



# Halifax Public Libraries

Annual Report 2017-18



**Shaped  
by our  
community.**







## A Message From Our Board Chair

Our 2017-2021 Strategic Plan has been the foundation for launching exciting new projects and strengthening existing programs and services this year.

New additions to our collection such as light therapy lamps, radon detectors, and autism tool kits have taken us well beyond books. Adding non-traditional items to our collection is one way we are reaching further to meet important needs in our community. Our community partnerships have allowed us to expand on our existing strengths in knowledge-sharing and circulation to make such projects possible.

This winter, we saw Musquodoboit Harbour Public Library transform into a modern and collaborative shared space with Halifax Recreation. Our Dartmouth North Public Library is also undergoing big changes and this summer, we'll be officially unveiling one of Canada's first outdoor libraries at this branch. The creation of these vibrant and innovative spaces allows the Library to continue to meet community needs and adapt to evolving service approaches.

Our staff take great pride in finding new ways to reach individuals and communities and, most importantly, to inspire connection and growth. From teen-led podcasts and English Language Learning, to food literacy and cooking workshops, Halifax Public Libraries has had many memorable achievements in 2017-18.

We hope you see your community and our impact reflected in this report.

Tara Gault  
Chair, Halifax Regional Library Board

## A Message From Our Chief Librarian and CEO

In the past, we've often let numbers define the value of public libraries. While we have a lot to be proud of in our numbers, we also know our impact on our community extends well beyond the books checked in or out.

Our value is wrapped up in the growth and wellbeing of our community, and every individual community member. This value can be found in day-to-day moments: uplifting interactions, widened perspectives, and ideas brought to life.

We're still sharing our 2017-18 statistics here with great pride. But, you'll also notice that we've made this report into its own "library" of sorts. Inside this report, you'll find some shining moments from the past year.

This is a collection of stories from the people who bring our Libraries to life. Stories from you. We've even included our own version of a picture book, a novel, and a cookbook—all inspired by the ways you use your Library.

Stories take us to new places, show us who we are, and remind us of all that is possible. We're all authors of this unfolding Library story, and you tell it best.



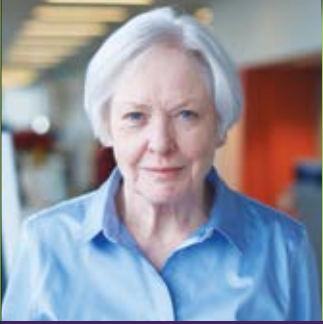



Åsa Kachan  
Chief Librarian and CEO



# Your Halifax Regional Library Board

Our Board is comprised of 11 proud library cardholders who share their skills and talents to help us achieve organizational excellence.

	 <p><b>Councillor Sam Austin</b> <b>My Library is:</b> the hub of my community. <b>My local branch:</b> Alderney Gate Public Library <b>Favourite book:</b> <i>The No.1 Ladies' Detective Agency</i> series by Alexander McCall Smith</p>	
 <p><b>Stephanie Clark</b> <b>My Library is:</b> a place where knowledge comes in more forms than pages in a book, but the written word still serves as the foundation. <b>My local branch:</b> Bedford Public Library, but I spend a lot of time at Central Library. <b>Favourite book:</b> <i>Anne of Green Gables</i> by Lucy Maud Montgomery</p>	 <p><b>Tara Gault</b> <b>My Library is:</b> a place to spend time with family, a second office, a lunch spot with friends, and an e-Library when I'm at home. <b>My local branch:</b> Halifax Central Library <b>Currently reading:</b> the latest issue of <i>The Economist</i></p>	<p><b>Councillor Lisa Blackburn</b> <b>My Library is:</b> a place where everyone feels safe to come and learn. <b>My local branch:</b> Sackville Public Library <b>Currently reading:</b> <i>Everything I Ever Needed to Know I Learned From Monty Python</i> by Brian Cogan and Jeff Massey</p>
 <p><b>Lorraine Glendenning</b> <b>My Library is:</b> where I think about my past, my present, and my future. <b>My local branch:</b> Musquodoboit Harbour Public Library and Central Library <b>Favourite reads this year:</b> <i>The Broken Earth</i> trilogy by N.K. Jemisin</p>		

