



Matthew MacDonald, B.A., M.L.I.S.  
Chief Executive Officer

## **A New Year and a New Strategic Plan**

The New Year is often associated with opportunities and renewal. I think there is no better time than now to announce the launch of the Library's new Strategic Plan. A culmination of hard work, research and strategic thinking over the last 18+

months, the Library's 2024-2029 Strategic Plan will provide us with guidance and direction over the next half decade to help us continue to meet the shifting needs of our growing community.

Our last Strategic Plan expired years ago and, like so many others, our organization has been focused on simply managing through the pandemic years. That period is over now, and it is time to look towards the future. It is time to act with greater intention.

The plan comes with a new mission, vision, and an update to our values. We've shifted our priorities to focus on Community Engagement, IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Accessibility), Marketing

and Communications, Heritage & Culture, and Service Excellence. Combined, there are 17 goals, 73 objectives and 272 action items which we will attempt to accomplish over the next 5 years.

Overall, this plan will lead to a much-improved Library that remains relevant and a pillar to our community.

**Please scan the QR code to find out more about the Library's Strategic Plan.**



## freedom

to read week

CENSORSHIP  
freedom of expression  
access to information



**February 18-24 février 2024**

[freedomtoread.ca](http://freedomtoread.ca)

semaine de la  
**Liberté**  
d'expression

CENSURE  
Liberté d'expression  
accès à l'information

## CANADA READS

Watch for contests, book lists, and more related to CBC's annual battle of the books!

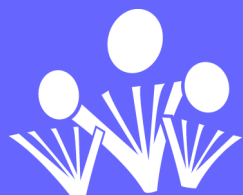
**COMING SOON  
MARCH 2024!**

# Events

January/February/March, 2024

## Inside This Issue...

Children's Programming .....	3-5
Adult Programming .....	7
Youth Programming .....	8
General Programming .....	9
Boomers & Beyond .....	11
Gadget Corner .....	11
Our History .....	12
Friends of the Library .....	13
Library Donors .....	14



Sault Ste. Marie  
**Public Library**  
[www.ssmpl.ca](http://www.ssmpl.ca)  
"One stop....endless possibilities"

## Board of Directors 2023 - 2027

Paolo Bruni  
Hannah Caicco  
  
Lisa Dobrovnik  
Wayne Greco (Chair)  
Erin Ferlaine  
Jami van Haaften  
Kevin Harrison  
  
Steve Murray  
Mike Olejnik (Vice Chair)

## Children's Programming

Help children discover the joy of reading through our Toddler Time and Storytime series as well as special programs expanding basic literacy.



Preschool Programs  
School Aged Programs  
Storytime Schedule

## General Programming

Fun, creative, social programming for all ages to enjoy.



Chess Club  
Workshops  
Game Night

## Adult Programming

Dig deeper into books, crafts, continuing education, and community through adult programs such as author talks and book clubs at the library.



Book Clubs  
Chess Club  
Signature Events

## Boomers & Beyond

Engaging programs and services designed to empower older adults, allowing them to keep up with the world and stay current.



Book Chats  
Workshops  
VLS Service



# *Naughty* **SPELLING BEE**



Join us for our 2nd Annual fundraising  
event in partnership with the  
Sault Ste. Marie Museum!



**FEBRUARY 8, 2024**



**7:00 - 9:00 PM**  
**DOORS OPEN 6:30 PM**



**SAULT STE. MARIE MUSEUM**  
**690 Queen St. E.**

*Enjoy a night of fun and prizes  
as you try to crack the  
correct spelling of  
historical words that are  
innocent in nature but  
naughty in sound.*

**Tickets ..... \$12.00 Each**

**Ticket go on Sale January 8, 2024**



**TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE**  
**JAMES L. MCINTYRE CENTENNIAL LIBRARY - 50 EAST ST.**  
**NORTH BRANCH - 232C NORTHERN AVE. E.**



**FOR MORE INFO CONTACT ELISE SCHOFIELD AT 705.759.5243**

# Children's Programming

## Registered Programs

### Baby Picasso Ages 6 to 12 Months

Baby Picasso is a 4-session program that introduces young children, 6-12 months old, to experiences that integrate music, art, literacy, and sensory stimulation. *Please bring a towel and a washcloth to each session.*

#### James L. McIntyre Centennial Library

Tuesdays: January 30 to  
February 20, 2024  
10:00 to 11:00 am  
Program Room



Online registration begins January 9, 2024,  
9:00 am @ <https://ssmpl.ca/kids/kids-programming/>



### Toddler Time

#### Ages 13 to 29 Months

Toddler Time is a fun 45-minute program designed for toddlers and their caregivers. This program encourages and supports learning through stories, songs, art, and play. Most of all, Toddler Time is a great way to spend time together and meet new friends! This 6-week program is for children ages 13-29 months (1 year to 2.5 years) and their caregivers.

