



JULY, AUG. SEPT. 2025

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 3



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

The Value of a Library Book

Have you ever wondered what a library book is really worth compared to one bought in a retail store? With the exception of children's picture books, most books - once purchased - are read only once. If they're lucky, they might be so compelling that the owner rereads them or shares them with a close friend or two. Some books find a second life

in used bookstores, like the one run by our Friends of the Library. Others may never be read at all. More often than not, purchased books end up gathering dust on a shelf, having been read just once or twice.

Not so with library books.

Take, for example, *Night Road* by Kristin Hannah - our most circulated adult book of the last five years. It has been borrowed approximately 180 times. The retail price of the book on Amazon is \$31.82. If we divide that cost across all the circulations, that's just 18 cents per read. If each reader had purchased their own copy, the total cost to the community would have been **\$5,727.60**. That is a tremendous return on a single book.

While most books don't reach *Night Road's* level of popularity, the savings still

add up in remarkable ways. In 2024 alone, the Sault Ste. Marie Public Library added 4,484 new items to its collection. Based on total circulation and related expenses, the average value of a library book was **\$1,362.40**, resulting in a total savings of over **\$6 million** for our community.

That's just the quantifiable value. What's harder to measure is the impact these books have on our lives. Books inspire, teach, and entertain us. Some leave an emotional impact. Others offer comfort in difficult times, satisfy our curiosity or help us find answers to the questions we may have. These are values impossible to put a price on.

So, when someone asks me what a library book is worth, I might say "\$1,300 or \$1,400." More often, I'll just say **priceless**.

CULTURE DAYS

Cultural Family Fun Day

**Friday, September 26, 2025
11:00 am to 2:00 pm ~ Clergue Park**

SAVE THE DATE!

MORE INFO COMING SOON!



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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

JOIN US FOR A:

Bubble PARTY

24 AT 11AM
JULY

AT THE JAMES L. MCINTYRE CENTENNIAL LIBRARY

Storytime @ 11:00am

DIY BUBBLE WANDS

SIDEWALK CHALK FUN IN THE SUN

MUSIC

DROP IN PROGRAM - NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED!



Sault Ste. Marie Public Library



CREATE YOUR OWN PERSONAL ARCHIVES

NORTH BRANCH PUBLIC LIBRARY
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 23, 2025
6:00 PM TO 7:00 PM



Have you inherited boxes of family history or looking to organize the material you already have? The Sault Ste. Marie Public Library's Archive Technician will instruct you on ways to organize and maintain your personal archive collection.

Registration open Tuesday September 2, 2025 @ 10:00 am.
Scan the QR Code or Call 705-759-5248 to register.

JOIN US AT THE
NORTH BRANCH LIBRARY
FOR A CHILD FRIENDLY

MOVIE

EVERY WEDNESDAY
AFTERNOON STARTING
JULY 16 TO AUGUST 25

MOVIES START AT
1:30 PM

POPCORN INCLUDED!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 705-759-5248

2025

Story Safari

with
Pelee Banana



Weekly Summer Drop-In Crafts

June 30 to August 23, 2025

Visit the James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
@ 50 East St. during opening hours for
a story-themed craft. New craft each week!



Children's Programming

Registered Programs

Baby Time

Ages 0 to 12 Months

James L. McIntyre
Centennial Library

Wednesdays

Sept. 17 - Oct. 8, 2025

10:00 am - 10:30 am

Program Room

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.

Online Registration begins
August 27, 2025 @ 9:00 am

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

Oct. 14 - Nov. 4, 2025

10:00 am - 10:45 am

Program Room

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.

Registration begins

September 23, 2025, @ 9:00 am

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



Pre-school

Ages 30 to 48 Months

James L. McIntyre
Centennial Library

Mondays

Oct. 20 to Dec. 1, 2025

10:00 am - 11:00 am

Program Room

Children will explore stories and learning activities that encourage them along a lifelong path of reading and learning. This program was designed to promote language and listening skills, expand their imaginations and arouse their curiosity about the world around them. All children will have opportunities to engage in activities that focus on pre-reading, numeracy and socialization.