 <p><b>Leah Hamilton</b> <b>At the Library I:</b> relax, learn, experience, feel generally inspired, and drink lots of tea. Life slows down at Central Library, in a really good way. <b>My local branch:</b> Halifax Central Library <b>Just finished reading:</b> <i>Just Kids</i> (Patti Smith's autobiography)</p>		
	 <p><b>Janet Newton</b> <b>My Library is:</b> where I go to swim in books. <b>My local branch:</b> Keshen Goodman Public Library <b>Currently Reading:</b> I am devouring mystery novels by Charles Todd</p>	<p><b>Brad Munro</b> <b>My Library is:</b> a space for individuals to be who they are. <b>My local branch:</b> Sackville Public Library <b>Favourite book:</b> <i>Robopocalypse</i> by Daniel H. Wilson</p>
 <p><b>Mayor Mike Savage, ex officio</b> <b>My Library is:</b> a place where everyone is welcome and happy. <b>My local branch:</b> Alderney Gate Public Library (the branch my father championed as Mayor of Dartmouth) <b>Currently reading:</b> <i>The Choice</i> by Bob Woodward and <i>Just Jen</i> by Jen Powley</p>		
 <p><b>Cynthia O'Driscoll</b> <b>My Library is:</b> so much more than books; it is a place of learning, a gathering space, and it offers key services that foster community-building. <b>My local branch:</b> Alderney Gate Public Library <b>Currently reading:</b> <i>How to Get Filthy Rich in Rising Asia</i> by Mohsin Hamid</p>	<p><b>Rev. LeQuita Porter</b> <b>My local branch:</b> Keshen Goodman Public Library <b>Currently reading:</b> <i>Teaching to Transgress</i> by Bell Hooks</p>	



# Our Library. Your Library. My Library.

There once was a library filled with shelves of books and quiet corridors.

Outside the library walls was a bustling community of people of all ages and backgrounds with endless expertise, interests, and needs. These heroic characters were creating, singing, leading, exploring.

Over the years, they began living out new adventures inside the library. As they requested more services, added new ideas, and shared their talents, the library morphed and grew. The library listened to what its community wanted and needed, and with every new adventure, more light, sound, and life began to flood its corridors.

Our Library is your Library. It's a never-ending story, just waiting to be told. While some say "happily ever afters" are things of fairy tales, we're lucky that a new one happens here every day.

**3,618,317**

visits to the Library

**806,074**

e-Library checkouts and transactions

**17,370**

new Library members

Library volunteers gave

**38,537**

hours

**224,072**

program attendees

**3,867,221**

WiFi connections



J FICTION PER



Pablo's mom is from France.  
His dad is from Cuba.  
They live in Canada, and  
he speaks 3 languages.

**BONJOUR**  
**HOLA**  
**HELLO**

If you guessed French, Spanish,  
and English, you're right.





When Pablo was little, he practiced English a lot at the Woodlawn Public Library.



He's 10 now and goes to the Library for books all the time. He loves everything from *Around the World in 80 Days* to *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, and flipping through all the cool sports magazines.





Pablo read 42 books last year for the TD Summer Reading Club. He ended up winning the grand prize. His class cheered EXTRA loud when they heard the news: Pablo was going to become Mayor for a Day.



Pablo will be in the TD Summer Reading Club again this year. He has big goals, and now he knows that anything is possible. And books help.

In December, Pablo took over Halifax for a day.