#### James L. McIntyre Centennial Library

**Mondays: March 18 to April 29, 2024**  
10:00 am to 10:45 am  
Program Room



Allergy Alert! These activities may have potential food allergens.

Online registration begins  
February 26, 2024 at 9:00  
am @ <https://ssmpl.ca/kids/kids-programming/>



#### North Branch

Thursdays: January 18 to  
February 22, 2024  
10:30 - 11:15 am  
Program Room A

Online registration begins  
Tuesday December 19,  
2024, 10:00 am @ <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/toddler-time-north-branch-tickets-696747509557>



This program is generously sponsored by



### Pre-School Time Ages 30-48 months

#### James L. McIntyre Centennial Library

Thursdays: April 4 to May 23, 2024  
10:00 am to 11:00 am  
Program Room

Children will explore stories and learning activities that encourage them along a life-long path of reading and learning. All children will have opportunities to engage in activities that focus on pre-reading, numeracy and socialization. Come join us and get ready to read!

Online registration begins  
March 14, 2024 at 9:00 am.  
@ <https://ssmpl.ca/kids/kids-programming/>



Allergy Alert! These activities may have potential food allergens.



## SENSORY STORY TIME

### North Branch

January 27, 2024  
2:00 pm  
Program Room A



Join us for a sensory friendly story time. Wiggle, jiggle, fidget and dance your way through story time.

Online registration begins January 6, 2024  
at 10:00 am @ <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/sensory-storytime-tickets-774493489877>



Allergy Alert! These activities may have potential food allergens.





# Children's Programming

## Drop-in Programs

### LEGO My Library



**James L. McIntyre Centennial Library**

**Thursday 6:00 - 7:30 pm**

**Starting January 11, 2024**

Kids and their grown-ups can drop in for LEGO challenges and time for free building.

This program is generously sponsored by



*Note: Parents must stay at the library with children under 10 years of age.*

### Greyhound Family Literacy Day



**James L. McIntyre Centennial Library**

**Tuesday January 23rd, 2024**

**6:30 - 7:30 pm**

Join us for stories, games, crafts, autographs and prizes, and spend time with the Soo Greyhounds!

### PD DAY FUN!

#### Terrific T. Rex



**PA Day Fun**

**James L. McIntyre Centennial Library**

**Friday February 2, 2024**

Visit the James L. McIntyre Centennial Library Children's Department and enjoy some dinosaur themed crafts and activities!

Storytime from 10:00 - 10:30 am or Drop-In any time between 10:00 am - 3:00 pm for crafts and activities.

### BON SOO PD DAY FUN

**North Branch**

**Friday February 2, 2023**

**10:00 am - 3:00 pm**



Come visit the North Branch to have some PD Day fun with activities and crafts celebrating Bon Soo!

### MARCH BREAK @ THE LIBRARY

#### Dino Days Drop-In Crafts & Activities



**James L. McIntyre Centennial Library**

**March 11th - 17th, 2024**

**During open hours**

#### Candyland



**North Branch**

**March 11th - 15th, 2024**

**During open hours**

Join us for a sweet week featuring candy themed obstacle course, crafts and activities!

Register on Monday March 11, 2024 @ 2pm



#### March Break Puppet Play

**James L. McIntyre Centennial Library**

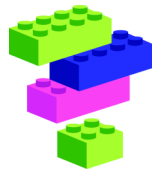
**Wednesday March 13, 2024**

**11:00 am**



Join us at the Centennial Library for a Dino-mite Puppet Play! Children and families will be sure to have a roaring good time!

### LEGO My Library



**James L. McIntyre**

**Centennial Library**

**Thursday March 14th, 2024**

**6:00 to 7:30 pm**

### TD Winter Reading Club Members Dinosaur Wrap Up Party

**James L. McIntyre Centennial Library**

**Friday March 15, 2024**

**11:00 am to 12 noon**

**Program Room**



*If you would like... you can wear your dinosaur themed attire RRRRRoar!!!!*

### Family Game Day

**James L. McIntyre Centennial Library**

**Saturday, February 17, 2024**

**10:00 am - 3:00 pm**

Enjoy crafts and board games with your family!

