

# WELLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

# BOARDWALK BANTER



www.wellandlibrary.ca  
t. 905-734-6210



Spring Issue 2025



## Local Authors and Poets Day

Celebrate National Poetry Month 2025 with the theme “family in its many forms”. In recognition of this special month, we’re hosting a Local Authors and Poets event on Saturday, April 5 from 10:30am-2:00pm. Come hear some of the authors and poets read from their work (12:30-1:30pm), participate in a writer’s workshop, and meet local authors of both fiction and non-fiction. Books will be available for sale at the event.

In addition, all month long, we invite everyone to contribute to our “Community Poet-Tree”. We encourage you to write a short original poem on the paper leaves provided and hang it on our tree, like an ornament!

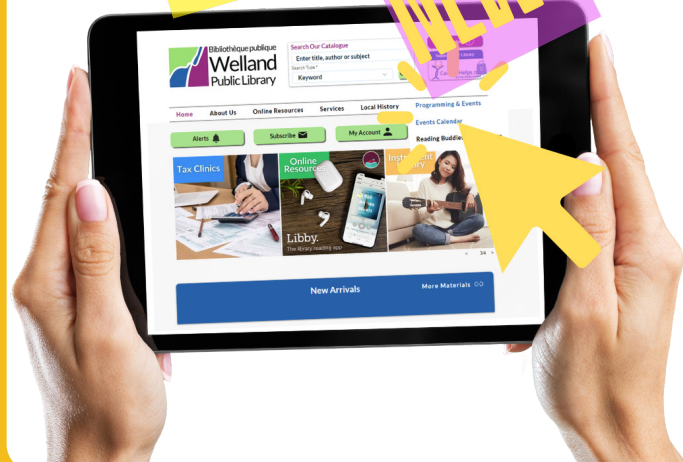
## Seed Library Returns

The Seed Library is back at the Main Branch of the Welland Public Library for a new season of gardening! We offer a variety of seeds available for free borrowing, with a full list of plants on our website. Each seed package includes a plant description and growing information.

In addition to the seed library, we have a selection of gardening books and free EBSCO e-books to assist with your gardening journey. As you grow vegetables, flowers, and herbs, be sure to save and return seeds for next year’s harvest!



# EXCITING NEWS



## A New Way to Register for Programs at WPL!

Here at WPL, we understand time is valuable and you want information about programs and registration to be as simple as possible. That’s why, on Wednesday, May 21, we’re launching new software that we know you’ll love just as much as we do!

With this new platform, you’ll be able to easily find information about programs and events, register for programs, view room rental availability, and more!

Registration for June programs will open May 21 and registration for July and August programs will open June 2. We appreciate your patience as we transition to this new software.

**Local Stories:**

**Welland's Surprising Titanic Connection**

The newspaper clipping below is from the October 22, 1983 edition of the *Welland Guardian Express*. That year, Welland was celebrating 125 years of incorporation and the history of the city was a popular topic. The clipping features former Mayor Allan Pietz sharing an interesting story that surprisingly connects the City of Welland and the Titanic tragedy from April 14, 1912. The land in Dain City that Allan Pietz lived on in 1983, and was previously owned by the Montreal Land Company in 1912, was 500 Forks Road West. Despite further research, we've been unable to discover the nationality or name of the company's manager who perished that day. Nevertheless, it's a little-known connection and if the Titanic didn't sink that day, who knows how different Welland might have been as a result.


Though overshadowed by the gloom of the First World War, the construction of the fourth Welland Canal still attracted international attention. Promoters scrambled to England and Scotland with land schemes and development plans.

"One of these companies," Pietz recalls from family history, "was the Montreal Land Company and they purchased land in Dain City from the previous owners where Alice (his wife) and I now have our home."

The manager of that land company travelled to England to arrange financing for development that he said would result in smoke-stacks all along the Welland Canal. He reportedly met with success.

**FATAL MISTAKE**

The impact of that scheme will never be known as he made one fatal mistake. He boarded the Titanic and his plans for this city sank to the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean.



**A Big Thank You to Our 2024 Donors!**

We can't express enough how much your support means to us! Your generosity helps us grow and create more meaningful experiences for our community. We are beyond grateful for each and every one of our donors.

<i>Anonymous</i>	<i>Claudette LeBlanc</i>
<i>Penelope Bartok</i>	<i>Mary Lescisin</i>
<i>Lindsay Bryan</i>	<i>Gabriel Lopes</i>
<i>Peter Bryan</i>	<i>Belinda McCauley</i>
<i>Paula Carson</i>	<i>Marvin Nussbaum</i>
<i>Peter Cherwonogrodzky</i>	<i>James Runka</i>
<i>Jocelyn Clutterbuck</i>	<i>Jason Swenor</i>
<i>Leanna Crouch</i>	<i>Wendy Timms</i>
<i>Andrew Falusi</i>	<i>Jeffrey Weiner</i>
<i>Judith Guarin</i>	<i>Kiwanis Club of Welland</i>
<i>Mary Hornak</i>	<i>Erwin Taylor Charitable</i>
<i>Dotti Lanthier</i>	<i>Foundation</i>
<i>Suzanne Larose</i>	<i>Canada Help</i>



**Summer Reading Adventures for All Ages:  
Join Our Children's, Teen, and Adult Summer Reading Clubs!**

Hey, kids and teens! Get ready for a summer of fun and reading with the return of the TD Summer Reading Club (TDSRC) at Welland Public Library! Sign up at any branch starting June 21, and embark on your summer reading adventure!

Registrants receive a welcome pack and are encouraged to return weekly to earn a fun prize and a chance to win one of our weekly grand prizes.

A big thank you to Kiwawis Club of Welland for supporting this program. The TD Summer Reading Club is the perfect way to spark a love for reading.

We also invite adults to embark on a reading adventure! Starting June 21, pick up a passport logbook, and read whatever you like (e.g., novels, biographies, poetry, or graphic novels). Collect stamps throughout the summer by checking in with staff.

At summer's end, trade in your completed passport for a special prize! Whether you're exploring new stories or revisiting old favorites, this program is a fun way to stay engaged and connected with the library community.



**LIBRARY CLOSURES**

Friday, April 18 - Good Friday	Main Branch	Diamond Trail Branch	Seaway Mall Branch
Sunday, April 20 - Easter Sunday	50 The Boardwalk	315 Southworth Street	800 Niagara St.
Monday, April 21 - Easter Monday	Welland, ON L3B 6J1	Welland, ON L3B 1Z8	Welland, ON L3C 5Z4
Monday, May 19 - Victoria Day	905-734-6210 ext. 2521	905-734-6210 ext. 2501	905-734-6210 ext. 2518
Tuesday, June 10 - Staff Development Day			