

JOB HUNTERS initiative short listed for award

The **HELP FOR JOB HUNTERS** initiative at Windsor Public Library has been short listed for an Ontario Public Library Service Award.

Under the initiative, WPL created a program which emphasized the public library as a valuable community asset, which supports economic development and innovation, and promotes staff and materials as an important community resource for employment services providers and the unemployed.

Resource guides were developed, both online and in print form, to assist those looking for employment in addition to career resources, workshops and speakers who addressed specific components of the job search process. The project promoted WPL to those who may not necessarily have the library as top of mind for career and job search information and research services. Guides also offered practical tips and exercises that helped prepare those seeking employment to take ownership of their career search.

The **HELP FOR JOB HUNTERS** initiative is part of a wider library project geared to assist employment services providers and the local business community develop and implement a sustainable model for the dissemination of career and job

search information. The **HELP FOR JOB HUNTERS** initiative was launched with a grant from Service Ontario.

Windsor Public Library CEO, Barry Holmes, said following the announcement that "the recognition which comes from being placed on the shortlist affirms the critical role Windsor Public Library plays in the development and sustainability of our community. The employment resources we provide at our central location and at our branches have become a primary destination for community members researching and applying for jobs. Staff is to be

congratulated for the public service they provide in designing and implementing the many meaningful programs they do for the community - such as **HELP FOR JOB HUNTERS**."

The Ontario Public Library Service Awards were created by the Ontario government in 1985 to identify and promote creative service ideas. A jury drawn from the public library community reviewed submissions from across the province - with eight making the shortlist. The awards are presented annually with the winners announced and recognized at the Ontario Library Association Super Conference Dinner, February 3, 2011 in Toronto.



HOLIDAY HOURS 2010-2011

Please note that all branches of Windsor Public Library will open 9 am to 5 p.m., December 20-22 and December 27 to 29, 2010. **ALL BRANCHES WILL BE CLOSED DECEMBER 23-26, 2010 AND DECEMBER 30, 2010-JANUARY 1, 2011.** Normal hours will resume January 3, 2011. The Remington Park branch will open on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday during the Open Hours already listed.

Happy Holidays

Speaker Series begins with tales from H.J. Heinz

If you're looking for a nutritious but appetizing way to spend your lunch hour, Windsor Public Library has the perfect solution. Why not **FEED YOUR MIND** and have lunch at the same time!

Last month and running throughout the Fall and Winter months, Windsor Public Library is scheduling a mouth watering series of lunchtime speakers. The inaugural session focused on **100 YEARS OF HEINZ: THE H.J. HEINZ COMPANY OF CANADA, 1909-2009**. Local freelance writer Scott Holland delivered the inaugural talk and was joined by Bill Sherk, who brought a collection of Heinz memorabilia which he displayed. The talk centred on the history of the H.J. Heinz Company and its role in the Windsor

and Essex County business community. Each talk in the series will be 30 minutes.

...Bring your lunch and feed your mind

Members of the community are invited to attend, at no charge. They're welcome to bring a lunch or enjoy the food choices, for purchase, on offer at our café.

"I believe the **FEED YOUR MIND** series will provide a snapshot of local accomplishments, interesting and unique individuals and fascinating exploits. By presenting these stories in a casual and informal setting, my hope is that the downtown community and library visitors will take time out of their busy schedules to spend 30 minutes with us to learn more of our heritage, customs and topical issues of the day", says WPL CEO Barry Holmes.

Heinz was established in Canada in 1909 in a former tobacco factory in

Leamington, Ontario. Ketchup is the main product produced there but the factory also produces Canada Fancy (Grade A) tomato juice, mustard, vinegar, pickles, baby food, BBQ sauces, canned pastas, beans, pasta sauces, gravies and soups. Heinz Canada is also the major supplier of single serving and flexible packaging condiments for most fast food chains in Canada. The Leamington plant usually processes more than 250,000 tons of tomatoes per year.



December 2010: Tarot cards and their history with **James Mays**

January 2011: **Trevor Price**, on his new book about Windsor history

February 2011: **Rosemary Nixon**, the creative writing process

March 2011: Music Program

April 2011: Stretching the food budget in tight economic times

May 2011: Chickens in an urban setting

Community Art Wall

If you're an artist looking for a venue to display your work...consider using our new **COMMUNITY ART WALL!**

Simply contact us at 519.255.6770, Ext. 4421 and set up an appointment to preview your work. If selected, you will have the opportunity to display your work, together with biographical and contact information.

Please note that Windsor Public Library is the final arbiter of whether the artwork is appropriate for community display and that it cannot be sold when on the premises. The **COMMUNITY ART WALL** is equipped with a professional picture hanging system to ensure easy installation. Windsor Public Library is not responsible for damage to or theft of any displayed art. All artists will be required to sign a waiver.

