



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

Books as Art Forms

This past Christmas, my partner gifted me a rare and beautiful book titled *The Book: The Ultimate Guide to Rebuilding a Civilization*. It was created by a team of researchers, authors, and illustrators who claim to have spent "more than 5000 hours painstakingly bringing the best in human innovation into one jaw-dropping hardcover book." I have only perused *The Book* a little, but I could immediately tell that a lot of time and effort went into creating it.

Though surely useful in the event of societal collapse, this book contains a wealth of knowledge. Combined with the stunning illustrations that are modern yet

reminiscent of illustrations and diagrams from late Renaissance texts, *The Book* is itself a piece of art. This has made me reflect on the intersection of literature and design. Books themselves, regardless of what is written within their pages, can be a form of artistic expression.

Perhaps we should reconsider the adage, "Never judge a book by its cover." Its meaning is well-intended. Some of the greatest stories lay between the plainest of covers. Sometimes a fancy cover will distract a reader from a book with very little depth. However, one can still appreciate the artistry that has gone into the creation of a book. Consider not only the front and back covers, but also the paper used. Is it glossy or rough? Is it thin or thick? What types of fonts were used? Remember that someone made a conscious choice to use this font over all the others. How is the book bound? What materials are the covers made of? After the story is written, but before you can hold a book in your hands, so many other decisions have to be made. A leather-bound, hard cover book, printed on high quality paper can easily be perceived and, in our minds, be elevated to the level of a fine art object. So too can a trade paperback that you pick up at a corner store, pharmacy or the library, so long as you have a personal connection to it.

My recommendation is that if you have a beautiful book, put it on display. That way, it can be appreciated by more than just the reader. Even if it is a tattered -up old paperback that you have read a dozen times. Do it because it is beautiful to you.

Here is a list of artful editions that can be borrowed from the library:

- *Clyde Fans* by Seth
- *The Monk of Mokha* by Dave Eggers
- *In the Heights: Finding Home* by Lin-Manuel Miranda, Quira Algeria Hudes, and Jeremy McCarter
- *Geddy Lee's Big Beautiful Books of Bass* by Geddy Lee
- *Ghost Brothers of Darkland County* by John Mellencamp
- *Where They Purr* by Paul Barbera
- *The Globe Illustrated*
- *Shakespeare: The Complete Works Annotated*
- *Wanderlust: A Traveler's Guide to the Globe*
- *Something Special* by Iris Murdock
- *Sea Prayer* by Khaled Hosseini
- *The Pickwick Papers* by Charles Dickens
- *The Familiar (Volumes 1-3)* by Mark Z. Danielewski
- *The Complete Novels of Jane Austen* by Jane Austen

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Sault Ste. Marie
Public Library
www.ssmpl.ca
"One stop...endless possibilities"

Board of Directors 2023 - 2027

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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
- Reading Club

General Programming

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



- Tours
- Workshops
- Drop-In Activities
- Language Class
- Crafting Programs

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
- Information Sessions
- 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

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 SKI/SNOWBOARD LESSONS

COURTESY OF
SEARCHMONT SKI RESORT



Searchmont's Discover Lessons are a one-time session
perfect for your first experience on snow!

2 Hour introductory lesson designed for first-timers.

Saturdays & Sundays

Dec. 7 to Mar. 30th, 2025 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

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

CONTEST STARTS: WEDNESDAY JANUARY 2, 2025
DRAW DATE: FEBRUARY 2, 2025

Children's Programming

Registered Programs

Baby Time

Ages 0 to 12 Months

James L. McIntyre Centennial Library

Wednesdays

February 19 - March 12, 2025

10:00 am - 10:30 am

Program Room

Online Registration begins
January 29, 2025 @ 9:00 am

North Branch

Mondays

February 24 - March 17, 2025

10:30 am - 11:00 am

Program Room

Online Registration begins
February 3, 2025 @ 10:00 am

James L. McIntyre Centennial Library

Mondays

April 7 - May 5, 2025

10:00 am - 10:30 am

Program Room

Online Registration begins
March 17, 2025 @ 9:00 am

Babytime offers the youngest library users and their parents or caregivers the opportunity to share time together at the library. Babies will be exposed to language books and playful activities. We invite you to come sing, clap, bounce and listen to stories

Register at:

<https://ssmpl.ca/kids/kids-programming/>



This program is generously sponsored by:



Baby Picasso

Ages 6 to 12 months

James L. McIntyre

Centennial Library

Tuesdays

February 18 to March 11, 2025

10:00 am - 11:00 am

Program Room

Registration begins
January 28, 2025, @ 9:00 am



James L. McIntyre Centennial Library

Thursdays

April 3 to April 24, 2025

10:00 am - 11:00 am

Program Room

Registration begins
March 13, 2025 @ 9:00 am

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.