Drop-in, all ages welcome!



### Drop-In Easter Egg Hunt & Crafts

**James L. McIntyre Centennial Library**

**Saturday March 30, 2024**

**10:00 am - 3:00 pm**

Enjoy an Easter egg hunt and crafts! Drop-in, all ages welcome!



# Children's Programming

## DESIGN A BOOKMARK

### CONTEST



Grab a blank bookmark and get creative!

**FROM: TUESDAY JANUARY 2 -  
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 31, 2024**

Bring your bookmark back to North Branch or James L. McIntyre Centennial Library for a chance to win and have your bookmark distributed to our community members!

A winner will be selected in each category on Monday Feb 12, 2024:

3-6 years old  
7-9 years old  
10-13 years old



## FAMILY LITERACY DAY WITH THE 500 GREYHOUNDS



**LET'S PLAY FOR LITERACY!**

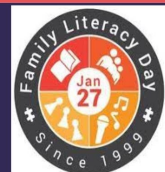
**TUESDAY, JANUARY 23RD, 2024**

**6:30-7:30 PM**

**JAMES L. MCINTYRE  
CENTENNIAL LIBRARY  
50 EAST STREET**

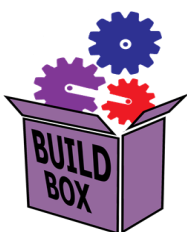


Join us for games, crafts, autographs, and prizes!



## Build Box Fun!

Drop by the James L. McIntyre Centennial Library or the North Branch anytime during our regular hours and spend some time trying out one of our many Build Boxes. This is a great opportunity to try Magna Tiles, Cubelets, Code-a-pillar, Snap Circuits and Marble Run.



Visit our website to see the build boxes available. <https://ssmpl.ca/reading-entertainment/object-library/>

**It's story  
TIME  
@your library™**

Registration is not required for the following free programs. Storytimes include stories, rhymes and a craft.

\* Children must be accompanied by an adult.

## Storytime Schedule

Day	Location	Storytime	Time
Tuesday	North Branch	Storytime	11:00 to 11:30 am
Wednesday	Centennial	Sandman Storytime	6:00 to 6:30 pm
Friday	Centennial	Storytime	10:00 to 10:30 am

For more information about Storytimes please call the Children's Desk at 705-759-5241.



# SKI INTO

# Reading

@ YOUR LIBRARY



CHECK OUT WINTER  
ACTIVITY  
BOOKS/DVDS/OBJECTS  
USING YOUR LIBRARY  
CARD & RECEIVE A  
BALLOT FOR A CHANCE  
TO WIN

**2 LIFT  
TICKETS**

FROM SEARCHMONT SKI  
RESORT

*(Rentals not included)*

BALLOTS AVAILABLE AT :  
JAMES L. MCINTYRE CENTENNIAL LIBRARY  
AND NORTH BRANCH



CONTEST STARTS: TUESDAY JANUARY 2, 2024  
DRAW DATE: FEBRUARY 2, 2024

# Adult Programming

## Winter Programs

### Good Crafter-Noon Everyone!

Let's beat the winter blahs and learn a new craft each month. No experience is necessary.

**James L. McIntyre Centennial Library**

1:30 - 3:30 pm

4th Thursday of the month



**January 25th - Book Folding**  
Learn this most interesting craft.

**February 22nd - Cricut**

**Bookmarks** Come and see the way a Cricut machine works.



**March 28th - Get started with Macrame**

Learn how to make a macrame keychain.



**The Knit & Crochet Crafters Group**



**James L. McIntyre Centennial Library**

**Wednesday Evenings:**  
January 3 to May 29, 2024  
6:30 - 8:30 pm

All levels of knitters and crocheters are welcome to attend and enjoy the company of others who love the craft! This group of crafters is intended to be self-sustaining. Meet at the large table near the DVD collection at the Centennial Library. There may also be opportunity for those who would like to learn, depending on the attendance of those willing to teach!

*Naughty*

**SPELLING BEE**



**February 8, 2024**

7:00 - 9:00 pm

Doors Open 6:30 pm  
Sault Ste. Marie Museum  
690 Queen St E.