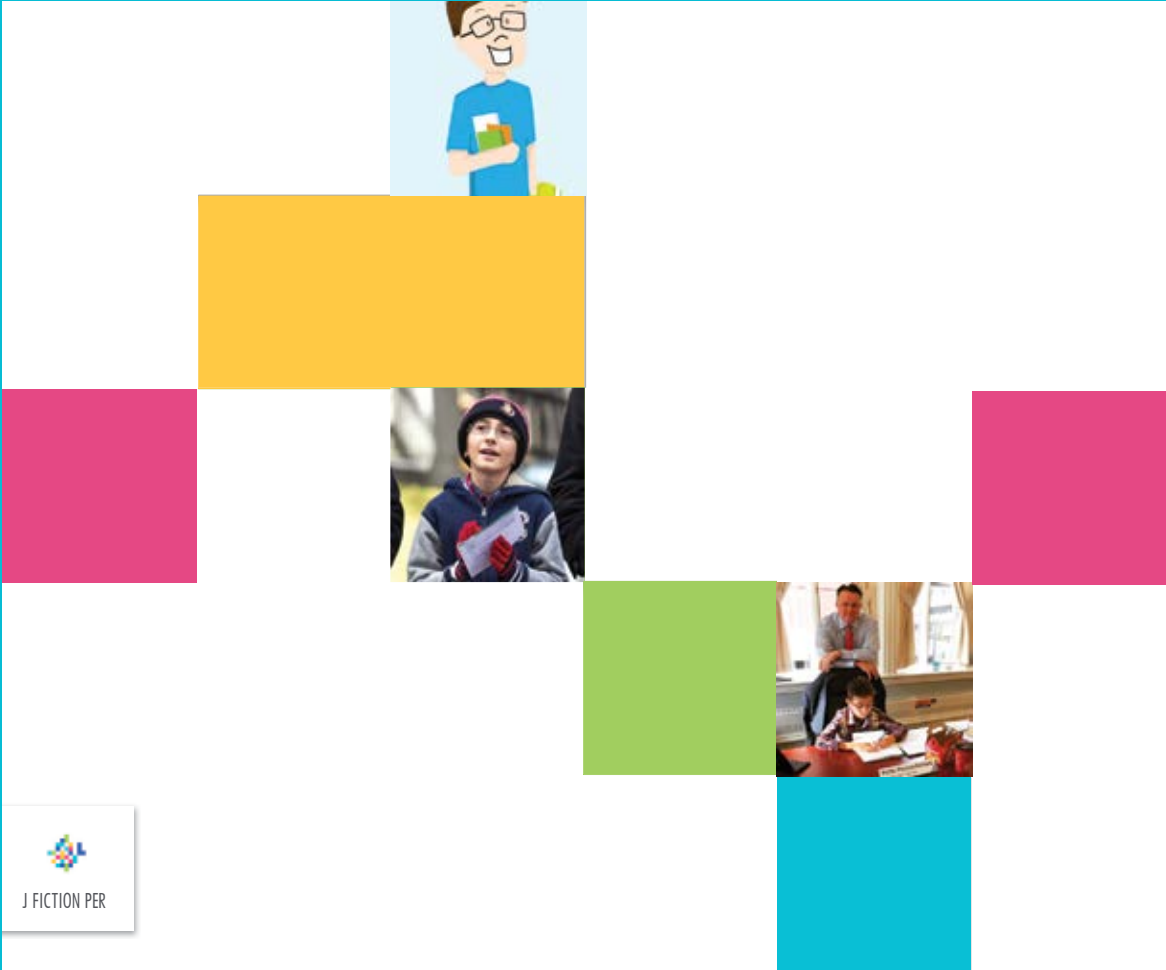
Being Mayor is a busy job but luckily there was time to have a doughnut break.

As Mayor, Pablo tried out some Library robots, visited a new business, and helped send a Christmas tree to Boston. It was all a lot of fun.

But, the best part was wishing the whole city Happy Holidays. Of course, he said it 3 different ways.

"Merry Christmas"  
"Joyeux Noël."  
"Feliz Navidad."





# Reflecting Our Community

We're here to answer the call of our community, responding to needs by finding new niches for library service. We embrace all opportunities to bring the Library experience to new groups of people in unique and surprising ways.

## Popping Up...

### ...AT THE MOBILE FOOD MARKET

For the past two years, Keshen Goodman Public Library has been bringing programs and entertainment, free WiFi, and library services to the Mobile Food Market in Fairview. The Mobile Food Market increases food security by bringing delicious, affordable produce to several communities by way of a Halifax Transit bus. And the Library is along for the ride, creating a welcoming and enriching atmosphere, just like at any of our branches. We're looking forward to growing this partnership and continuing outreach via the Mobile Food Market.

### ...AT THE BEACH

We move with our community and, during Nova Scotia's summer months, our community flocks to the beach. Teams from Woodlawn and Dartmouth North Public Libraries have become regular fixtures at Rainbow Haven Beach, Fisherman's Cove, and Albro Lake Beach. They offer kids' activities and seaside reads to local and visiting beachgoers.



## IT CAME FROM THE SECOND FLOOR: CENTRAL LIBRARY'S TEEN PODCAST



When we spoke to 17-year-old Lola Cardona and 15-year-old Emma Martell about the teen volunteer-led podcast, *It Came From the Second Floor*, naturally, we audio-recorded our conversation in Central Library's Media Studio, where it's produced.

Lola and Emma are longtime Library volunteers, participating on our Teen Advisory Council and supporting emerging young readers. They also run monthly segments on the podcast. Lola hosts a movie review; and Emma, a historical look at music and well-known bands.

The girls are regulars of the youth floor—the second floor—at Central Library (“It’s like stepping into your bedroom; I can relax now!”). At a certain point, they say, their friends stopped asking them where they’d be on any given day of the week. The answer is always “the Library!”

Emma says she basically “grew up” at the Library, and even made the choice to transition from homeschooling to public high school because of the people she’s met volunteering.

“I think a big part of the Library is interaction with other humans,” she says. Volunteering has “even made me think about going into library service as a career.”

Both teens note that podcasting has taught them new technical and organizational skills, and while they truly enjoy bonding over blooper moments, Lola sums it all up in true podcaster fashion:

“Everyone in podcast, they’re doing something they like, talking about something they enjoy. Everyone is kind of finding their own voice. It sounds cliché, but it fits.”