Online Registration begins
September 29, 2025
@ 9:00 am.

Register at:

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



Dove Real Beauty



James L. McIntyre Centennial Library

Tuesday September 16, 2025

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Program Room

Online registration
begins August 26, 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:



Starting August 1st 2025

a Sault Ste. Marie Public Library card is required to join the following registered programs:

- Baby Time
- Baby Picasso
- Toddler Time
- Preschool Storytime
- Dove Real Beauty



For each of the affected programs, either the child or their responsible adult **MUST** have a card to register.

No library card? Don't worry – it's easy to sign up for your **FREE membership!** The fastest way to get a card is to visit one of our library locations with photo ID and proof of address.



You can also sign up for a card through our website:

<https://ssmpl.ca/using-ssmpl/get-a-library-card/>

**Please allow up to 5 business days for us to process your online registration.*

Children's Programming

Drop-In Programs

SUMMER Storytime

James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
Thursdays @ 11:00 am
June 19 to August 28, 2025

This replaces our Friday Storytime. Our Friday Storytime will restart on September 5, 2025 @ 10:00 am.

Summer Storytime @ North Branch



Come join us for Storytime at the **North Branch** every Tuesday morning at 11 a.m.! Enjoy great stories, rhymes, and crafts. This is a drop-in program. Everyone is welcome.

TD Kids' Summer Reading Club

James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
and **North Branch Library**
Monday, June 16 to Friday, August 22, 2025



Kids are invited to join Pelee Banana on a Story Safari for our TD Kids' Summer Reading Club! Complete up to 10 reading challenges for 10 chances to win prizes.

=SUMMER=

Weekly Drop-In Crafts



James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
Monday, June 30 to
Saturday, Aug. 23, 2025
During opening hours

Visit the James L. McIntyre Centennial Library @ 50 East St. during opening hours for a story-themed craft. New craft each week!

No registration required for this free event.

Plan a Family Day Trip!

North Branch



Kids, this summer plan a family day trip!

Be a tourist in your own town, explore the great outdoors, or create a backyard retreat. Start by picking up a Family Day Trip booklet at the North Branch library. Don't forget to drop off your picture for a chance to win a sweet treat from The Big Moose Ice Cream Parlour!

Draw will take place August 28, 2025.

Weekly Lego Challenge



James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
All Summer Long!



Get ready to **build, create, and win!** Drop in to the Children's Department for weekly LEGO challenges from **June 30th to August**

22nd. Complete each challenge and earn a ballot for our **End of Summer Draw**—the more you build, the better your chances to win!

Drop-in Movie Event LET'S GET READY TO...



James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
Friday, July 11, 2025
10:00 to 11:30 am
Program Room (downstairs)

Includes a monster craft and monster munch (snack).



Author Visit

North Branch
Tuesday, July 8, 2025
11:00 am



Join author Alison McGauley as she shares her special new book "Kenzie's Little Tree" Craft to follow.

No registration required.
Books available to purchase: \$25.00

Outdoor Storytime Bubble Party



James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
Thursday, July 24, 2025

Join us for an Outdoor Storytime at 11:00 am, followed by DIY Bubble Wand making, sidewalk chalk fun, music, and more! BYOB (bring your own bubbles/bubble machine) if you'd like and get ready to soak up the summer magic. Don't miss this whimsical day of laughter, creativity, and of course - bubbles!

This is a drop-in program - no registration required.

READY, SET, READ STORYTIME

Children ages 3+
and a Caregiver



James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
Wednesdays: July 16 to August 13, 2025
10:30 to 11:30 am

Fun activities and crafts to support children's literacy development

July 16th - Letters, Letter, Letters
July 23rd - Sounds and Rhymes
July 30th - Finding New Words
August 6th - Print is Everywhere
August 13th - Understanding Stories

This is a drop-in program - registration is not required.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Children's Programming

Summer Games

North Branch

Mondays:

July 2 - August 31, 2025

1:00 pm - 4:00 p.m.