Join us for our 2nd Annual Signature Event in partnership with the Sault Ste. Marie Museum. Enjoy an entertaining evening with friends as you try to crack the correct spelling of historical words that are innocent in nature but naughty in sound.

**Tickets \$15.00 Each**

**Show your Bon Soo Button and get your ticket for only \$12.00!**

Tickets go on sale January 8, 2024  
- available at both library locations.



**Archive Chat**

**Private Edwin Durham**



**North Branch**

**Wednesday, February 28, 2024**

6:00 - 7:00 pm

Interested in Canadian Military History? Come learn about Private Edwin Durham's WWI journey from the Second Battle of Ypres to his time in a German POW camp.

**Registration is free and opens February 7, 2024 @ 10:00 am.**



Scan the QR code or call North Branch at 705-759-5248.

**Archive Chat**

**Dr. Roberta Bondar**



**North Branch**

**Wednesday, March 27, 2024**

6:00 - 7:00 pm

Interested in Roberta Bondar's Space experience? Learn about Canada's first female astronaut and view some of her artifacts that she donated to the Library.

**Registration is free and opens March 6, 2024 @ 10:00 am.**



Scan the QR code or call North Branch at 705-759-5248.

## Preserving Papers

**North Branch**

**Tuesday January 9, 2024**

6:30 - 7:30 pm



Looking to take care of your family documents and photographs? Join us for expert guidance from the Archive Technician on preserving your family documents and photographs. This presentation will include storage practices and easy cleaning techniques.

**Cost: FREE! \*Registration is required\***



Registration opens December 12 at 10:00 am.  
Call (705) 759-5248 or register online here:

**Book-Side Chat:**

**Unlocking Employment Services with Sault College Employment Solutions**



**EMPLOYMENT SOLUTIONS**

**James L. McIntyre Centennial Library**

**Jan. 10, 31, Feb. 14, 28, Mar. 13, 27**

11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Are you ready for a new chapter in your career journey? Join us as we dive into the world of Employment Services, helping you find the perfect match between your skills and your dream job!

**Who Should Attend?** Job seekers looking for guidance. Employers interested in enhancing their hiring process.





# 2024

# BOOK CLUB

## Mystery Book Club

February to May  
2nd Wednesday of each month  
Afternoons 2:00 - 3:30 pm

February 14: Things We Do In The Dark  
(Jennifer Hillier)  
March 13: The Bitter Past  
(Bruce Borgo)  
April 10: We Know You Remember  
(Tove Alsterdal)  
May 8: The Kingdoms of Savannah  
(George Dawes Green)

**Registration Date:**  
**Wednesday January 10, 2024**  
**@ 9:00 am**

## Tuesday's Book Club

February to May  
3rd Tuesday of each month  
**Book Club A** "Morning Session"  
10:00 - 11:30 am

February 20: Harsh Times  
(Mario Vargas Llosa)  
March 19: Return to Valetto  
(Dominic Smith)  
April 16: Jane and Edward  
(Melodie Edwards)  
May 21: The Golden Couple  
(Sarah Pekkanen)

**Registration Date:**  
**Tuesday January 9, 2024**  
**@ 9:00 am**

## Tuesday's Book Club

February to May  
3rd Tuesday of each month  
**Book Club B** "Afternoon Session"  
2:00 - 3:30 pm

February 20: Jane and Edward  
(Melodie Edwards)  
March 19: The Golden Couple  
(Sarah Pekkanen)  
April 16: Jane and Edward  
(Melodie Edwards)  
May 21: Return to Valetto  
(Dominic Smith)

**Registration Date:**  
**Tuesday January 9, 2024**  
**@ 9:00 am**



**Scan the QR Code**  
**Register on our website or contact our**  
**Reference and Information Desk @ 705.759.5236**

## Youth Programming

### **Northern THINK Hub:**

#### **Chain Reaction Workshop**

#### **North Branch**

**January 18**

**6:00 – 7:00pm**

Join a Bluecoat from Science North and create a contraption that completes a task whatever funky way you imagine! Investigate all kinds of materials and explore all the varied ways there are to solve a problem – there's no right or wrong way to build your chain reaction machine!