Register at:

<https://ssmpl.ca/kids/kids-programming/>



Toddler Time

Ages 13 to 29 Months

James L. McIntyre Centennial Library

Tuesdays

April 15 to May 20, 2025

10:00 am - 10:45 am

Program Room

Online Registration begins
March 25, 2025 @ 9:00 am

Get up and get moving at the library with stories, songs and fun that encourages

your toddler's development and skills! During these 45 minute programs, library staff share stories, songs and movement activities and crafts to match the emerging skills of your toddler. This program will engage toddlers and teach caregivers how to encourage and support learning through play and fun.

Register at:

<https://ssmpl.ca/kids/kids-programming/>



This program is generously sponsored by:



Dove Real Beauty

North Branch

Tuesday February 11, 2025

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Program Room

Online registration
begins January 21, 2025 @ 9:00 am.

James L. McIntyre Centennial Library

Tuesday April 8, 2025

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Program Room

Online registration
begins March 18, 2025 @ 9:00 am.

The Dove Real Beauty Workshop for girls is a fun, education and interactive program for your girls ages 6-10 and their adult female mentors that encourages girls and women everywhere to embrace a more positive image of themselves, both inside and out.

Space is limited

Register at: <https://ssmpl.ca/kids/kids-programming/>



This program is generously sponsored by:



Children's Programming

Kid's Winter Reading Club



January 2 - March 18, 2025

Red Team vs. **Green Team** - who will win? Complete reading challenges at your own pace to help your team win. Plus, you'll earn game pieces to build your own Level Up board game! We'll wrap up on the March Break with an 8-Bit Adventure. Join today!

Drop-In Programs

Game Day

North Branch

Friday January 3, 2025



Drop by the North Branch to play games! board games, card games, crafts and activities. Bring your own favourite game from home or try one of ours! Everyone is invited to play!

Family Literacy Challenge

North Branch

January 2 - 31, 2025



Starting Thursday, January 2, 2025, pick up a Family Literacy Challenge booklet from the North Branch. Submit a ballot for every challenge completed for a chance to win a gift certificate for **One Large Pizza** with one **topping** from **Uncle Ginos!**

Draw will be held January 31, 2025



Family Literacy Day with the Soo Greyhounds



James L. McIntyre Centennial Library

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Join us for games, crafts, autographs with the Hounds and prizes!

Let's Play for Literacy!

PA DAY FUN

Pokemon PA Day

North Branch

January 31, 2025



Do you have what it takes to Catch'em all? drop in the North Branch for a fun filled Pokemon day! "Detective Pikachu" will be shown at 1pm popcorn provided!

PA Day Love



James L. McIntyre Centennial Library

January 31st, 2025

10:00 am – Storytime

10:30-3:00pm – Valentine Card Making Station

Bon Soo & Hot Chocolate Fun



James L. McIntyre Centennial Library

Saturday, February 8, 2024

10:00 am - 3:00 pm Crafts

11:00 am - 2:00 pm Hot Chocolate

Stop by the James L. McIntyre Centennial Library children's department and enjoy a hot chocolate and try a Bon Soo themed craft and colouring sheets with your children.

March Break

Superhero Bingo



North Branch

Monday, March 10, 2025

2:00 - 3:00 pm

Register for a fun afternoon of Superhero Bingo! Registration opens February 17, 2025 @ 10:00 am.



Forest of Reading Blue Spruce nominees Bilingual Storytime



James L. McIntyre Centennial Library

Friday March 14, 2025

10:00 am - 10:30 am

Enjoy listening to a few of the nominated story books in English and in French. Forest of Reading Blue Spruce printed resources for each nominated title will be available all day.

March Break Superhero Training

North Branch

March 8-15, 2025



Join us for superhero training activities including web slinging, villain busting and much more! Drop in during open hours to play!



Movie Event & Crafts

James L. McIntyre Centennial Library

Friday March 28, 2025

1:00 pm - 2:30 pm



Children's Programming



8 Bit Adventure
 James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
 Monday March 10 to
 Saturday March 15, 2025

Use your skills to play through the levels of our live-action 8 bit Adventure activity! No sign-up required. Drop in during open hours to play!

March Break Bookmark Contest



Drop in to the North Branch or James L. McIntyre Centennial Library and pick up a blank bookmark. A winner will be chosen from each age category.