Explore Build Boxes, puzzles, board games and crafts. This is a drop in program. Everyone is welcome.

Kid Friendly Movies at the North Branch

Wednesdays:

Starting July 16, 2025

1:30 pm

Join us for a family friendly movie every Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. Popcorn will be included. This is a drop in program that will run until August 25, 2025.



THE GREAT EGG DROP CHALLENGE STEM



James L. McIntyre Centennial Library

Tuesday, August 12, 2025

2:00pm

Participants will have to use materials provided to create a device to protect their egg from a daring drop! When the build time is up - we will put the devices to the test! **THE GOAL... No Broken Eggs!**

Registration opens July 29th @ 9:00 am
Spots are limited!



BACK TO HOGWARTS WEEK



James L. McIntyre Centennial Library

Monday, Aug. 25 to Saturday, Aug. 30, 2025 - during opening hours

We're celebrating Back to Hogwarts Week at the James L. McIntyre Centennial Library! Drop in during opening hours for this free event. No registration required.

LEGO My Library



James L. McIntyre Centennial Library

Thursdays:

beginning September 11, 2025

6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Kids and their caregivers are invited to drop in for LEGO My Library at the James L. McIntyre Centennial Library every Thursday starting September 11th between 6:00 and 7:30 p.m. We'll have LEGO building challenges and time for free-building, too!

No registration is required for this free program, offered in partnership with Kiwanis Club of Lakeshore and Kiwanis Aktion Club.

This program is generously sponsored by:



General Programming

Visits with

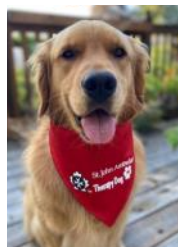
Zumi

Our furry friend Zumi will be back at the North Branch this fall for some snuggles and stories so stay tuned for upcoming dates!

North Branch

Beginning Wednesday, Sept. 24, 2025

at 5:15 pm



Teen & Tween Summer Challenge!

Scrounge, Conquer Challenges, Earn Stellar Prizes!

Release your inner Trash Panda!

Gather scraps and treasures by completing challenges!

Coming this July and August for those 12-18 years of age!

Stay tuned for more details!

Reference & Information • 705-759-5236

Adult Programming

Adult Summer Reading Challenge



From July 1st - August 31st

Pick up your Reading Challenge Card at either the

James L. McIntyre Centennial Library
or **North Branch Library**

Receive a ballot for each challenge completed! Complete however many challenges you'd like.

Remember to have FUN!

At the end of summer you'll have a chance to WIN 1 of 3 GREAT PRIZES!



Pick up your Challenge Card from either library location or download from www.ssmpl.ca

Crafternoons @ Centennial



James L. McIntyre Centennial Library

Crafternoon will be returning the last Thursday of the following months:

September, October, and November, 2025, when we will be introducing a variety of new handicrafts.

Stay tuned for more details as the dates approach!

**Sault Ste. Marie Public Library membership is required for program registration.*

Creating Your Own Personal Archives



North Branch

Tuesday September 23, 2025

6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Program Room A

Have you inherited boxes of family history or looking to organize the material you already have? The Sault Ste. Marie Public Library's Archive Technician will instruct you on ways to organize and maintain your personal archive collection.

Registration open Tuesday September 2, 2025 @ 10:00 am



Employment Solutions - Unlock Your Potential

North Branch

Wednesdays:

September 10 and October 8 2025

1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

Drop-in and speak with members from Employment Solutions and discuss your future job opportunities!

Call 705-759-5248 for more info.

The Knit & Crochet Crafters Group



James L. McIntyre Centennial Library

Wednesday Evenings:

Beginning Sept. 3, 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.



ADULT

Book Club



Fall Registration 2025

Registration will be facilitated through Eventbrite.