### **Northern THINK Hub:**

#### **Engineering Workshop**

#### **North Branch**

**February 21**

**6:00 – 7:00pm**

Calling all Innovators to build strong & stable structures! A Bluecoat from Science North will be leading a guided engineering workshop with a variety of building materials to explore, learn, and innovate

building structures. We'll be measuring strength, stability, load-bearing, and all kinds of other variables to see the way you hack your building materials!

### **Northern THINK Hub:**

#### **Musical Instrument Workshop**

#### **North Branch**

**March 23**

**10:30 – 11:30am**

Join a Bluecoat from Science North as we tinker with tunes! Enjoy creating a musical instrument with some unexpected materials, and explore new ways to make sounds, innovative instrument types, and all kinds of other sound science!



### **DESIGN A BOOKMARK CONTEST**

Grab a blank bookmark and get creative!

**From: Tuesday January 2nd to**

**Wednesday January 31, 2024**

Bring your bookmark back to North Branch

or James L. McIntyre Centennial Library for a chance to win and have your bookmark distributed to our community members!

A winner will be selected in each category on Monday February 12, 2024.

3-6 years old

7-9 years old

10-13 years old



### **T.A.G. Teen Advisory Group**

An opportunity for teens (13-18) to voice their ideas about what they would like to see more of at the library. A Great way to complete your community service hours, make new friends and make a difference in the community! **Contact Bentley at** [b.ahonen@cityssm.on.ca](mailto:b.ahonen@cityssm.on.ca)

# General Programming

## BON SOO EVENTS CHESS TOURNAMENT

### North Branch

**Saturday February 3, 2024**  
**11:00 am - 4:00 pm**

Test your skills at the North Branch  
Tournament - come out and enjoy a day  
of chess.

This event is FREE all are welcome!

Registration opens  
January 12, 2024  
at 10:00 am.

Scan QR code or call  
705-759-5248



## INTRODUCTION TO BRIDGE with Algoma/Cambrian Bridge Club

### North Branch Library

**Wednesday February 7th, 2024**  
**6:00 pm to 7:30 pm**

Coffee and treats to be served!  
Drop in – all ages welcome

No experience necessary  
For more information call 705-759-5248

## Chess Club

Join the Library, as we bring  
back drop-in Chess Night!  
All ages and abilities  
welcomed. No registration required.



### North Branch

**Tuesdays: January 10 - March 28, 2023**  
**5:00 - 7:30 pm**

## Spanish Club

For those who are interested in improving  
their Spanish in a relaxed way! Emphasis is  
on the development of basic listening,  
speaking, reading, and writing skills.



### North Branch

**Saturdays: February 10th to April 20th**  
**10:30 am to 12:00 pm**

Register at : [https://  
www.eventbrite.ca/e/  
spanish-language-classes-  
in-sault-ste-marie-tickets-  
773362507077](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/spanish-language-classes-in-sault-ste-marie-tickets-773362507077)



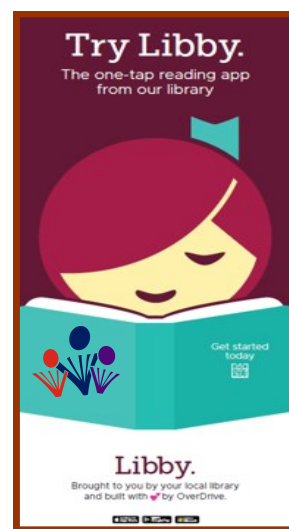
## Portuguese Classes



### North Branch

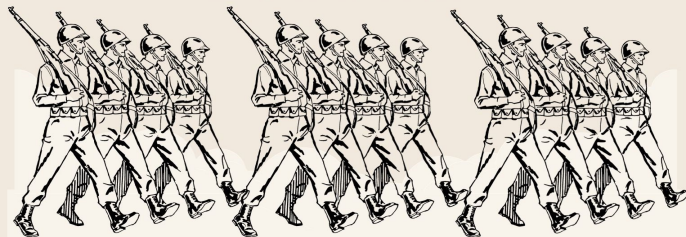
**Thursdays: February 1st to April 11th**  
**6:00 pm to 7:30 pm**

Registration at: [https://  
www.eventbrite.ca/e/  
spanish-language-classes-  
in-sault-ste-marie-tickets-  
773362507077](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/spanish-language-classes-in-sault-ste-marie-tickets-773362507077)



## ARCHIVE CHAT

### PRIVATE EDWIN DURHAM



Interested in Canadian Military History? Come learn about  
Private Edwin Durham's WWI journey from the Second Battle  
of Ypres to his time in a German POW camp.

