



# Friends of the Meaford Library



## AMONG FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

Spring 2019

### It's Our 25th Anniversary

#### It's Been 25 Years!

The Friends of the Meaford Library (FOML) began in 1994. A lot has happened over the years. At one point the FOML paid for the new books that the library purchased. That function became part of the regular municipal budget and the Friends contributed to other things to enhance our library's services.

Over the years FOML has contributed to the Hoopla Digital Streaming Service, MPL Library Cards, TV and laptops, Early Literacy Station in the Children's Library, Teen laptops, as well as furniture for the Teen Room, and Kobo eReaders

To help celebrate our anniversary the FOML is compiling a history of the Friends of the Meaford Library. Marie McKay, one of the original members of the Friends, has compiled a



Celebrating 25 Years  
1994 2019



Friends of Meaford Library  
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friendsofmeafordlibrary.ca

history of our 25 years. This will be on sale at the Net Shed, by donation, this season.

Support the FOML and look for the anniversary history. As with everything the Friends earns, the funds go to support our library.

#### 2019 Season Orientation



We will be having our Orientation and sign up day on Saturday May 11th in the boardroom at the Meaford Public Library, 15 Trowbridge St. W., from 11 am. to 3 pm. So you can sign up for the weekend shifts

and renew your membership. Also there will be a volunteer at the Net Shed for members to have a look around and see the improvements we have made. We are now on Facebook! "Net Shed Used Book Store Meaford". Follow us to stay up to date on what's happening in the Shed throughout the summer.

Our opening day is Saturday May 18th, and as it's our 25th anniversary, we really want to celebrate. During the season we hope to keep the celebrations ongoing, one Saturday a month. For the first Saturday we hope to have a tent with cake, soft drinks, balloons and ice cream. Volunteers are needed to help set up, serve, tidy up and take down. What ideas do you have that would contribute to our anniversary season and increase our revenue for the new library?

Would you be willing to organize a Saturday BBQ? a lemonade stand? a joint venture with the Meaford Museum? What can we do to attract the public to fundraiser events for the new library?

Contact Jane at: [jane.leckenby@sympatico.ca](mailto:jane.leckenby@sympatico.ca)

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### The New Library Fundraising Campaign

#### The Numbers So Far

The Friends of the Meaford Library (FOML) is pleased to be a partner with the Meaford Public Library and the Municipality of Meaford in the New MPL Fundraising Campaign. Funds raised to date include donations made

to the library over the years, past fundraising events, such as author events, successful grant applications, as well as funds donated through the FOML as part of the Fundraising Campaign.

Since November of 2017, the FOML has been receiv-

ing donations for the building of the new library. There have been a total of 522 days between the first donation and the most recent one.

We have 219 individual donors who have made a total of 368 donations, 259 of them from Meaford ad-



Acting MPL CEO Lynne Fascinato & FOML Treasurer Jim Brown

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## Sunday Concert Series 2019

We are planning for an exciting series this year. Come on down to the Harbour Pavilion, Sundays at 7:00. Bring a Lawn Chair & Enjoy Music by the Bay.



The first concert on Sunday June 30<sup>th</sup> features Waverley Rice. The concerts continue every Sunday through Labour Day weekend. As always, admission is by donation. Stay tuned for the remain-

ing 2019 series. Check us out this spring for the full line-up:

[www.friendsofmeafordlibrary.ca](http://www.friendsofmeafordlibrary.ca)



*Allan Johnson—a favourite performer at the concert series*

*"I love my library because...it feels like home"*

*Meaford Library Patron*

## New At The Net Shed

It's springtime again in the Friends of Meaford Library's Net Shed Used Book Store. Our opening weekend is Saturday 18 and Sunday 19 May, and our hours are 10 – 4. The Net Shed volunteers look forward to opening day for many reasons, but one of their favourite is the annual influx of book donations.

Opening each box of newly donated books is like Christmas, finding out what's in there. A dozen children's picture books? Three or four this-year's novels? Maybe a few dozen top-

condition paperbacks? We never know. We sometimes receive very interesting books.

*"The best part of re-opening each year is seeing old customers returning to us."*

Signed copies of General Romeo Dallaire's books were very welcome.