Contest runs from March 8 to 15, 2025

A winner will be selected on March 31, 2025 and will have their bookmark laminated and distributed to the public!

LEGO My Library



James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
 Thursdays
 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

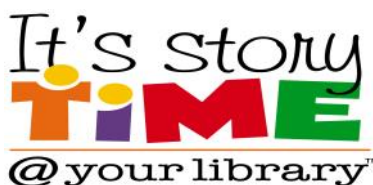
This program will run weekly and feature a different LEGO building challenge each week, as well as time for free building.

Build Box Fun!

James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
 North Branch



Drop by either library location 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, Code-a-pillar, Legos and Marble Run.



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	Storytime	6:00 to 6:30 pm
Friday	Centennial	Storytime	10:00 to 10:30 am

8-Bit Adventure
 Monday, March 10th to
 Saturday, March 15th, 2025
 James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
 Children's Department

Use your skills to play through the levels of our live-action 8-Bit Adventure activity! No sign-up required. Drop in during opening hours to play!

SUPERHEROES ASSEMBLE

March 8- March 15
 the North Branch will be holding a Superhero training academy for March Break during open hours!

Drop in and create your Superhero identity and participate in activities such as Web spinning, Villain Busting and MORE!

North Branch
 232C Northern Ave
 705-759-5248

Teen Programming



Digital Creator 4-Week Workshops

Drawing Workshop

James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
Tuesdays
January 7, 21, February 4, 18, 2025
4:30 - 6:30 pm

Discover the basics of drawing in this beginner-friendly workshop! Learn essential skills like shaping objects, light and shadow, stretching techniques and creating lifelike portraits.

Online Registration starts on December 17th. This event is for youth aged 10-18.

Digital Painting Workshop

James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
Tuesdays
January 14, 28, Feb. 11, 25, 2025
4:30 - 6:30 pm

Explore essential tools, brushes, and techniques to create stunning character accessories. Learn to refine your sketches, master colour blending, and add depth with light, shadow, and material rendering.

Online registration starts on December 23, 2024.

3D Modelling in Blender

James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
Thursdays
January 9, 23, February 6, 20, 2025
4:30 - 6:30 pm

Over four bi-weekly sessions, you'll learn to navigate 3D software, create and edit

models, and add textures and lighting to bring depth to your scenes. Perfect for beginners or those looking to sharpen their skills, this workshop will guide you from basic shapes to stunning 3D creations!

Online registration starts on December 19, 2025 For youth aged 10 – 18.

Graphic Design

James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
Thursdays
January 16, 30, February 13, 27, 2025
4:30 - 6:30 pm

Learn key principles like symmetry, scale, and composition, and get hands-on with essential tools in Adobe Suite. Create a cohesive branding project by integrating various design assets, and finish with a professional stationery package for a company.

Online registration starts on December 26, 2025. For youth aged 10 – 18.

Animation

James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
Tuesdays
March 4, 18, April 1, 15, 2025
4:30 - 6:30 pm

Explore the 12 Principles of Animation, and discover powerful tools like Blender, Krita, and Procreate Dreams. Develop your storytelling skills through storyboarding and hands-on projects, and finish with a polished animation ready to showcase.

Registration starts on February 11, 2025
For youth aged 10 – 18.

Video Editing Workshop

James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
Thursdays
March 6, 20, April 3, 17, 2025
4:30 - 6:30 pm

Learn the art of video editing in this bi-weekly workshop designed for beginners and aspiring editors! Master the DaVinci Resolve interface, explore advanced editing tools, and create dynamic titles. Enhance your projects with sound editing and color grading, then apply the finishing touches to export a polished, professional video.

Online registration starts on February 13, 2025.
For youth aged 10 – 18.

Drawing Characters

James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
Tuesdays
March 11, 25, April 8, 22, 2025
4:30 - 6:30 pm

Learn to generate ideas, design silhouettes, refine sketches and explore colour, texture and materials. Master skin tones, hair and final rendering techniques to complete a polished character design. Perfect for aspiring artists and storytellers!

Registration begins on February 18, 2025

Comic, Manga And Illustrated Books

James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
March 13, 27, April 9, 24, 2025
4:30 - 6:30 pm

Develop characters, settings and mood through writing, then visualize your narrative

Teen Programming



with storyboarding and sketching. Learn layout, design and publishing techniques to create a polished, shareable story.

Online registration begins on February 20, 2025

DROP-INS

Open Studio

James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
Wednesdays Jan. 22, Feb. 12, Mar. 19,
Apr. 16, 2025
4:00 - 6:00 pm

Enjoy open studio, where teens can dive into creative exploration! Experiment with cameras, edit videos on laptops, model in Blender, or paint digitally on iPads. Have a project in mind? Use our equipment to bring your ideas to life.