Registration is free and opens at 10:00 am February 7, scan  
the QR code or call North Branch at  
705-759-5248 .



**Wednesday February 28, 2024**  
**6:00 - 7:00 pm**  
**North Branch Library 232 C Northern Ave E**



## Archive Chats



Interested in Roberta Bondar's Space  
experience? Learn about Canada's  
First Female astronaut and view some  
of her artifacts that she donated to the  
Sault Ste. Marie Public Library.

This program is free of charge.  
Registration open at 10:00 am  
March 6, 2024, scan QR code or call  
North Branch at 705-759-5248.

**North Branch Library**  
**232 C Northern Ave. E**  
**March 27, 2024**  
**6:00 - 7:00 pm**







# BLUE MONDAY CARE PACKAGE

January 15th to 21st, 2024

Be kind to your mind this Blue Monday and pick up a **free care package.**

Kits are filled with items to help support your mental health, connect you to resources, and reduce stress and stigma.

**FREE**

Pick up at both library locations while quantities last

For more information, please call:  
Reference & Information Desk:  
705-759-5236




## BLIND DATE WITH A BOOK

No Valentine? No problem! We'll set you up with a romance novel, chocolate, and more.

**02.14.2024**


For more information, call  
705-759-5236



# FREEDOM TO READ SCAVENGER HUNT


Think you know your banned books?  
Drop by the Reference Desk to pick up your first clue, then complete the scavenger hunt for a chance to win a prize!

**1-29 FEB 2023**



**CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION**

**JAMES L. MCINTYRE CENTENNIAL LIBRARY, 50 EAST STREET**



For more information, contact the Reference and Information Desk at 705-759-5236.



THE SAULT STE. MARIE PUBLIC LIBRARY

## HYGIENE DRIVE

**MARCH 1 - 31, 2024**

HELP US HELP OTHERS

**ITEMS NEEDED:**  
TOOTHBRUSHES  
TOOTHPASTE  
BAR SOAP/BODY WASH  
DEODORANT  
SHAMPOO/CONDITIONER  
FEMININE PRODUCTS  
WIPES/SANITIZER  
RAZORS  
ETC.

**ONLY UNOPENED/UNUSED ITEMS WILL BE ACCEPTED**

**DROP OFF ITEMS AT EITHER LIBRARY LOCATION**



# Boomers & Beyond

## Savvy Seniors Book Chats



### Winter 2024

Join us at the James L. McIntyre Centennial Library for an informal gathering where we share the books and movies that we've been reading and watching. All seniors welcome!

Held the last Tuesday of each month  
from 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Free - No registration required

Dates: January 30, February 27,  
March 26, 2024

James L. McIntyre Centennial  
Library - 50 East Street



## VISITING LIBRARY SERVICE (VLS)

The Sault Ste. Marie Public Library provides services to eligible residents of the City of Sault Ste. Marie who, for reasons of restricted vision or mobility, or long-term injury or illness, are unable to use regular library facilities.

For more information about the  
Visiting Library Service  
please call 705-759-5236

## Gadget Corner

Do you have an electronic device or gadget that has you stumped? Are you ready to throw it in the corner and give up on it?

**Perhaps we can help you!**



### James L. McIntyre Centennial Library

Monday, January 8	2:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Thursday, February 22	11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Friday, March 22	11:00 am - 12:00 pm

### North Branch

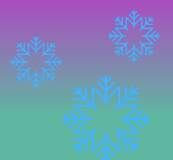
Friday, January 19	11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Monday, February 12	3:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Wednesday, March 6	11:00 am - 12:00 pm

# The Library is more than just Books!!!

**This winter season, use your library card to check out:**

- Snowshoes
- Walking Poles
- Radon Kit
- Thermal Camera

**Or any of the other items available in our Object Library!**



**Call our Circulation Desk for more details! 705-759-5271**



# Our History

The steamer known as the Francis Smith was built in 1867, with no expense spared. Her design included large paddle wheels, which added stability to the ship.

She had a distinctive whistle, which was easy to recognize on her regular routes between Collingwood and Thunder Bay. She was known as a “palace steamer,” lavish but also tough enough to handle what the upper Great Lakes threw at her.