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

Tuesday Book Clubs

Registration opens: Tuesday, August 12th, 2025 at 9:00 am

	<u>Morning Club</u>	<u>Afternoon Club</u>
September 16	10:00 am	2:00 pm
October 21	10:00 am	2:00 pm
November 18	10:00 am	2:00 pm
December 16	10:00 am	2:00 pm

Mystery & Suspense Book Club

Registration opens: Tuesday, Aug. 12th, 2025 at 9:00 am

September 10	2:00 pm
October 8	2:00 pm
November 12	2:00 pm
December 10	2:00 pm



Boomers & Beyond

Savvy Seniors Book Chats



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

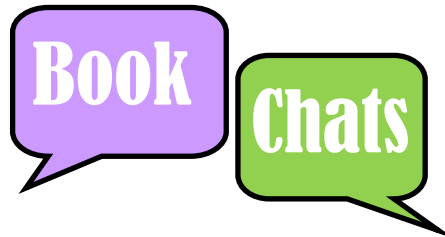
An exchange of ideas helps to broaden your reading choices and open your mind to new reading ideas. All seniors welcome!

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

Free - No registration required

Resuming Tuesday, Sept. 30, 2025
other dates TBA

James L. McIntyre Centennial
Library - 50 East Street
Board Room



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.

This service is Free

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!

CENTENNIAL

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9TH:	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
WEDNESDAY, AUG. 6TH:	3:00 PM - 4:00 PM
THURSDAY, SEPT. 4TH:	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

NORTH BRANCH

THURSDAY, JULY 24TH:	3:00 PM - 4:00 PM
MONDAY, AUG. 25TH:	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
TUESDAY, SEPT. 23RD:	3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Coming This Fall



Senior's Winter Driving Information Session

October 2025
Date and Time: TBD



Our History

The backbone of any community is probably the people who live and work there, especially those who own and operate a business to fill a community's need.

When Sault Ste. Marie was in its infancy as a town it attracted many of those who were looking for new opportunities. One of those families to make their way to this area was the Hesson family.

Howard Hesson was born in Stratford, Ontario and moved to Sault Ste. Marie with his parents in 1900. It was an exciting time as he watched the growth of Sault Ste. Marie develops from a town to a city.

He recounted that he attended high school classes that were held in a building on Queen Street, between East and Brock Streets, which was later to be the home of the Virene's store. An avid athlete, he enjoyed basketball, baseball, and lacrosse but his favourite sport was hockey. He played on the Canadian Sault hockey team that beat the Sault, Michigan team for the one and only time to win the Soo Falls Trophy in 1913.

His pursuit of hockey, however, did not end there. He played professional hockey in Toronto with the Toronto St. Pats in 1914 and 1915.

After his hockey career, Howard married in September of 1915 and had raised three children (Howard, Jr., Jack, and Mary) in Sault Ste. Marie. Howard's father, William Joseph Hesson purchased the John Dunn sawmill in 1900 and renamed it W.J. Hesson & Co. This business was located on the south side of Bay Street at the foot of Spring Street.

With the formation of the new company, operations changed to continue as a combination sawmill and planing mill providing employment for 30 men.

In 1910 a fire spread through the mill site and had a significant impact on its future. Replacement equipment had to be acquired so William Hesson determined that this was a good opportunity to change the direction of the business by eliminating the sawmill portion and continue as a planing mill instead.

Howard began working at the mill in 1913 and took over the management of the mill in

1916 from his father. Howard eventually took over ownership of the company and continued to manage the mill for 27 years.

The Hesson Lumber Company played an important role in the life of the city, but a major change occurred on March 13, 1939, when the lumber company was purchased by the Beaver Lumber Company. Howard remained in his role as manager for several years after the new owners took over, but he made a drastic career change when he decided to give the insurance business a try.

He purchased Furse Insurance Agency on Aug. 1, 1942, and changed the name to Hesson Insurance Agency.

As a Kiwanis Club member as well as belonging to other organizations, he took an active role in his community and was one of the early business leaders that contributed to the growth of the city in the first half of the 20th century.