Teen Gaming Saturdays: Play, Snack, Connect!

James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
January 18, February 8, March 8, 2025
1:30 - 3:30 pm
Program Room (Xbox One)

North Branch
February 1, 15, March 15, 2025
1:30 - 3:30 pm
Program Room A (Wii U)

Teens are invited to join the fun and play your favourite video games enjoy tasty snacks, and hang out with friends in a relaxed and friendly environment.



Movie Matinee: Behind the Magic of Filmmaking

North Branch
January 25, February 22, , March 22, 2025
1:00 - 4:30 pm
Program Room A

Join us one Saturday a month for Movie Matinee! Explore the artistry and technology behind iconic films through screenings and discussions on visual effects, software and innovative technologies.

To register for our Teen Programming please visit www.ssmpl.ca or scan this QR code .



FAMILY LITERACY DAY WITH THE SOO GREYHOUNDS

LET'S PLAY FOR LITERACY!

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28TH, 2025
6:30-7:30 PM

JAMES L. MCINTYRE CENTENNIAL LIBRARY
50 EAST STREET

Sault Ste. Marie Public Library
www.ssmpl.ca
"One stop... endless possibilities"

SOO GREYHOUNDS

Family Literacy Day
Jan 27
Since 1989

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

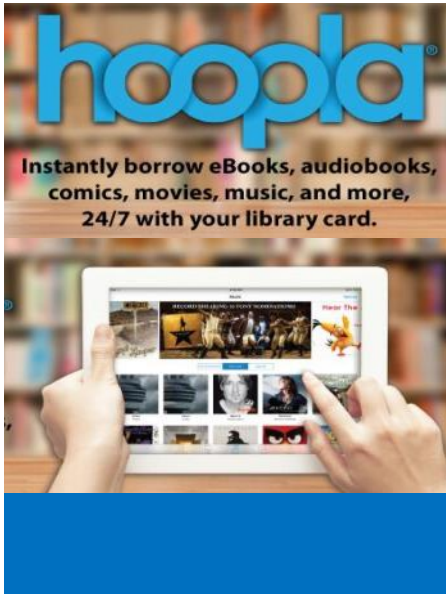
Adult Programming

Blue Monday Care Packages

James L. McIntyre
Centennial Library
January 13th to 20th, 2025



Be kind to your mind this Blue Monday and pick up a free care package, filled with items to help support your mental health, connect you to resources, and reduce stress and stigma. Available while supplies last.



Navigating Searches in Indigenous Ancestry: First Nations, Metis and Indigenous Ancestries
Presented by Noreen Kruich, a Library and Archives Canada Listed Researcher



James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
Program Room
Saturday, January 18, 2025
11:00 am – 1:00 pm / 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm

FULL

Registration Opens Monday, January 6th @ 9:00 am

Call the Reference and Information Desk to Register or scan the QR code



Oral History Review

North Branch Library
Tuesday, January 28, 2025
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

The North Branch Library will be showing an oral history of Aldo Diotallevi. The focus will be on his family's bootlegging during Canada's Prohibition time. Registration opens January 7, 2025 @ 10:00 am.

Call the North Branch at 705-759-5248 to register or scan the QR code.

Preserving Papers &



FREEDOM TO READ

Scavenger Hunt

James L. McIntyre
Centennial Library
February 1-28, 2025



Think you know your banned and challenged books? Test your skills for a chance to win a prize. Answer the trivia questions and solve the puzzles to make your way around the adult section of the library, learning more about banned and challenged books as you go. Drop in during the library's regular hours to



2nd Annual Bon Soo Bridge Event

North Branch
Wednesday, February 7, 2025
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm



Learn to play bridge or dust off your bridge skills at the North Branch Library. All skill levels welcome! Coffee and treats to be served. This is a drop-in event, all ages welcome.

Bad Mom's Spicy Book Club



Are you a spicy book loving mom looking for a night out? Join the **Bad Mom's Book Club** for a fun night of conversation, mocktails and spicy reads!

North Branch
Wednesday, February 12, 2025
6:00 - 7:00 pm

Registration opens January 2, 2025 @ 10:00 am.



Blind Date with a Book



James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
February 7 - 14, 2025

No valentine? No problem! Borrow a Blind Date with a Book kit to get a new romance novel, some chocolate, and a chance to win a great prize basket! Available while supplies last.

Photos



North Branch
Tuesday, February 25, 2025
6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

The program will help you preserve your family's archival material, including storage practices and easy cleaning techniques.