You can tune into *It Came from the Second Floor* by visiting [halifaxpubliclibraries.ca/teens](http://halifaxpubliclibraries.ca/teens).





# Looking to Our Past, Building Our Future

This year, two special projects dug into local history to preserve old tales and generate new stories for future generations.

## THE COBEQUID PAST & FUTURE PROJECT

The Cobequid Past & Future Project was a collaboration between Bedford and Sackville Public Libraries, made possible by the Province of Nova Scotia in partnership with the Department of Communities, Culture, and Heritage. The Cobequid region includes the communities of Sackville, Bedford, Fall River, Waverley, Beaver Bank, Timberlea, and Hubley.

Throughout 2017, we gathered stories from Cobequid community members to fill a time capsule and web portal with memories. Events ranged from sessions on the history of the Bedford Basin, to a story-writing competition for youth, to an exploration of Mi'kmaq traditional and spiritual cultures.



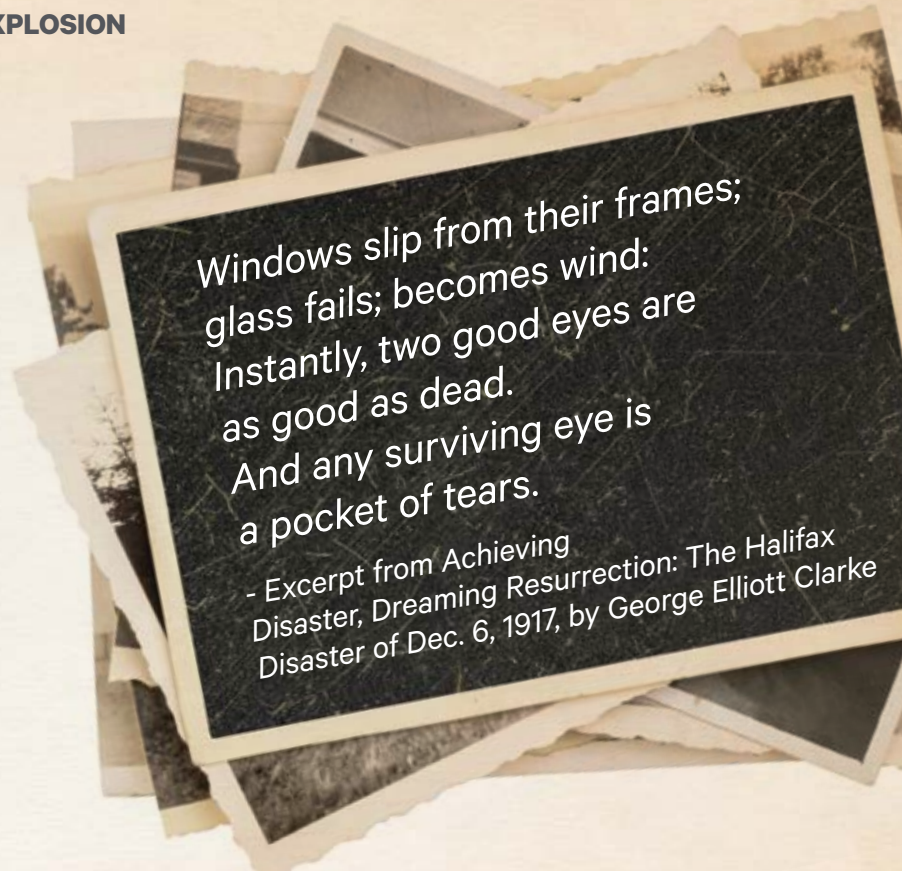
*“One of the things that, of course, I grew up with was the Sackville Drive-In. It was walking distance from our house, so in my teenage years we used to walk down to the Drive-In, put the speaker on, and watch the movies there, without a vehicle. I think I only went once in a car to Sackville Drive-In.”*

- Helen Murray Archibald

## 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HALIFAX EXPLOSION

The Library honoured the 100th Anniversary of the Halifax Explosion in 2017. In partnership with the regional Halifax Explosion 100 Committee, the Library helped gather stories of survival, devastation, and perseverance for the 100years100stories.ca website. In addition, we created a digitized compilation of historical articles and resources from our Library collection and archives.

Several Library events looked back on the Halifax Explosion. On the December 6 anniversary, Central Library hosted former Parliamentary Poet Laureate, George Elliott Clarke, as he debuted the commissioned 100th anniversary poem over the beautiful sounds of Symphony Nova Scotia.





# REACHING FURTHER

By the Lucas Family



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## Chapter 1

It's a sunny Saturday at Sackville Public Library, and the Lucas family has travelled in from Beaver Bank to post up and do some exploring.