Thank you to Sue Marentette, the inaugural November artist and we look forward to December when local artist John Vaccratsis will display his work.

Board adopts strategic planning priorities

In the Fall of 2008, a consortium comprising *Libraries in Transition*, *A.F. Church & Associates* and *Monteith Brown Planning Consultants* was commissioned to create a Strategic Plan for Windsor Public Library. Throughout 2009, the local community, staff and stakeholders were consulted and in October 2009 a comprehensive draft document was delivered to the Windsor Public Library Board. Following review and revision, a final document was delivered in January 2010. Since that time, it has been reviewed and debated and last month the Board adopted the plan for implementation.

Windsor Public Library Board members, with input from administrative staff, created a list of seven priorities – six of which will commence immediately.

PRIORITY 1

Initiate and conduct a comprehensive Facilities Master Plan of the Windsor Public Library System. Discussion will focus on expansion/renovation of existing facilities, the need for and location of, proposed facilities and consolidation. There was consensus that any building or renovation be mindful of using 'green' technology and initiatives and that an energy audit on all facilities be conducted in 2011. **TIMELINE: YEAR 1**

PRIORITY 2

Undertake a collections policy and procedures review, to align collections with strategic directions. This would include a marketing campaign to inform users about the concept of access to the whole of the collection system-wide. Under Priority 2, there would be an annual review of the Collections Policy and an additional amount of \$70,000 budgeted annually for resources on a go forward basis. **TIMELINE: YEAR 1 (Ongoing)**

PRIORITY 3

Embrace green initiatives through materials, facilities, programs, and services by reducing paper-based materials and focus on increasing electronic materials. 'Think Green' should be paramount in everything we do. Staff committees should be established to investigate and suggest possible actions to reduce, re-use and conserve energy and materials in the workplace. Attention should be given to seeking municipal, provincial and federal grants to implement green initiatives. **TIMELINE: YEAR 1 (Ongoing)**

PRIORITY 4

Manage, strengthen and develop community partnerships and institute partner agreements with clear expectations and outcomes. Develop an evaluation mechanism to determine the most strategic partnerships for the Library, based on resources required to maintain and grow the partnerships, benefits of the partnerships to the Library and the duration of the partnerships. **TIMELINE: YEAR 1 (Ongoing)**

PRIORITY 5

Investigate and report on the feasibility of instituting corporate sponsorship of programs and initiatives at Windsor Public Library. The report should focus on the mechanism and oversight of such programs, appropriateness, implementation, expectation and community involvement. Other public libraries should be contacted to determine whether policies exist and the degree to which sponsorships and advertising exist in public libraries in Ontario and Canada. Input should also be sought from Windsor Public Library Foundation. **TIMELINE: YEAR 1**

PRIORITY 6

Maximize use of the Library's electronic platform, its website, to promote programs and services, and to reach various segments of the community. Target new marketing initiatives encompassing the approved strategic priorities. **TIMELINE: YEAR 1**

PRIORITY 7

As a matter of priority, implement a succession plan that addresses the anticipated retirements from the current staff complement by identifying staff with the requisite knowledge and education to assume more responsibility. A comprehensive report should be forthcoming in Year 2 of Strategic Plan implementation. **TIMELINE: YEAR 2**



Tell us how we're doing?

Ongoing measurement of customer satisfaction is an essential component of any process improvement. And that is no different at Windsor Public Library. Our online survey provides the opportunity for users and others to let us know how we're doing.

The survey on our web site asks for customer feedback and comment on performance and other issues pertinent to the community service provided.

We will be using the data to identify the needs and wants of the community and then develop promotional and delivery strategies to provide what is being asked for. The key to our success is a solid understanding of the environment in which we operate, our position in the community, our products and services, our competition and our customers. The first step is having accurate research data.

If you haven't already done so, please take a few minutes to visit our website and complete the survey at windsorpubliclibrary.com. Once there, look for the Counting Opinions logo.



WHAT'S NEW is produced monthly by the Windsor Public Library.

For more information about library programs and services, please call 519.255.6770 or visit us online at windsorpubliclibrary.com.

**WINDSOR
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Voices from the Front...to the Front



LEST WE FORGET: Remembrance Day activities at Windsor Public Library took on a special look this year with a week-long display and exhibit of memorabilia from the Essex and Kent Scottish Regiment and a poignant program on November 6 which featured Veterans from various conflicts. WW II Veteran, John White (photo left) recites *In Flanders Fields* and the Regimental Pipes and Drums Band (photo above) provided those in attendance with a musical interlude.

Memories from Windsor's Community Archives...Detroit River



LOOKING NORTH: A 1920s photograph of the Detroit Skyline and ships on the Detroit River.