Registration opens February 4, 2025 @ 10:00 am.



Adult Programming cont'd



Registration Winter 2025

Tuesday Book Clubs

Registration opens: Tuesday, January 7th at 9:00 am

	<u>Morning Club</u>	<u>Afternoon Club</u>
February 18	10:00 am	2:00 pm
March 18	10:00 am	2:00 pm
April 15	10:00 am	2:00 pm
May 20	10:00 am	2:00 pm

Mystery and Suspense Book Club

Registration opens: Wednesday, January 8th at 9:00 am

February 12	2:00 pm
March 12	2:00 pm
April 9	2:00 pm
May 14	2:00 pm



Registration will be facilitated through Eventbrite. Scan the QR code to sign-up



A room without books is like a body without a soul." -- Marcus Tullius Cicero

The Knit & Crochet Crafters Group

James L. McIntyre Centennial Library

Wednesday Evenings:
January 4 to May 31, 2025
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

All levels of knitters and crocheters are welcome to attend and enjoy the company of others who love the craft!

Meet at the large table near the DVD collection at the Centennial Library.



Growing Mushrooms

North Branch
March 25, 2025
6:00 - 7:00 pm



Local farmer, Jeff Marshall, will show you how to grow and care for your own mushrooms.

Registration opens
March 4, 2025 @ 10:00 am



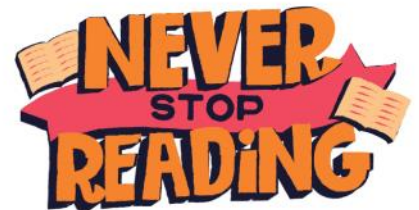
STARTING MARCH 2025

Knitting 101



James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
Date and Time TBD

Interested in learning how to knit? Don't know where to start? In directed lessons, learn to: cast on, knit stitch, purl stitch, and more!



Crafternoon

James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
Last Thursday of every month
2:30-4:00 p.m.

Crafternoon is back! Keep an eye out each month for craft and registration details.



Boomers & Beyond

Savvy Seniors Book Chats



WINTER 2025

Join us for a fun afternoon where we chat about the different genres of books and movies that we've been enjoying.

An exchange of ideas helps to broaden your reading choices and open your mind to new reading ideas.

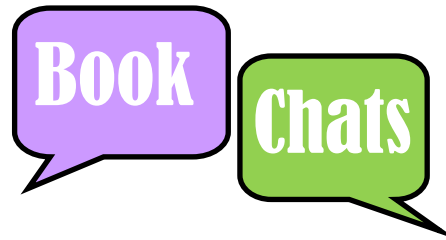
All seniors welcome!

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

Free - No registration required

Dates: Jan. 28, Feb.25, Mar.25, 2025

James L. McIntyre Centennial Library - 50 East Street



Tuesdays are for Handicrafts!



North Branch

The Retired Women Teachers of Ontario (RWTO) invite you to join them the 1st Tuesday of each month:

Tuesday January 7th, 2025

Tuesday, February 4th, 2025

Tuesday, March 4th, 2025

From 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

Bring your handicraft and meet new people during this drop-in program! Everyone is welcome!

Practical Digital Skills for Seniors



James L. McIntyre Centennial Library

Wednesdays

9:00 am to 12:00 pm

January 8th through March 26th, 2025

A Superior Adult Learning instructor will offer weekly one-on-one, hands-on digital literacy support to local seniors at the Sault Ste. Marie Public Library.

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!

CENTENNIAL

THURSDAY, JAN. 9TH: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

MONDAY, FEB. 10TH: 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

THURSDAY, MAR. 6TH: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

NORTH BRANCH

MONDAY, JAN. 20TH: 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

MONDAY, FEB. 24TH: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

TUESDAY, MAR. 25TH: 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

VISITING LIBRARY SERVICE

A free service for individuals with restricted vision or mobility, or long-term injury or illness, who are unable to use regular library facilities.

Call 705-759-5236 for info!

General Programming

Chess Club

North Branch

Every Tuesday

Starting January 7, 2025

5:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Program Room A

If you enjoy Chess come out to the North Branch library and challenge your skills with other players. No registration required all ages and skill levels welcomed!



Visits with Zumi

North Branch

Wednesdays

January 29

February 26

March 26

April 30

Zumi and Joey are back for lots of tail-wagging fun in 2025! All visits with Zumi begin at 5:15 pm. Come have some fun and snuggles with this adorable pup!



Quiet Study Time at the North Branch



In support of students preparing for midterms, the North Branch Library is please to announce the opening of Program Room B as a dedicated study space from **February 18 to 21, 2025**.