Maliah, who is nine, comes in from playing by the Community Garden to join her three brothers. They've kicked off their boots and are exploring items from the Library's Autism Tool Kits, created in partnership with Autism Nova Scotia. Maliah settles in and quietly focuses on tipping and turning a Spiral Tube filled with water and colourful bubbles.

It's no surprise this is her go-to item. She loves fish and the ocean.



## Chapter 2

Halifax Public Libraries and Autism Nova Scotia joined forces in Fall 2017 to bring Autism Tool Kits to the Library collection. Sensory, Visual, and Fidget kits are now available for borrowing. Families and individuals can use the kits for researching the tools that best suit their needs, and then purchase or create their own.

“I’d heard about the kits on Twitter,” says Dad, Chad. Maliah is on the autism spectrum and is semi-verbal. Chad and his wife, Shawna, have remarked that certain items they’ve tried have helped Maliah connect and communicate with her brothers.





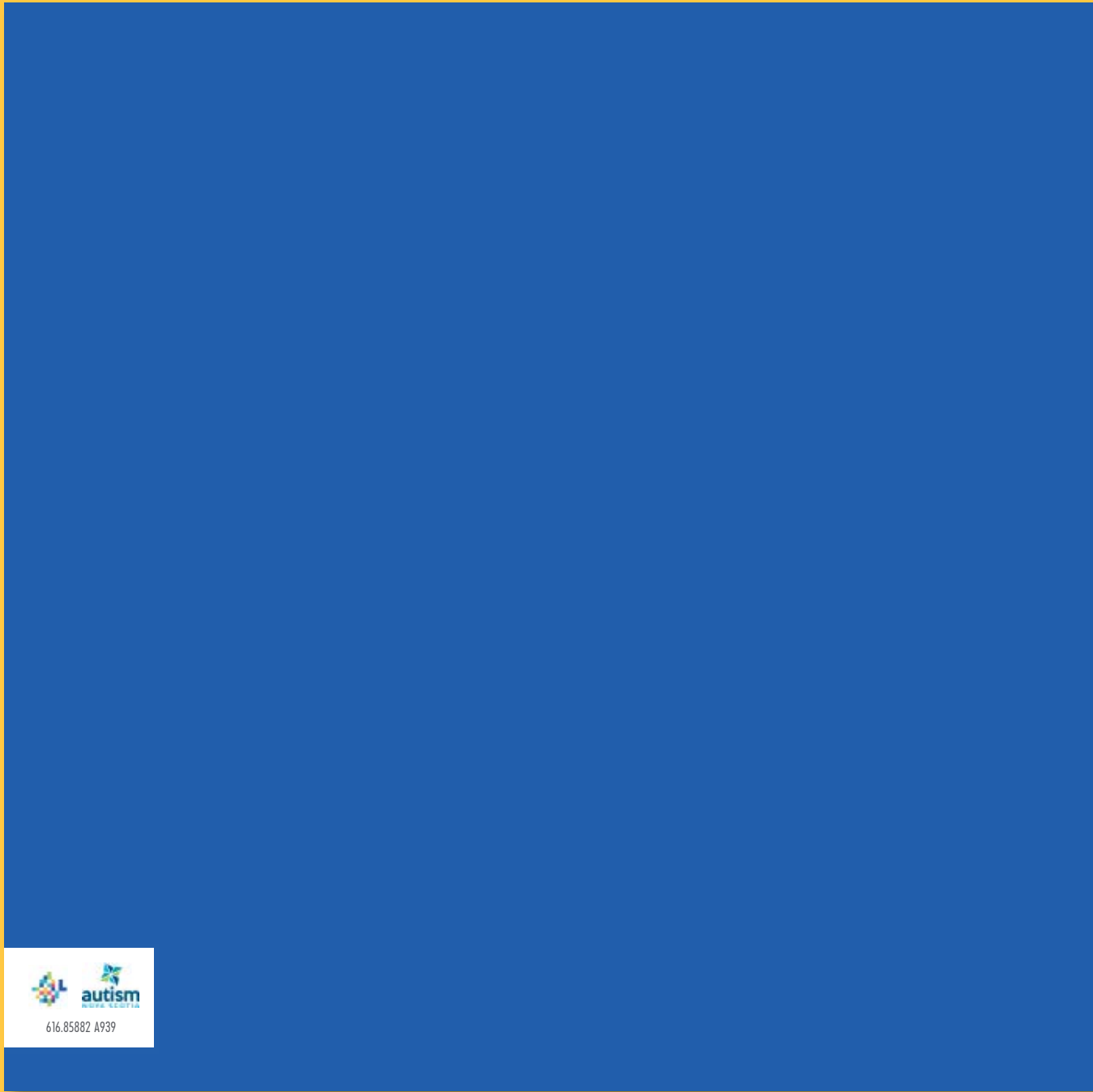
### Chapter 3

The boys also enjoy the kits. The ghost suit—a compression tool—is a favourite, as clearly demonstrated when they test it out to chase one another and Maliah among the shelves. The Library is familiar ground for the kids. They are all cardholders and know how to borrow and place holds online.

