

External Committee Report

Cumberland Public Libraries

April 2024

Library Hours and Services

Thanks to our amazing local representatives, hours are being restored at all of our locations!

This would not be possible without the dedication of our Municipal and Town Councillors, Mayors David Kogon, Murray Scott, and Greg Henley, and the countless members of their staff. They have shown that Amherst, Oxford and Cumberland County deserves sustainable and affordable core library services in the region.

We are working diligently to restore hours at all of our locations, and will let everyone know when hours are back to normal.

Provincial Library Funding Review

The Provincial government has begun a funding review for all public libraries in the province. The committee is made up of Library Directors, government representatives, and library board representatives. Amherst Town Councillor and Cumberland Regional Library Board Chair, Dale Fawthrop, is a member of this committee trying to develop a new funding formula.

Food Security

Cumberland Public Libraries received a \$52,900 grant from the Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage for food security. The Library will be providing snacks in all locations as well as working with our community partners, Cumberland Adult Network for Upgrading (CAN-U) and the YMCA, to fund work already being done in the community.

State of the Library

The Board will hold its annual Public Meeting on April 25, 2024 at the Springhill Library. We will also be live streaming on our Facebook page.

Statistics

In the month of February, Cumberland Public Libraries signed out 13,915 items, 6,939 items in Amherst alone. This includes books, DVDs, magazines, renewals, e-books and more.

Also, in February the Amherst library offered 16 in-person programs with 234 people in attendance. The Amherst library had 2,033 in person visits.

Next Board meeting June 18, 2024.