The Friendly Bookworm

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

Friends of the Library Community Outreach

With help from a generous grant from the Retired Teachers of Ontario (RTO/ERO), the Friends of the Library have been focusing on outreach in the past few months - spreading access to good books and opportunities for lifelong learning. We purchased a book cart for the Bay Street Active Living Centre, and have stocked it with a great selection of novels for a new "Take a Book, Leave a Book" offering in the lobby of the Centre. Stop by and check it out! And while you're there, take a look at the wide variety of non-fiction books in the activity room off the lobby.



Friends volunteer Joy (right) was one of the first visitors to the new "Take a Book, Leave a Book" cart at the Bay Street Active Living Centre.

We have also set up a little library for residents to enjoy at Extencicare VanDaele Manor, and we continue to share books with Extencicare Maple View home, Sault Area Hospital, Soup Kitchen, Remand Centre, Northland Adult Learning Centre, and others.

The Bookstore has also been on the road! Our volunteers created a curated pop-up bookstore at the Horticultural Society's Seedy Saturday in March, and also at Clean North's Repair Cafe in April.



Photo caption: Volunteers Liz and Shirley created a pop-up Bookstore at the first-ever Clean North Repair Cafe at the new Legion building in April.



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 Sept. 8, 2025,
7:00 p.m. - Centennial Library

We are happy to have our North Branch mini-bookstore up and running to provide convenient access to specially-chosen books for sale. Look for our book cart near the circulation desk. North Branch library staff will be happy to assist you.

Rotaryfest - July 17-19

Join us for some book browsing (and buying!) at a fresco at Rotaryfest! We'll have a big selection of books outdoors, in front of the Centennial Library, during Rotaryfest. We will also have DVDs and CDs, as well as a special collection of *Comic Books*. Stop by to say hello and pick up some summer reading at our usual great prices.



Volunteers Gerri, Elaine, and Karen show off the new display area within the hardcover fiction section of the Bookstore. Watch for a rotating selection of Staff Picks to appear in this area.

Most Books
\$1.00!

Volunteering Makes A Difference!

*The Sault Ste. Marie Public Library
would like to acknowledge
and thank our generous Library Donors
(for gifts over \$100.00)*



**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
special 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

Brandon Batman

Bryce Batman

Ann Corris

Friends of the Library

Ruth Hopson

Ora James

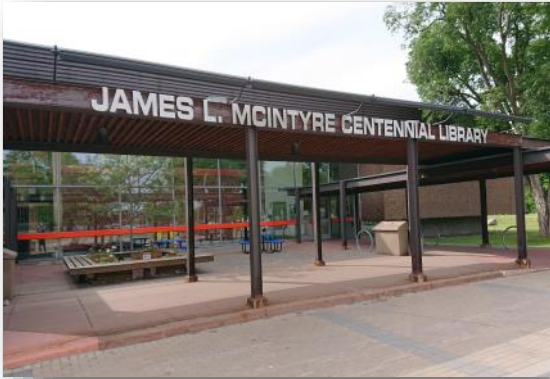
D. Ann McClure

Canada Helps

Zonta Club

*Recognized donors from
January 1, 2025 - June 16, 2025*

About Your Library...



JAMES L. MCINTYRE CENTENNIAL LIBRARY

50 EAST STREET, SAULT STE. MARIE, ON P6A 3C3

SUMMER HOURS OF OPERATION:

MONDAY	9:00 AM - 8:00 PM
TUESDAY - FRIDAY	9:00 AM - 6:00 PM
SATURDAY	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
SUNDAY	CLOSED



NORTH BRANCH LIBRARY

232C NORTHERN AVE, SAULT STE. MARIE, ON P6B 4H6

SUMMER HOURS OF OPERATION:

MONDAY - TUESDAY	10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
WEDNESDAY	10:00 AM - 8:00 PM
THURSDAY - FRIDAY	10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
SATURDAY	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
SUNDAY	CLOSED

Regular Hours begin Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2025

Visit: ssmpl.ca/about-us/hours-locations



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

Visit us online @ www.ssmpl.ca

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@ssmpubliclibrary



Sault Ste. Marie Public Library



Sault Ste. Marie Public Library