Now, the Library has taken their family experience beyond books.

“We’re happy to see something like this at the Library. We can count on the Library to be a place with something for all of us,” says Chad.

Maliah seems to feel the same, because even though she has donned the ghost suit by the end of the afternoon, her smile is apparent from underneath it.





# A Resource for Everyone

We have a lifetime of experience in sharing and lending, and we’re committed to providing free access to diverse collections, programs, and experiences. With input from our community, we are constantly expanding the range of things we share.

## Beyond Books

In 2017-18, we added some unique new items to our collection, and community feedback has been extremely positive.

### LIGHT THERAPY

We said “goodbye” to Daylight Saving Time in November, and “hello” to light therapy lamps. In response to requests from our community, light therapy lamps are now available for use at all our branches. Large desk lamps can be used while reading and working inside the Library, and smaller to-go lamps can be borrowed for use at home.

The lamps are designed to mimic spring and summer light levels. Sitting in front of a lamp for 20 to 30 minutes can help ease symptoms of the “winter blues” and clinically diagnosed seasonal affective disorder (SAD).



### AUTISM TOOL KITS

In November, we launched our Autism Tool Kits, created in collaboration with Autism Nova Scotia. These kits provide hands-on research opportunities for families to decide which visual, sensory, and fidget items best suit their needs and interests before making a purchase.



### SQUIGGLE PARK

We were tickled green to launch free access for all Library members to Squiggle Park. Squiggle Park is a website made up of bite-sized games designed by teachers, researchers, and gamers to support foundational reading development. The program is helping young Halifax learners take a bite out of reading—a monstrously perfect success, because Squiggle Park was developed right here in Halifax.



### RADON DETECTORS

In partnership with the Lung Association of Nova Scotia, we added 75 radon detector kits to our collection. Radon exposure is the second leading cause of lung cancer after smoking. A simple test can determine if a home is free of radon gas. Typically, testing kits and services come with a cost, so we’re happy to share these kits with community members to support their good health.

### NORDIC WALKING POLES

Nordic walking poles can be borrowed from Sackville and Keshen Goodman Public Libraries for use on active adventures, and testing out for potential purchase. We’ve added some fun hiking-related programming, too.



## Partner Spotlight: The Youth Project

“We’re headquartered in downtown Halifax, but that space isn’t accessible to everyone, including youth who live further away, or aren’t ready to be in a space so clearly LGBTQ2+-identified,” says Kate Shewan, Executive Director of The Youth Project. “When we asked youth where else they could go that felt safe, they immediately came up with their own local libraries. And so, Connect the Dots began, a group for LGBTQ2+ youth and their allies 18 and under.”

This partnership with The Youth Project is close to our Library heart. Five of our Library branches host monthly Connect the Dots meet-ups and The Youth Project runs training workshops with Library staff.

We’re also happy to add some flair to the dull days of winter by playing host to The Youth Project’s annual Youth Drag Show at Central Library. “Drag has been a long-held method of self-expression and protest in our LGBTQ2+ community, but LGBTQ2+ youth do not always get to have that connection to their history,” says Shewan. “This gave us a chance to build those bridges between youth and mentors, and foster creative expression that nurtures all the amazing and resilient things that LGBTQ2+ youth bring to us.”

“Library spaces have been crucial to our ability to reach out to LGBTQ2+ youth in communities across the HRM. It also helps that Halifax Public Libraries has amazing Teen Services staff who are ready to support the LGBTQ2+ youth who walk through their doors.”

We’re proud to be this resource for you, and thankful for all you do for our communities, The Youth Project.











### ***Foreword***

Tastes Like Home was a 2017 Library project focused on honouring Nova Scotian food heritage while increasing food literacy in our province. Programs and resources were created in partnership with individuals and organizations representing the many cultures of Nova Scotia, and in particular Mi'kmaq, Acadian, African Nova Scotian, Gaelic, and newcomer communities. This project was supported by the Province of Nova Scotia in partnership with the Department of Communities, Culture, and Heritage.

We reached out through workshops, presentations, resource-sharing, and one big culinary celebration in the fall called FRESHFest. From skill-building and recipe-collecting, to community conversations and video storytelling, Tastes Like Home served up something for everyone.