Quiet Study Time hours will be posted on the Sault Ste. Marie Public Library Instagram page at the beginning of February 2025.

For more information call 705-759-5248.

Game Day

North Branch

Friday January 3, 2025

Drop by the North Branch to play games! board games, card games, crafts and activities. Bring your own favourite game from home or try one of ours! Everyone is invited to play!



Arm Chair Travel



North Branch

Wednesday, January 22, 2025

6:00 pm



Virtually explore the Islands of New Zealand from the comfort of the North Branch program room. Trivia to follow!

Registration opens January 2, 2025 @ 10:00 am.

Call the North Branch at 705-759-5248 to register or scan the QR code.



The Library is more than just Books!



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

- ★ Snowshoes
- ★ Walking Poles
- ★ Radon Kits
- ★ Thermal Cameras

Or one of our many Passes to local attractions!

Our Object Library has a variety of other items available for check out as well!

Call our Circulation Dept. for more details!

705-759-5271



The Friendly Bookworm

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

The Friends of the Sault Ste. Marie Public Library would like to wish all their customers, donors and volunteers a very Happy New Year! We have had an extremely successful year in both revenue for the library and in our community outreach. Over \$1400 was raised this year by selling books online through Amazon. Sadly, our store is currently "on vacation" until the postal strike is over.

The Friends of the Library will hold their AGM Monday, February 3, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. This is an election year (3 year terms) and we will vote on the following executive positions: President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. If you are interested in taking on a very rewarding volunteer position, please drop by the Bookstore and let us know.



Marg the Grinch was looking for book bargains!

Check out the Friends of the Library book cart located at our North Branch. Now you can enjoy great sales on books at both of the library locations!



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



**Annual
General Meeting**
Monday February 3, 2025,
7:00 p.m.
James L. McIntyre Centennial

Pop-up Bookstore

Our Pop-up Bookstore was present at the Library's December Open House and downstairs we were sending people home with a bag of books for \$5.00! Look for more sales like this as we are stocked to the rafters!



**Most Books
\$1.00!**

Volunteering Makes A Difference!

Our History

Winter fun and sports are something that Northern Ontario has always been known for and Sault Ste. Marie is no exception. Out of all the winter activities, skiing is probably one of the most enjoyed winter sports for the people in Sault Ste. Marie and area.

Perhaps the best-known ski resort in Algoma is Searchmont, located in the community of Searchmont, Ontario. The community was named after T.C. Search who was a Treasurer for the Consolidated Lake Superior Company. Founded in the 1950s, the ski resort boasted 18 downhill slopes, which would later be increased to 21. One of these slopes named the High Plateau, has a 700-foot vertical. This particular slope is one of the highest in the mid-west. A quad lift capable of carrying 2,000 skiers per hour was eventually added.

Over the years the resort has changed ownership many times and has experienced the threat of permanent closure at times.

In 1985, local hotelier and businessman, J.J. Hilsinger formed a group of local investors and with their \$15 million investment, an expansion plan for the area was developed, which saved the Searchmont Ski Resort from bankruptcy. Hilsinger wanted to promote tourism and recreation, but he also wanted to protect and preserve the natural environment of the area so that everyone could enjoy it.

In Heather Ingram's book, Views of the Sault, J.J. Hilsinger is quoted as referring to the resort as, "Searchmont is the Rocky Mountains of the mid-west".

Although Sault Ste. Marie usually receives a lot of snow during the winter season, sometimes it is still not enough, and more snow may be needed. Using high-pressure snowmaking machines about 90 per cent of Searchmont's land can be covered with man-made snow. This same system was designed by the professionals that were in charge of snowmaking at the 1988 winter Olympics. Snowmaking ensures that visitors can enjoy skiing regardless of how much snow the season brings.

Over the years, Searchmont has offered more than just skiing, in the summer season people can enjoy off-road cycling, canoeing, kayaking and mountain biking. Perhaps the most unusual summer program was one that began in 1992 with circus workshops.

