County

Free Summer Fun at the Library!

It seems that summer is almost upon us, officially starting on Thursday, June 21. As recurring children's programs wrap up in June, we have some fun stuff for families to enjoy over the summer at public libraries throughout Pictou and Antigonish counties. Starting June 23, the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library (PARL) will be gearing up for their Summer Reading and Learning Challenge, in partnership with the 2018 TD Summer Reading Club.

New this year is the ability to sign up and participate online by visiting www.parl.ns.ca. For those who register online between now and June 30, their name is entered for a chance to win a NS Museums Family Pass! Children and families can also drop into public libraries located in Antigonish, New Glasgow, Pictou, River John, Stellarton, Trenton and Westville if they need help signing up online!

The 2018 Summer Reading and Learning Challenge and how it works!

After signing up, participants can take part in reading and learning challenges and track their progress through their online account. For kids, they can collect a prize for every 100 minutes they read, and complete various challenges to win additional prizes that can be picked up at the library. Their name can also be entered for a chance to win a bicycle, generously donated by the Adopt-a-Library literacy program. For teens, every five hours of reading gives them the opportunity to win fun prizes like Goji's gift cards, game tickets, *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* socks and more!

In addition to this year's Summer Reading and Learning Challenge, we're also hosting a wide variety of programs and workshops at public libraries and other in locations throughout our community ranging in subject, from drawing, technology and computer science to celebrating Mi'kmaq culture! For more up-to-date information on summer programs, visit www.parl.ns.ca/events or drop into your local library.

Out and about at a festival near you!

We're excited to be "live on location" at a few spots in Pictou County this weekend. On Saturday, June 23 you'll find us at the New Glasgow Farmers Market with fun stuff like blocks, technology and program information to share! We'll also be signing people up for library cards and checking out materials on the spot. In the afternoon, we will also be at Trenton's Summer's Here celebration with materials from the Adopt-a-Library Literacy program. If you're interested in having the library come to your event or festival, or talk to your group about what we have to offer, give us a call at (902) 755-6031 or toll-free at 1 (866) 779-7761.

For more information on upcoming library programs, special events and services, please drop by your local library branch, follow us on *Twitter*, find us on *Facebook*, or visit us online at www.parl.ns.ca.