We also look forward to seeing old friends, people we've worked with in previous years and perhaps haven't seen through the winter. Stories are told, trips compared, family or gardening news exchanged. Shelves are dusted, floors are swept. This year we'll have fresh new signage, and some new plants in the bed beside our beloved double doors.

## FOML Members Hard at Work

The Friends of the Meaford Library continues to grow. In 2018 we had over 14 new members join. Members were very active too.

At the Rotary Trivia night held to raise funds for the new library we had 2 teams from the volunteers of the Friends.

AND they took first and second place!

The Friends held its annual book sale at the library in February

In 2018 the FOML sponsored the very

successful author event with former Prime Minister, Jean Chretien, at the Meaford Hall. This event raised over \$20,000 for the New Meaford Library Capital Campaign.

The Friends also were able to sponsor Georgian Bay Reads, which was held in Meaford this year.

The Friends look forward to taking part in the Scarecrow Festival this year. The theme this year is 'Scarecrow's Book Invasion'.



*Scarecrow's Book Invasion 2019*

***The Numbers So Far (cont'd from P.1)***

dressess. The most distant donor lives in Vancouver. 49 donors have given at least twice.

The median donation is \$50, which means we have received as many donations of more than \$50 as we have of less than \$50. Many people make monthly donations ranging from \$5 to over \$100.

These donations, mainly from private individuals, total just under \$100,000 as of mid-April 2019.

The campaign has also been fortunate to receive some grants and corporate donations. The Trillium Foundation donated \$150,000 to the new library,

the Loblaw W. Garfield Weston Foundation provided \$15,000 and Meridian Credit Union \$5,000. Canadian Base Operators also donated \$5,000 in sponsorship of the Jean Chretien author event in the Fall of 2018.

The total funds raised as at April 15, 2019 is over \$422,000, well on the way to the target of \$750,000



*On the way to biography...*

## Events in May 2019

### READ-A-THON

During the month of May, the Read-A-Thon continues. It is open to people of all ages; children, youth, adults, everyone. It began on Monday, April 1, and the Read-A-Thon concludes on Friday, May 31, 2019.

Designed to foster and promote a love of reading and books, the Read-A-Thon will also help raise funds for the new Meaford Public Library building.

The Read-A-Thon will have prizes for the most books read and the most money raised in each of three age categories:

- Children – Ages 3 to 9 years
- Youth – Ages 10 to 16 years
- Adult – Ages 17 and older

Everyone who enters will also receive a small prize when they return their pledge forms and money raised. Donations over \$20 are eligible for a tax receipt.

It's easy to enter the Read-A-Thon, just pick up a pledge form and book record at the library. You can read anything to participate - a novel, graphic novel, comic book, picture book, non-fiction title, or listen to an audiobook.

The grand prizes will be awarded to the winners in each age category on Saturday, June 8 at a party, open to all Read-A-Thon participants, at the Meaford Public Library.

For more information:

email: [newlibrary@meaford.ca](mailto:newlibrary@meaford.ca),

call 519-538-1060 ext. 1123, or go to:

[www.meaford.ca/newlibrary](http://www.meaford.ca/newlibrary)



### MEAFORD BUSINESS CHALLENGE

#### Join the Challenge

The Meaford Public Library Fundraising Committee is inviting Meaford Businesses to participate in an exciting donation opportunity.

#### Spread the Word

The Fundraising Committee has confirmed an anonymous donor has pledged to match donations made by local businesses, up to a total of \$25,000, to the new library building campaign throughout May 2019.

#### Make a Difference

The new Meaford Public Library will draw people to the downtown core and provide an increase in traffic to the area. There are also many functions of the library that can be used by our local businesses including meeting space, video and teleconferencing equipment, printing, faxing, and online resources.



The FOML is proud to partner in the Fundraising Campaign.

#### Double your Donation

Double the value of your contribution during the month of May 2019. You can make a donation on-line and receive an instant tax receipt. The anonymous donor will match your donation.

For on-line donations go to:

[www.meaford.ca/  
NewLibraryBusinessChallenge/](http://www.meaford.ca/NewLibraryBusinessChallenge/)

Alternatively, cash or cheques, made out to the Friends of the Meaford Library, can be dropped off at the library with "Business Challenge" noted in the memo field. You can also donate in instalments.