With each new owner, the property underwent improvements and changes. On Nov. 1, 2018, the ownership of the resort changed when Wisconsin Resort Inc. purchased Searchmont for \$2 million. One of the first changes planned was investing \$750,000 in new snowmaking equipment. This investment would increase Searchmont's snowmaking ability from 1,000 gallons per minute with 20 guns to 5,000 – 6,000 gallons per minute using

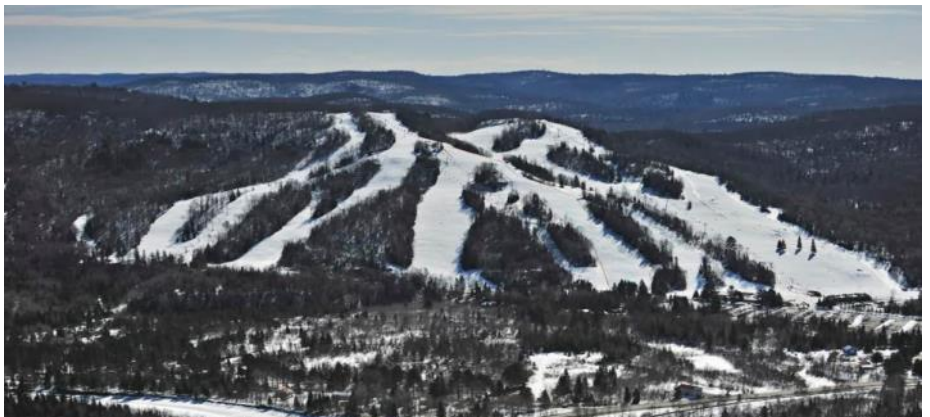
up to 100 guns.

In addition to the slopes, Searchmont boasts both Villas and Chalets for overnight accommodation. These accommodations are located at the base of the main slope and provide a picturesque view of the mountains and surrounding landscape.

Searchmont has had its share of loyal and legendary supporters - one of them being John Shuchkewich, who earned that status for his loyalty to skiing at Searchmont. This senior citizen enjoyed the slopes almost daily for a number of winter seasons. The minutes of the Searchmont records actually documented one 14-day absence when he was vacationing with his wife in Cuba in the early 1990s as a notable exception to this schedule.

Herbert Lederer and others were instrumental in ensuring that the ski hill was established and continued to grow and develop. Another character was Searchmont's very own mascot, Searchmont the St. Bernard, who wore a rescue barrel around his neck and would roam the grounds greeting visitors.

Since the 1950s, Searchmont has provided the community with both winter and summer activities and we hope that the residents of the area, as well as visitors, will continue to be able to enjoy this wonderful and picturesque corner of Algoma for many years to come!





BLUE MONDAY CARE PACKAGE

January 13th to 20th, 2025

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 the James L. McIntyre Centennial Library while supplies last!


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1-28 FEB 2025




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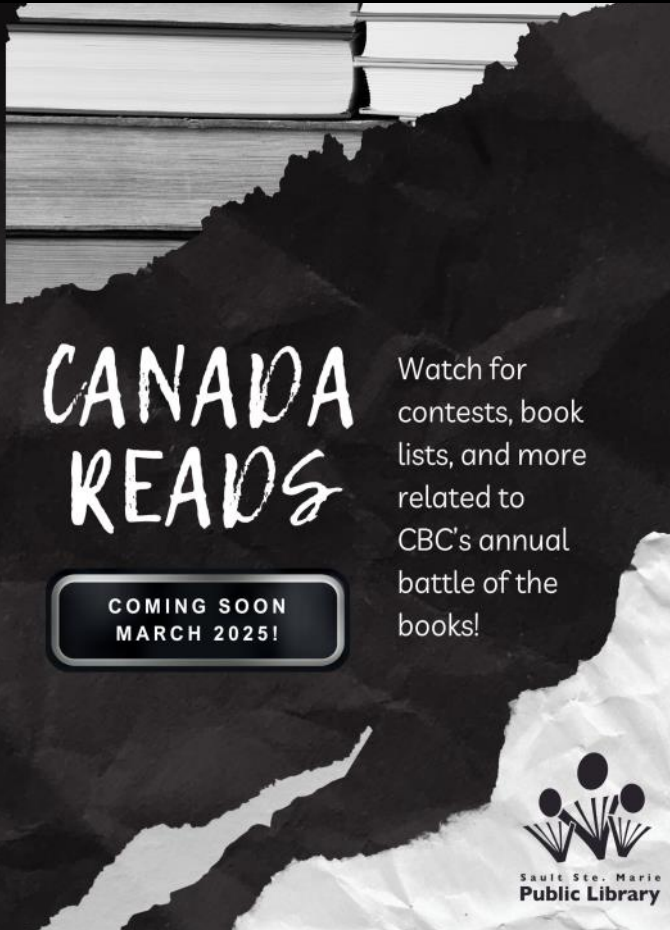


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February 7-14, 2025

No valentine? No problem! Borrow a Blind Date with a Book kit to get a new romance novel, some chocolate, and a chance to win a great prize basket!


