At the Library, for November 2025 (Antigonish & Pictou Counties)

Trecia Schell, Community Services Librarian, Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library

November is Novel Writing Month.

Once again, it's time to celebrate writers and the work they do! Do you have a writing project on the go, and need a little extra encouragement to get it across the line, finish that last chapter or polish a draft? Pick up a Writing Resource package from any PARL location with charts, stickers, door hangers, and plenty of encouragement!

In addition to the weekly Tuesday night Writers Get Together at 6pm at the Trenton Library, the Open Pages (for Adults) Writing Group on Wednesdays at 2:30pm and Storytellers Guild (for ages 11-17) on Thursdays at 4pm at the Pictou Library … during the month of November, the Trenton Library is also offering dedicated drop-in writing times on Wednesday and Friday mornings from 10am until 12pm!

Do you have manuscripts gathering dust in your desk drawer? Try out a test audience via the Beta Reader Spot at the Trenton Library. And for more writing inspiration – join the Writers Workshop at the Trenton Library on Saturday November 28 at 11am, for "Fan Fiction" with Nico. Seating is limited, and to register for the workshop please call the Trenton Library at (902) 752-5181.

And more book news… Local author Crystal Copp is launching her book, "River" at the Westville Library at 1pm on Saturday November 7. The Pictou County Roots Society is hosting a book launch with Clyde F. Macdonald on Saturday November 7 at 2pm at the New Glasgow Library, as he shares his latest book, "Still More Tragedies and Triumphs". And Chad Norman (from Truro, NS) will share a selection of his poems from his book, "A Life Between Brackets" at the Pictou Library at 2pm on November 7. All are welcome to drop by.

The Pictou Library is live-streaming three upcoming Canada Council for the Blind Virtual Author Series coming up in November. Discover the voices, stories, and creative journesy of Canadian authors who are blind or living with vision loss. Join us at the Pictou Library for virtual sessions with Lynn Jensen (November 5 at 5pm), Anne Penny Leclair (November 9 at 1pm), and Anne Mok (November 18 at 1pm).

Still more writing news … Juno-award winning fiddler and singer Morgan Toney and Keith Mullins will be at the Pictou Library for a free concert and workshop on Saturday November 7! All are welcome to drop by for the free concert, from 11:30am to 12:30pm. There is also a Youth workshop with Morgan and Keith (for ages 5-12, registration required) from 10:30am to 11:30am. For more information, and to register for the workshop – please call the Pictou Library at (902) 485-5021.

And to quote one of favorite local authors, Sheree Fitch, "As long as we have stories, we will never be alone."

Love crafting, and missing fellow crafties? Drop by and join one of our weekly Crafting & Knitting Circles or UFO Clubs (Unfinish Objects) at our libraries in Antigonish, Pictou, River John, Stellarton, Trenton or Westville. For more information, please call, email – or even better, drop by and visit your local library.

Need some help navigating Technology? We have a Community Technology Trainer at the Stellarton Library on Friday mornings from 10am to 12pm, and the Trenton Library on Friday afternoons from 1:30pm until 4:30pm.

The CBC Ideas Discussion group (facilitated by Joanne van Vulpen) that meets on Thursday mornings at 10:30am at the Pictou Library has some space available for new members. If you love discussing current events – this is your crew! For more information, and to register – please call the Pictou Library at (902) 485-5021.

Let's Talk Climate: three conversations about climate, kids and everyday action. In this 3-part series, Christine Whelan will explore the basics of climate science, ways to talk with your kids about climate change, and simple actions we can take everyday to make a difference. All are welcome. The program will be offered at the Pictou Library on Tuesdays at 6:30pm (beginning November 10), and the River John Library on Thursdays at 6:30pm (beginning November 19).

Movies at the New Glasgow library this month include “Slow West” on Friday November 13 at 2pm, “Call of the Wild” on Friday November 20 at 1pm (No School Day!), and “Footloose” on Saturday November 21 at 2pm.

Please note, the Regional Library will be closed on Wednesday November 11, 2026 for Remembrance Day. During this time the library’s Virtual Services will be available online, and our Book Returns are always open. For more information on all our upcoming library programs and services, please call or drop by your local library, follow us on *Bluesky*, *Instagram*, and *Facebook*, or visit us online at www.parl.ns.ca. And many thanks to the Aberdeen Health Foundation’s Healthy Libraries, Healthy Communities, for their continuing support of public library programming.