Our community embraced this series. This hunger for knowledge, and the proven success of programming has helped us begin building a food-based strategy for future Library programs and services so the Tastes Like Home legacy can live on.





## Our Food Champions

### ***The Foodie***

Food writer and journalist, Simon Thibault had a full-circle moment at the Library. It played a key role in the creation of his book; *Pantry and Palate: Remembering and Rediscovering Acadian Food*.

### ***The Food Advocate***

Honourable member of the Canadian Senate, Dr. Wanda Thomas Bernard uses the Library to help bring food education to her community.

Hear the full stories at [tlh.halifaxpubliclibraries.ca](http://tlh.halifaxpubliclibraries.ca)



## As a result of Tastes Like Home, I will...

- “ferment veggies myself”
- “look up more information online”
- “make some dietary adjustments”
- “show my grandchildren what I learned”
- “try new gardening techniques”







**In a survey of participants at select workshops:**

- 95% learned something new or helpful.
- 91% felt more confident about what they learned.
- 90% intend to apply what they learned.
- 87% were more aware of the resources and services provided by the Library.



**A Recipe for Success**

**Serves:**  
7,285  
program participants

**Ingredients:**  
100+ inspiring  
community partners  
14 eager Libraries  
137 unique programs

A passion for food

**Directions:**  
Combine all ingredients  
in a free and energetic  
environment, receptive to  
a wide range of interests  
and tastes.  
  
Sprinkle in equal parts:  
kitchen mishaps, tasty new  
discoveries, and library love.  
  
Enjoy every morsel and share  
your favourite new skills and  
creations with friends and  
loved ones.







# A Launch Point For Growth

Through updates to our spaces, thoughtfully designed programs, dedicated staff members, and additions to our collection, we nurture and inspire learning, connection, and growth.

## MUSQUODOBOIT HARBOUR PUBLIC LIBRARY

In January, we re-opened our doors in Musquodoboit Harbour, and the community came to play. The Recreation Centre and Library has been completely refurbished, creating a vibrant, modern, and accessible space for everyone that combines Recreation, Library, and HRM services. The upgrades include a new community kitchen, shared welcome area, and programming spaces brightened by large windows and local artwork.

## DARTMOUTH NORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY

This spring in Dartmouth, a new community “backyard” has blossomed as a space for connection and exploration. Thanks to generous support from the TD Common Ground Project and ACOA, the Dartmouth North Community Centre and Library’s outdoor space has been transformed into a garden, outdoor library, and playground. This space is one of the first outdoor libraries in Canada, combining all the benefits of a library with fresh air and active living.

# Page Turners at the Central Nova Scotia Correctional Facility

*“Things are pretty bad in here. You can get pretty down. But, after reading this book about what this guy survived, I thought to myself, I can do this. I can get through this and make something of my life.”*

- Page Turners participant

Supported by a grant from the Mental Health Foundation of Nova Scotia and created in partnership with the NS John Howard Society (NSJHS), the Page Turners Book Club has been a testament to the power of reading.

Library and NSJHS staff have been hosting six-week-long book club sessions at the Central Nova Scotia Correctional Facility since Summer 2017.

The book is different every time, and participants commit to reading an assigned number of chapters per week and attending weekly discussions led by facilitators.



Branch Manager, Janice Fiander, has led the development and facilitation of Page Turners. She recalls knowing in its early days that the program would have great impact: “*The Golden Spruce* was selected for the first book club, and the main character in the novel struggles with mental illness and addiction. Of their own accord and initiative, many inmates opened up and shared their own struggles with mental health and addictions.”

Janice has also been able to connect with each participant to find out their specific reading preferences and bring books from the Library every week to fit their reading level and interests.





# ADULT LITERACY AND LEARNING

Library volunteers provide weekly support to adult learners looking to upgrade their English language skills. While the focus of these meet-ups is typically test preparation and coursework, the connection made by participants often ends up being about so much more than words.

## Alawi's Story

Alawi Altamer and Juli Martin are drinking coffee and chatting about puppies when we visit them at Captain William Spry Public Library. They look like a typical set of friends enjoying a morning catch-up. But they're also doing important work.

Alawi and his family moved to Canada just over two years ago from Syria. He, his wife, and their six kids live in Cowie Hill. Through the Library's Syrian newcomer welcome program established in partnership with ISANS, Alawi, whose first language is Arabic, joined the English Language Learning program (ELL).

Alawi's conversation partner, Juli, is a huge supporter of the program. "I joined the program because my parents were both immigrants. I wanted a way to give back," she says.

Beyond English conversation practice, Alawi and his conversation partners have been preparing for the Canadian Citizenship Test. The coursework focuses on everything from Canadian history and political structure, to communicating with a landlord.