Available while supplies last at the James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
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CANADA READS

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

**COMING SOON
MARCH 2025!**



Spicy

BAD MOM'S

BOOK CLUB



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JOIN THE NORTH BRANCH FOR BAD MOMS BOOK CLUB, FEATURING A SPICY READ, MOCKTAILS AND GREAT CONVERSATION!

REGISTRATION REQUIRED: OPENS @ 10:00am JANUARY 2, 2025

FEBRUARY 12th, 2025

6:00pm - 7:00pm



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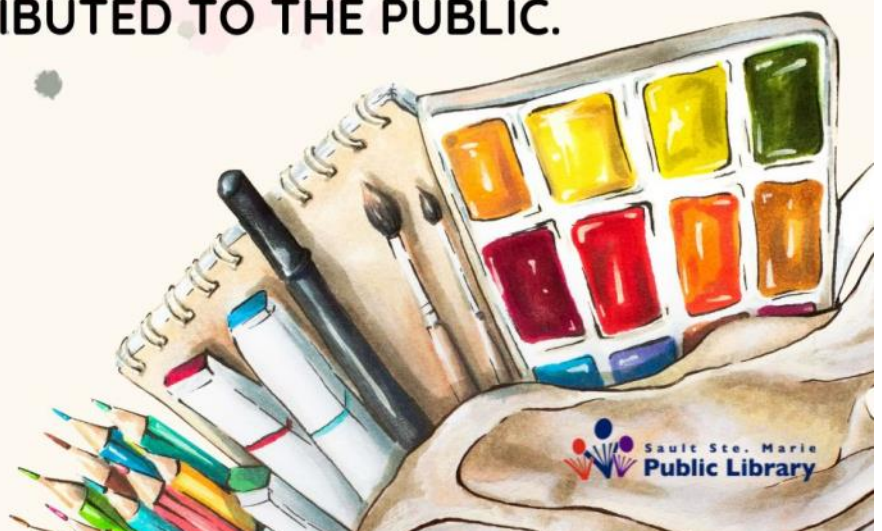
MARCH BREAK BOOKMARK CONTEST

Drop into the North Branch or James L. McIntyre Centennial Library and pick up a blank bookmark. A winner will be chosen from each age category.

**MARCH 8, 2025 TO MARCH 15, 2025
WINNER WILL BE SELECTED ON: MARCH
31, 2025**

**THE WINNER WILL HAVE THEIR BOOKMARK LAMINATED
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Discover the culture, sights
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Join the North Branch

Date: January 22, 2025

6:00pm - 7:00pm

Virtually explore the Islands of New Zealand and test your knowledge with trivia!



Registration opens: January 2 @ 10:00am

232-C Northern Ave



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is published quarterly and gives you
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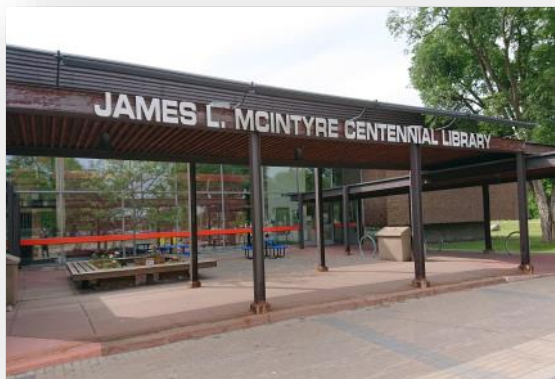
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FRIDAY	9:00 AM - 6:00 PM
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232C NORTHERN AVE, SAULT STE. MARIE, ON P6B 4H6

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SATURDAY	10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
SUNDAY	CLOSED

Library Closures 2025

New Year's Day	Wednesday, January 1, 2025
Family Day	Monday, February 17, 2025 (North Branch only)
Good Friday	Friday, April 18, 2025
Easter Sunday	Sunday, April 20, 2025
Easter Monday	Monday, April 21, 2025
Victoria Day	Monday, May 19, 2025
Canada Day	Tuesday, July 1, 2025
Sir William Hearst Day	Monday, August 4, 2025
Labour Day	Monday, September 1, 2025
Thanksgiving	Monday, October 13, 2025

Remembrance Day	Tuesday, November 11, 2025
Staff Development Day	Monday, November 17, 2025
Christmas Day	Thursday, December 25, 2025
Boxing Day	Friday, December 26, 2025

Early Closures:

Family Day	Monday, February 17, 2025 Open 12:00 - 4:00 pm (Centennial only)
Christmas Eve	Wednesday, December 24, 2025 Closed at 12:00 pm
New Year's Eve	Wednesday, December 31, 2025 Closed at 4:30 pm

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