And it was treacherous. In the late 1860s, there could easily be over 1,000 serious marine disasters on the Northern Great Lakes in a year. Pressure to deliver goods and travel faster than the competition only worsened things, with captains compromising safety in the name of speed. Few lighthouses, smoke from forest fires, and the moodiness of the lakes were only some of the issues ship captains had to contend with.

In 1870, for example, Sault Ste. Marie was at the centre of what became known as the Chicora Incident. The American locks, acting under the directive of the United States government, prevented a Canadian steamship from passing through their locks on the way to quash the Red River Rebellion.

Ultimately, the two countries came to a compromise: Canadian ships could carry passengers and supplies through the locks – but only for commercial and civilian purposes. Anything military-related would have to portage through Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario to another ship waiting on the other side.

The Frances Smith was one such ship carrying supplies for the military campaign against Louis Riel – and dealing with the new restrictions on passage through the American locks. She left Collingwood loaded with food,

equipment, and livestock. She was also packed with soldiers along with civilian passengers and construction workers. She arrived in Sault Ste. Marie two days late. And stories came to light of why: the captain had gotten lost in the North Channel and almost became shipwrecked. One of the oxen aboard the ship gored his driver, making for a gruesome distraction. The compasses were not working correctly. And the captain spent the whole voyage drunk. As bad as that sounded, it could have been much worse: the ship had no life preservers aboard and only two non-functioning lifeboats, conditions that would have spelled disaster if she had actually wrecked.

Once in Sault Ste. Marie, the Frances Smith captain refused to go further. He was not willing to travel through the locks to Lake Superior – he claimed not to have been told that was part of his duties. He demanded that the Canadian government insure his vessel for \$65,000 and provide him with a pilot familiar with Lake Superior – and then threatened to charge \$500 per day for any delayed responses to his demands. The captain went so far as to say that he would turn the ship around, any unloaded freight and all, and go back to Collingwood.

In 1880, the captain of the Frances Smith appeared in Sault Ste. Marie, brought up on charges under the Indian Act. While in Nipigon Bay, some of his passengers allegedly sold alcohol to Indigenous people, a serious offense under the laws of the time. The captain was fined \$500 – presumably a relief, since he also had run the risk of jail time.

In 1885, in the midst of a terrible and bitterly cold summer storm, the Frances Smith had passed through Sault Ste. Marie and was heading past Cape Brule when the crew spotted a fishing boat with a man waving for help on board. Turning the ship around, the crew dragged the man to safety. He had been fishing when the weather turned dangerous. Dealing with an

overturning boat, he opted to tie himself to the boat to keep from going overboard. He had survived, but his son and a 20-year-old friend from Sault Ste. Marie had both passed away from hypothermia.

In 1886, the Frances Smith became involved in the excursion industry – essentially, short cruises on the Great Lakes, including one that would go from Collingwood to the Sault and Mackinac Island for \$12. Passengers would buy blueberries and crafts in Killarney, tour the Shingwauk School and Soo Locks, and experience the “tourist’s paradise” that was Mackinac Island. Unfortunately, this tour inherently involved crossing international waters into the USA. And the Frances Smith, more than 15 years after the Chicora Incident, found herself in trouble again.

The captain repeatedly violated American policies for crossing the border into the states. It culminated with American officials boarding the ship, taking apart the engine, and towing the ship. They held the ship on a \$25,000 bond, which was eventually dropped to a \$16,000 bond. The captain paid up and left with his ship . . . only to have the bond declared void. The Frances Smith was seized again, this time in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, and dismantled again. The captain hired a lawyer and ultimately got his ship back with only a \$500 fee. On all future excursions, the captain was more careful to check in with US customs officials.

In 1888, the Frances Smith, reeling from damage resulting from a bad storm, underwent extensive repairs. She was renamed the Baltic, and the rest of her career focused on excursions and moving goods between Collingwood and the Sault.





# Friends of the Library



## The Friendly Bookworm

Newsletter of the Friends of the Sault Ste. Marie Public Library



*Volunteer Nadine at our front counter*

The back room contains non-fiction, biography, classics, art and music, religion and spirituality, do-it-yourself and self help, French, sports, travel, business, humour, cook books, children's and young adult, CD's, DVD's and books on CD, history and MORE!!



### Next Meeting

Annual General Meeting  
Monday February 5, 2024,  
at 7:00 p.m.

James L. McIntyre Centennial Library.

### Find your favourite Author ...

Fiction is found in the front room and middle room. Our fiction is organized by author's last name, same as the fiction collection in the library.

