



Pictou-Antigonish
Regional Library

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Library Services During Lockdown.

(Antigonish County & Pictou County, April 28, 2021) As of April 28th all branches of the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library are now temporarily closed to public in-person visits by order of NS Public Health. And although our doors are closed to the visiting public - our library services and programs are still available. Beginning Thursday, April 29th we are ready to serve – online, by phone or email, and through outdoor pick-up or Borrow-by-Mail service.

“To assist our communities manage COVID-19, all seven public libraries in Antigonish and Pictou Counties are temporarily closed to public visitation. And although the library’s doors are temporarily closed - we have learned a lot from the experiences of the Spring 2020 pandemic restrictions, and have developed many ways for the public to continue to enjoy, and to be able to safely access our library services and programs.” says Chief Librarian, Eric Stackhouse.

Library users can request books and other materials, by title or subject, by calling or emailing their nearest library and asking to use our outdoor pickup. When you arrive at the branch, during regular open hours, you can call or ring the doorbell and let staff members know you have arrived. The materials will be placed outside for you to pick-up.

All returned library materials are placed in quarantine for 72 hours (the recommended time to ensure COVID 19 is no longer present). And our Book Returns (drop boxes) are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. For rural residents, Borrow-by-Mail is available free of charge with no mailing fees - please call Regional Library Headquarters at 1 (866) 779-7761 for more information and to register.

Obtaining a free library card is easy. Simply go to our website (www.parl.ns.ca) to complete the online library card registration form, call or email any one of our library locations, and we would be happy to assist you.

Anyone can also ask library staff members to help research a topic, find information from government websites, and help refer you to other services and programs. The library can also provide basic technology assistance for electronic devices, computers and help with how to use eReaders. If you are not sure if we can help - please call (or email), and you may be surprised with what we can do to help you! And we do appreciate hearing from everyone, we do miss seeing you too!

The Regional library has also invested in several additional new online services, such as Ancestry.ca, LinkedInLearning.com, PressReader and more, and all are now available through the library’s website, www.parl.ns.ca. At the library’s website, you can search for books and other materials, view new book lists, browse local history, download eBooks, eMagazines and newspapers, learn a new language, take a computer or software course, improve your business skills, even fix your car or truck. All free to use with a library card.

If access to High Speed internet is challenging - all of our libraries have free broadband Wi-Fi, available 24 hours/7 days a week, inside and outdoors around the library. Just park close to any library location, and connect. In addition, with assistance from Community Services – each library location has several iPads available for clients that can be borrowed and used in the vicinity of the library's WiFi – helping everyone to keep connected.

And although, we cannot host public in-person programs in the library right now, we are expanding our programming support for offering more online/virtual programs for children, family, and adults via ZOOM and by teleconference. Program details are added to our PARLevents calendar online, as they become available. And please feel free to contact your local library by phone and email.

While you can't gather in the library for the moment, we want everyone to know we are open for business and here to help you through these trying times. If you want to chat to a real person, give us a call. You would be surprised at what your public library has to offer - even when closed!

For more information, and details, please visit www.parl.ns.ca (for branch hours, telephone numbers, and email addresses), call Regional Library Headquarters' toll-free phone number (1(866) 779-7761), or email info@parl.ns.ca. Follow us on social media, twitter @PARLevents and Facebook @ Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library, and PeoplesPlaceLibrary:AntigonishTown&CountyLibrary)

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For more Information:

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