Do You Know Your Library?

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Do you like to read a good book?
Watch movies or documentaries?
Listen to music?
Surf the internet?

Learn what is available through your library.

Try this quiz before reading the information in the kit.
Test your knowledge with these facts.

How many libraries are there on P.E.I.?

When and where did the first library open?

How many people have library cards on P.E.I.?

How many items were borrowed from libraries in 2014 on the Island?

Name some programs offered through the Public Library Service?

What organization lobbied for public libraries on P.E.I. to first get them established?

There is a very interesting report in the July 8th., 1933 issue of the Guardian telling of the W.I. convention for that year. You can find the full report by Google at "Island Newspapers". In it Miss Bateman tells of the first beginnings of libraries in P.E.I.

The following information is provided by Grace Dawson, Branch and Community Service Librarian. It explains a little history background and gives a list of the services available through the library. Also note the program guide which is online, for winter and spring happenings at different libraries in P.E.I.

I hope you all get a library card and use it to bring some fun and learning into your world.

Early History of the Public Library Service

• In 1932, the Carnegie Corporation of New York announced that funds would be available to liberal arts colleges in Canada to enhance their library collections. The Prince of Wales College in Charlottetown was recently destroyed by a fire along with its library. The College's Alumni Society's president wrote a letter to the Chairman of the Advisory Group on Canadian College Libraries for the Carnegie Corporation inquiring about the funds for the purpose of re-establishing the library at the college. The Chairperson recommended that the Alumni Society write a letter to the Carnegie Corporation for this purpose, and also put forth the idea of establishing a provincial library system within the PEI.

• After much consultation and visits between the Carnegie Corporation, Canadian library professionals and PEI politicians, in January 1933 the Carnegie Corporation agreed to give $60,000 over a three year period to the province of PEI towards the establishment of a Library Demonstration. The purpose of the Demonstration would be to act as an experiment to see if a "modern system of library service" could be established which would serve as a potential example for other Maritime Provinces. The funds from the Carnegie Corporation were to cover the salaries of library staff and purchase library materials. Individual communities would be required to supply room and space for the "branch" library.

• The Demonstration officially began in June 1933. Nora Bateson was appointed as Director of the Demonstration. Bateson began the process of travelling across the Island, visiting rural communities, social service clubs, Women's Institute branches, teachers, etc (see newspaper article – left hand column). She traveled in a Ford car funded through the Carnegie Corporation (see photo). When travelling, Bateson would bring an exhibit of materials to showcase the various types of publications available to Islanders through the public library (see photo).

• When communities exhibited interest in the establishment of a library "branch," Bateson encouraged the formation of a local "library committee." These committees consisted of representatives from various local organizations and associations in the area. The committee was responsible for locating an appropriate space to house the library, for securing enough funds to cover any costs for maintenance, repairs, heating, cleaning, etc. and for recommending a local individual to act as the library's "custodian" (library staff). Once these arrangements/recommendations were confirmed and approved by the Director, Bateson would send materials to the committee. The first library to open under the Demonstration was in Montague on October 11, 1933.

• Although branch libraries began to open in communities in 1933, the Demonstration endeavoured to find ways to reach more remote areas across the Province. A bookmobile was proposed, but was determined unfeasible due to poor road conditions – particularly in the winter. During the winter of 1935-1936, the Demonstration decided to provide special boxes of books that would be distributed through local branches of the Women's Institute. The WI was viewed as the ideal organization to oversee this distribution since they had 248 branches across the Island. The boxes were shipped by the Demonstration to the local WI branches and the Institute covered the return shipping charges.

• 1936 marked the end of the Carnegie Corporation's original three-year period of funding. The question arose over the continued existence of the Demonstration and who would assume responsibility of the library system in Prince Edward Island. In response, local library committees submitted petitions to the Provincial Government requesting that the Province assume responsibility of the library system. The Women's Institute joined this endeavour by encouraging each local WI branch to write to their district's political representative and by the Central Women's Institute submitting a petition to the Provincial Legislature to support the library system's operation.

• On June 1, 1936, the Demonstration officially ended and the Provincial Government assumed responsibility of the library system in Prince Edward Island. The library was placed under the Department of Education.

Sources:

Coughlin, Violet L. Larger Units of Public Library Service in Canada. "Provincial Library Service in

Prince Edward Island." Metuchen: Scarecrow Press, Inc., 1968.

The Carnegie Library Demonstration in Prince Edward Island, Canada 1933-1936. Ottawa: Canadian

Library Association, 1936.

Public Library Service – 2015

• The Public Library Service currently has 26 public libraries across Prince Edward Island. Islanders can use their library card at any of these locations. www.library.pe.ca

• In 2014, 838,663 items (books, CDs, DVDs, magazines, etc) were borrowed from the Public Library Service.

• In 2014, 46,846 eBooks and eAudiobooks were downloaded from the Public Library Service.

• As of December 2014, 75,327 individuals have PEI library cards.

• In 2014, over 51,240 people attended the Public Library Service's 5,174 programs.

• In 2014, 45,078 sessions were booked on the Public Library Service's public computers. Public access computers are available in every library. Each location has a scanner, printer and assistive computer technology.

• WiFi is available in all 26 locations.

• Overdrive: Through Overdrive, Islanders can download eBooks and eAudiobooks to their computers and/or mobile devices. Titles expire automatically, and no late charges are applied. All that is required to access the service is the user's library card.

http://library.pe.ca/digitalmedia

• Freegal: Through Freegal, library users can download music –free of charge – to their computer and/or mobile devices. The songs do not expire so users can keep the music file.Usersare able to download 5 songs per week. All that is required to access the service is the user's library card.

 http://pe.freegalmusic.com/homes/index

• Talking Book Service: Through the Talking Book Service, the library provides Islanders with print disabilities (visual, physical and learning disabilities) with access to library materials in accessible formats. Materials can be mailed directly to the user's home – free of charge. http://library.pe.ca/talkingbooks

• Home Library Service: Through the Home Library Service, the library provides access to library materials to Islanders who are unable to visit their local library. Library materials are selected and checked out by library staff and delivered by volunteers every six weeks. The service is available to anyone – regardless of age - with a physical or visual disability or recovering from surgery or an illness. http://library.pe.ca/homelibrary

• Community Care Facility Delivery Service: Through the Community Care Facility Delivery Service, the library provides the residents of community care, long-term care facilities and nursing homes with access to library's materials. Materials are selected and delivered to participating facilities by library staff every six weeks. http://library.pe.ca/communitycare

• EAL (English as an Additional Language): The PEI Public Library Service and the PEI Association for Newcomers to Canada offer a Volunteer EAL Tutoring Program to help adult newcomers learn English. Through this program, learners may receive one-on- one tutoring or have the opportunity to join a conversation circle. The program is based out of the Confederation Centre Public Library in Charlottetown. http://library.pe.ca/EAL

• Library EnRoute: Library EnRoute is community service initiative of the PEI Public Library Service. A van which is full of technology and library resources, Library EnRoute visits communities, events, festivals, expos, etc. across the Island and showcases the library's resources and services to the public. http://www.library.pe.ca/libraryenroute

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Now, since you are at the end, why not have a library laugh.

What is the tallest building in the world? The library, because it has the most stories.

What has a spine but, no bones? A book

Why is a math book always unhappy? Because it always has lots of problems.

If the pen is mightier than the sword, then why do actions speak louder than words.

source: http://www.jokes4us.com/peoplejokes/librarianjokes.html