Front Room: In addition to fiction, find antiques and collectibles, magazines, Westerns, graphic novels, and small gift books.



### Middle Room:

- Selected "premium books" (nearly new \$2)
- Fiction genres - science fiction, horror fantasy, and romance
- Large print fiction
- Hardcover fiction



*Friends of the Library volunteers Sue Hall and Ruth Igel present Matthew MacDonald CEO with a cheque for \$2,000 for their year end donation.*

**Most Books  
\$1.00**



### Bookstore Hours

**Monday - Friday**  
10:00 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Saturday**  
10:00 a.m. – 4 p.m.

**Sunday - Closed**

**Lower Level**  
**James L. McIntyre Centennial**  
**Library**

*Volunteering Makes A Difference!*





# *The Sault Ste. Marie Public Library would like to acknowledge and thank our generous 2023 Donors*

## **Would you like to donate to the Library?**

The Library accepts **Cash, Debit & Cheque**  
(made out to the Sault Ste. Marie Public Library) at  
either of your favourite library locations.

**Paypal** - an online donation by credit card at [https://  
www.paypal.com/ca/fundraiser/charity/3465175](https://www.paypal.com/ca/fundraiser/charity/3465175)

### **Other donation options:**

**In Memoriam** - As a tribute to a family member,  
friend, or colleague.

**Special Occasion Gift** - In celebration of a birthday,  
anniversary, graduation, retirement, or any other spe-  
cial occasion.

**Adopt A Magazine** - Individuals or businesses can  
sponsor a magazine or newspaper subscription for  
the Library.

**The possibilities are endless!**

**Contact us today at 705-759-5242**

Patrick Allan  
Rita Blais  
M. Ann Corris  
Mary Coventry  
Cupe Local 67—In Memoriam of Sharon  
Brooks  
John and Joan Curran  
Juanita and Paul Curran  
R & K Delorme  
FMI Elliott  
Jane Forth  
Wayne Greco  
Kiwanis Club of Lakeshore  
Kiwanis Club of Sault Ste. Marie  
Robert & Margaret Loucks  
Douglas MacDougall  
Richard MacNaughton  
The Mary Martha Unit  
Bill McBurney  
Ann McWilliams  
Richard Moran  
Martha Murray  
In Memory of Norm Rippon  
Sharon Routhier  
Sault Ultimate Players Association  
Zonta Club of Sault Ste. Marie

*\*Recognized donors from January 1, 2023 –  
December 20, 2023\**

# About Your Library...



**JAMES L. MCINTYRE CENTENNIAL LIBRARY**  
50 EAST STREET, SAULT STE. MARIE, ON P6A 3C3

## HOURS OF OPERATION:

MON. - THURS.	9:00 AM - 9:00 PM
FRIDAY	9:00 AM - 6:00 PM
SATURDAY	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
SUNDAY	2:00 PM - 5:00 PM



**NORTH BRANCH LIBRARY**  
232C NORTHERN AVE, SAULT STE. MARIE, ON P6B 4H6

## HOURS OF OPERATION:

MONDAY	10:00 AM - 6:00 PM
TUES-THURS	10:00 AM - 8:00 PM
FRIDAY	10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
SATURDAY	10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
SUNDAY	CLOSED

## Library Closures 2024

New Year's Day	Monday, January 1, 2024
Good Friday	Friday, March 29, 2024
Easter Sunday	Sunday, March 31, 2024
Easter Monday	Monday, April 1, 2024
Victoria Day	Monday, May 20, 2024
Canada Day	Monday, July 1, 2024
Sir William Hearst Day	Monday, August 5, 2024
Labour Day	Monday, September 2, 2024
Thanksgiving	Monday, October 14, 2024

Remembrance Day	Monday, November 11, 2024
Staff Development Day	Monday, November 18, 2024
Christmas Day	Wednesday, December 25, 2024
Boxing Day	Thursday, December 26, 2024

## Early Closures:

Family Day	Monday, February 19, 2024 Open 12:00 - 4:00 pm
Christmas Eve	Tuesday, December 24, 2024 Closed at 12:30 pm
New Year's Eve	Tuesday, December 31, 2024 Closed at 4:30 pm

*Visit us online @ [www.ssmpl.ca](http://www.ssmpl.ca)*

Follow us on:



@SSMPL



@ssmpubliclibrary



Sault Ste. Marie Public Library