

## Bancroft Public Library continues to make progress in 2015



Free and equitable access to information for everyone, regardless of age, income or education remains a major objective of Bancroft Public Library. We see the importance in responding to the community's library service wants and needs through contributions to early childhood education, economic prosperity, cultural diversity, literacy, and lifelong learning.

Bancroft Public Library continues to play an essential role in enriching the lives of library-users, with more people than ever visiting our library, borrowing library materials, using our public access computers, and attending our programming; library membership has increased by over 15% in the past two years!

In 2014 we developed an extremely well-attended showcase of programs designed to create excitement about literacy, which we will continue to add to in 2015. In addition to our regular children's program, this includes ongoing workshops for adults and an author series in celebration of National Library Month and Ontario Public Library Week.

So far this year we have celebrated our best-ever attended March Break programming for children, which included drop-in St. Patrick's Day crafts, a massive Lego Building competition, a celebration of spring, and a day focussed on learning all about manners. We also have an exciting Easter party planned for April 4.

This year we will be adding a baby and tots musical program to our regular line-up of activities, as well as participating in the Tri-County Reads festival, which launches on April 11th.

2015 will also see the library upgrading all of our public access computers, internet, and printing capacities. This includes purchasing new, accessible computers equipped with a variety of operating systems and the latest software in order to best meet the community's needs.

In addition, we are adding two valuable collections to the library's holdings, made possible through several generous donations: a limited-edition art collection, and a local history and genealogy collection, which will be showcased at an upcoming open house event for the community. Once established, we anticipate people travelling to Bancroft from afar in order to visit these special collections.

As always, we would like to thank the Town of Bancroft and the Township of Faraday for their generous support, as well as the community, who leads the library in creating goals, supports us as we are working towards them, and celebrates with us as each goal is achieved.

**Submitted by Vanessa Holm**

