

Key Monthly Library Activities – 2012

Month	November
Location	Central Library
Families & Caregivers	
1	As a result of the huge popularity of the Robotics program offered in partnership with Rick Hansen Secondary School, the Library, for the first time, had 2 teams competing in the First Lego League challenge. The goal of the 2012 challenge, Senior Solutions was to find a senior partner, identify and learn about a problem faced by seniors, create an innovative solution to the problem identified and share the problem and solution with others. Out of 30 teams competing, Mississauga Library System teams, Robossauga and Robobros were the only community teams offering opportunities for children across the City to participate. The Library's Junior First Lego League team invited Mayor Hazel McCallion to be their Senior Partner which she agreed to with an interview with about 6 children and their teen team mentors. The activity has been an excellent example of cross generational collaboration among children, teens and seniors.
2	The Children's Department's Fall programming consisting of 8 fully registered and drop-in weekly programs for children, from birth to six and their parents or caregivers was once again very successful. One parent offered this comment in her program evaluation: "I have been bringing my child to the library since she was 6 months old and have never been disappointed – the librarians are so committed to the children. It is just wonderful! Exactly what I remember the library being for me when I was growing up. The programs, the plays, the activities are all just awesome and make me proud of my community!"
Youth	
1	The Mississauga Library was invited to participate in International Student Welcome Day. The Economic Development Office organized this event to bring international students studying in Mississauga to City Hall as a welcome and orientation to the City. Sciences and Business staff spoke to dozens of the 300 participating students, made library cards, and answered questions about research at the public library.
2	Canadiana Room staff helped a high school student looking for primary sources for her Canadian history project on prohibition: "I'd like to thank you very much for helping me out. I think I've got the hang of this whole research thing! Also, maybe history won't be such a pain now that I've seen these sources."
3	Readers' Den staff are supporting a drop-in chess program on Saturday afternoons for youth.
4	Readers' Den continues to work with the University of Toronto at Mississauga to offer a "study skills" workshop for students in high school who are looking to attend university in the next few years.
Older Adults	
1	Central Sciences and Business staff conducted 9 computer workshops focussing on Mouse Skills, Internet Skills (Basic and Intermediate), Email, and Facebook. Twenty eight people attended the popular Saturday morning sessions and 11 people are on the waitlist.
2	In partnership with the Arts and History Department, the 2012 Heritage Speakers series culminated in actor David Morris' portrayal of the fiery, headstrong leader William Lyon Mackenzie. The rebel leader came to life on stage banging his stick in his colourful, ranting manner. This event celebrated the 175 th anniversary of the Rebellion of 1837 and included special attention to Mackenzie's political and rebel connections in Streetsville and area.

3	A staff member involved in Homebound services met with staff at Sheridan Villa to discuss the current delivery of homebound materials and to ensure a smooth process which allows materials to be properly picked up and dropped off.
New Canadians	
1	Sciences and Business staff coordinated 7 Career Tours for the following community agencies: Fleming Adult Learning Centre, Newcomer Centre of Peel, ACCESS Employment, Peel Multicultural Council, St. Gabriel Adult Learning Centre. One hundred twelve attendees left with the ability to navigate the Library's Career Centre and various job searching databases. Twenty attendees returned for a Career Research Day in order to expand their knowledge of resume writing and interview skills.
2	In partnership with the Newcomer Information Centre of The Centre for Education and Training, Sciences and Business staff hosted "First Canadian Winter", an overview of what it means to live with winter and skills to cope with snowy weather. From winter clothing to winter driving, this session covered how to handle the many difficult situations during the winter season.
Adults	
1	In partnership with the Royal Canadian Institute for the Advancement of Science (RCI), the Sciences and Business Department hosted Dr. Angela Lange, University of Toronto (Mississauga). Her lecture on "Locusts & Reproductive Success" drew an audience of 13 people. The presentation was videotaped and posted on the RCI website for worldwide viewing.
2	The Sciences and Business Department hosted the Art of Living Foundation. Fifteen attendees discovered how stress can be reduced and eliminated by using meditation, yoga, breathing techniques and practical wisdom and knowledge.
3	A written request from a prison inmate to the Canadiana Room staff for an article in the Mississauga News resulted in the prison staff refusing delivery of the article which then prompted librarians to write a letter clarifying the individual's right to this information for the purposes of research or private study citing the "Fair Dealing" clause of the Copyright Act. As the inmate writes, "thanks for caring enough to send that letter", and he did finally receive the needed article
4	Grace C'Connell was welcomed to the 2012 BookFest. Grace grew up in Mississauga, her book "Magnified World" was published in 2012 and she has been named as one of the "Globe and Mail's" recent "CanLit Fab Five". Grace read from her book and offered a writing workshop for youth on October 27.
5	To support the popular "Books to Go" program, Readers' Den staff have added the new "Raves and Faves" titles which will support up to 15 readers in individual community book clubs. This will allow for additional titles to be read by our readers without additional purchasing of specialized titles.
Completing Our Neighbourhoods	
1	Families were welcomed to the Library during the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony. Two performances by magician Robert Presswood offered a warm option and very entertaining diversion for 300 entranced participants
Cultivating Creative & Innovative Businesses	
1	MP Brad Butt hosted a job forum, inviting the City of Mississauga (as represented by the Mississauga Library System) to present on City-provided employment services (e.g., Workshops on Job Skills and Résumé Writing, Career Centre Tours, etc.). Staff presented

	an overview to 120 participants and answered several questions.
Other (Special Initiatives)	
1	The Library's Social Media presence continues to grow. Facebook added 19 fans in November, for a total of 1262; Twitter gained 52 followers, for a total of 1494. In addition, Sciences and Business fielded 136 general email inquiries.
2	Sciences and Business staff continue to provide exemplary eBook support. In November, staff answered 64 support questions (via email, phone, in-person). The average response time: less than 24 hours.
3	Staff of the Canadiana Room attended the VIP Grand Opening of the Peel Art Gallery Museum and Archives (PAMA) in recognition of the Library's ongoing partnership and contribution of historic images to the new interactive table.
4	The Arts and History Department hosted "Made in Taiwan: A Celebration of Taiwan in Film and Photography" at Central Library from September 12 to November 18, 2012. Almost 800 people attended 12 screenings of award-winning feature films obtained in partnership with the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office. The photography show on the 2nd and 3rd floors of Central Library continues till the end of December.