Alawi is a painter by trade but someday hopes to work with computers. Two of his kids are in elementary school, and he says they help him continue his English at home—"it's good practice."

*"Learning at the Library makes me feel very happy. I like talking to other people."*

Alawi visits the Library often with his family and credits it for being part of the reason he loves his new home.

## Mikayla's Story

Mikayla Martell has achieved a lot in a few short months with the support of her Adult Literacy Learning partner, Mary-Jo Bernard. Mikayla has extreme anxiety and was homeschooled, but did not complete high school due to illness. She was searching for GED programs when she found the Library's Adult Literacy program.

"Libraries were one of the few places I felt comfortable when I started. It seemed like the best option for me."

She was matched up with volunteer tutor, Mary-Jo, in October 2017. Meeting weekly at Keshen Goodman Public Library, they've blazed through the preparation and completion of four GED tests. There's just one more to go in the spring.

The pair hit it off from the start, and their back-and-forth banter and laughter illustrates the partnership has been a success beyond tests.

"When we first met, Mikayla gave me a handcrafted apple. She makes crochet crafts on the side," says Mary-Jo. "I dealt with anxiety a lot when I was younger, and I get what it's like. You just need someone to help, be patient, and give you that push."

*"I'm happy to say I feel comfortable in many more places now. It's given me the confidence to try things that before seemed too daunting," Mikayla says. "This is a stepping stone."*

The pair will celebrate and say their goodbyes this spring. Mary-Jo is completing her Masters degree in the Psychology field of Family Studies and Gerontology, and will return home to PEI. Mikayla says her next stepping stone is to apply for Community College. She's interested in Teen Psychology, as well as Deaf Studies.





# Our People

People are at the heart of all we do, and our Library staff members put the “heart” in all we do.



## Public Library Leadership

With over 400 employees handling six million interactions with our community every year, “the human element drives everything we do. And it is our staff who determine the user experience,” says Sara Gillis, Manager of Community Engagement. Along with Dave MacNeil, Manager of Collections & Access; and Ken Williment, Manager of Sackville Public Library; Sara is a recent graduate of the Canadian Urban Libraries Council’s Public Library Leaders program (PLL).

PLL works to contribute to the vitality and success of public libraries and the diverse communities they serve by positioning public library professionals to be proactive, effective voices in the global information environment. Courses range from human resources to government relations and library advocacy. All three of our Halifax Public Libraries participants have noted the connection with other professionals across Canada as a huge benefit to ‘future proofing’ our organization to meet changing needs and stay at the forefront of innovation.

“The program introduced me to a lot of library leaders, at various stages of their careers, all who shared their successes and challenges,” says Dave MacNeil. “I feel like I have a head start with certain aspects of my work, because I met so many others who have already gone through similar experiences.”



# Faces of the Library

Our staff members go above and beyond the call of Library duty. These four individuals embody our organizational values, creating outstanding experiences for community members through every interaction.



**Ron Bulmer**  
**Keshen Goodman Public Library**  
*Began working with us in 1992*

My Library is: a place where I’ve always felt at home. A meeting place for inquiring minds.

I love that libraries give opportunities for everyone in society to learn about and discuss what is important to them. I feel so fortunate to work at something that I love to do!



**Noha Elshamy**  
**Keshen Goodman Public Library**  
*Began working with us in 2016*

My Library is: a safe place for everyone.

The best part of my job is seeing the smile on customers’ faces when they find what they are looking for at the Library.



**Nicky King**  
**Tantallon Public Library**  
*Began working with us in 1990*

My Library is: a place of wonder, joy, and happiness.

I love interacting with and helping people. Seeing them leave with a smile (or even a laugh).



**Sandy Tober**  
**Alderney Gate Public Library**  
*Began working with us in 1997*

My Library is: a sanctuary, a haven.

The best part of my job is making a difference in the lives of others. Being the person that can make someone’s day a bit brighter. Engaging in extremely meaningful conversations with people who might otherwise be alone in their day.





A large group of students, mostly of African descent, are sitting on a blue mat in a gymnasium. They are wearing white t-shirts with a blue logo on the front. Some students are holding blue folders or papers. In the background, there are tables with various items on them, and a person is standing near a blue banner with white text. The gymnasium has a wooden floor and a blue wall in the background.

**CTIONS  
THE DEVICE**

...new device...  
...average temperatures...  
...Health Canada

**NOVA SCOTIA  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARIES**

**HEALTH CANADA**

68.0  
16.1  
MFL 3774

Mario  
@margreek • 15 Mar 2018  
Picked up my radon  
detector from @hfxpublib  
today.





Halifax Public  
Libraries