

Game On! at Windsor Public Library



Video game players represent a large segment of the community - a segment which Windsor Public Library intends to serve. Beginning April 1, WPL will launch a new collection - a collection of video games which will be available in the same manner as other materials, such as books and DVDs.

"Video games provide players with literacy and problem-solving skills through the games themselves, while the gaming programs we make available to the community will have the added outcome of bringing teens and others into the library who would otherwise never consider visiting," says WPL CEO Barry Holmes. "Data indicates that 47 percent of Canadian households own at least one gaming console. I believe that Windsor Public Library has a valuable role to play in providing content for these devices, in the same way we

did when video and DVD formats were introduced," adds CEO Holmes. Beginning April 1, there will be close to 250 titles available, with more than one copy available of the more popular games. Additionally, the games were purchased to be representative of the most popular gaming systems - with the games equally distributed between Nintendo Wii, Sony Playstation 3 and the Microsoft xBox 360.

With the video game launch, Central and Riverside libraries have been designated collection centres - and depending on the success of the initiative, other branches may become involved. Borrowing restrictions call for a limit of two games to be checked out per library card at any time, with a circulation period of one week, with no option to renew the borrowing period. There are 7 ratings for video games:

all of the games in the WPL collection fall in the first 4 categories, Early childhood, Everyone, Everyone 10+, or Teen.

All game titles will be searchable through the WPL catalogue, which can be found on the library homepage at windsorpubliclibrary.com or by visiting a library location. A basic search can be performed by simply entering electronic games into the search box and a list of titles will be generated. More advanced searches can be conducted by ratings group, such as Everyone or by gaming platform.

Dinosaurs invade Central Library...

Community members visiting the Central Branch of WPL can now get a taste of the tremendous exhibits and displays at Canada South Science City. At the beginning of April, WPL teamed up with Canada South Science City to display - on a rotating monthly basis - an informative display which while appealing to our customers will also serve to peak interest of what other materials are on display at the local institution. The first exhibit is a ferocious dinosaur. The exhibit can be found in the Display Window across from the Circulation Desk.

Continued on page 2

GAME ON!...
at Windsor Public Library
Video game titles available
April 1, 2011
Gaming collections are
located at Central and
Riverside branches
Platforms: Wii - PS3 - Xbox 360
For more information on titles
and borrowing guidelines go to
www.windsorpubliclibrary.com
WINDSOR
PUBLIC LIBRARY

IN THIS ISSUE...

- Page 2 Colours of South Asia
- Page 3 Bibliocommons
- Page 3 South Walkerville
- Page 4 Human Library

South Asian community is highlighted

The Windsor Cultural Mosaic Project has added a new component to the www.windsor-communities.com website. Participants and guests gathered in mid-March to launch COLOURS OF SOUTH ASIA, the latest addition to this valuable resource which shares with our community, the heritage, customs and contributions of Windsor's cultural mosaic.

A New Addition to the Windsor Communities Websites, The Colours of South Asia focuses on the history and growth of the South Asian community in Windsor. It showcases the heritage and culture of Windsorites from Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka as it exists today and in the past. It will prove to be an invaluable tool for teachers, students, researchers, or anyone interested in South Asian traditions and contributions to Windsor's cultural mosaic.

This virtual museum includes local interviews, artifacts, and pictures and provides activities for children as well as an examination of art, food, language and religion associated with South Asia. "At Windsor Public Library we strive

for excellence in customer service, innovation in information delivery and leadership in our community," says WPL CEO Barry Holmes. "And it is the community aspect of our mandate which we celebrate with the launch of The Colours of South Asia. The role of libraries in building and maintaining strong and healthy communities is a concept we believe in strongly and our association with the Job Creation Partnership is a perfect example of how we can work together to improve our communities through knowledge

and information", he added. Windsor Public Library's innovative, educational and informative digital exhibits are created with assistance from the Employment Ontario Job Creation Partnership. The program is designed to support projects that create jobs, while providing participants with opportunities to gain meaningful work experience. At the end of their participation, clients have work experience to add to their resumes and increase their chances of successfully finding long-term employment.



Continued from page 1

Dinosaurs invade Central Library...

Canada South Science City is a registered not-for-profit interactive science centre located in Windsor. Its mission is to advance the understanding and appreciation of science for the residents and visitors of Southwestern Ontario, through the operation of a hands-on-science centre. It is located at 930 Marion Avenue. Information concerning costs and hours can be obtained by calling 519-973-3667 or by visiting www.cssciencecity.com.



**Feed your mind
SPEAKER
SERIES**

May 20, 2011 from 12:15 to 1
pm: Certified Laughter Yoga
Teacher ROSEMARY HEENAN.
Central Library, Ouellette Lobby

New catalogue search tool coming to library

BiblioCommons is a new search and find tool that allows library users to find what they are looking for in an enhanced and improved environment.

It incorporates web 2.0 and social networking features, which means that library users can contribute information to the catalogue and interact with each other -and it will be available at Windsor Public Library later this Spring.

The application features an extensively-researched interface design, and a thoroughly tested technology platform, that resulted from an 18 month period of multi-library testing and development

Customers will have the ability to:

- Add comments and star-ratings about books and movies;
- Create lists to share with other users about favourite authors, genres or interests;
- Connect and communicate with other users with similar interests in a safe, trusted environment;



- Build networks of favourite reviewers that result in personalized recommendations.
- Explore bestsellers, award winners and newly acquired library materials.
- Download and utilize mobile applications.

All of these additional discovery features will give library users a new and interesting way to find library materials.

This user-generated content is shared by all libraries that use BiblioCommons. This results in a much richer catalogue experience for the user. For example, library users can read comments and lists created by others, as well as user-generated content from other libraries in Ontario.

Partial funding for BiblioCommons comes from the Province of Ontario.

**WINDSOR
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

ALL LOCATIONS WILL BE CLOSED ON...

**SUNDAY, MAY 15, 2011
as Summer Hours commence
on Monday, May 16, 2011**

**Summer hours are in effect from the third week of May.
All libraries will be closed on Sundays until
the third week of September.**

**ALL LOCATIONS
WILL BE CLOSED ON
Monday, May 23, 2011
to celebrate Victoria Day**

**Please note that materials due back on
Victoria Day will not accrue fines.
Materials can be renewed at
www.windsorpubliclibrary.com.**

Facelift for South Walkerville

If you haven't visited the South Walkerville branch recently and are planning to do so...you'll be in for a surprise.

The library has received a fresh coat of paint, new furniture and the Circulation Desk has been moved to provide better access for customers and to make way for a comfortable seating area. Plans also call for new carpeting to be installed later this month.



QUESTION: What is a Human Library?

Human libraries bring new meaning to the old adage - 'I can read you like a book'. A March Human Library program at Windsor Public Library provided the opportunity for the community to interact with a number of 'books' with a business focus. For 15 to 20 minutes, customers could 'check out' human books and ask questions and interact in a one-on-one situation.

A Human Library is an innovative method designed to promote dialogue, reduce prejudices and encourage understanding. The main characteristics of the project are to be found in its simplicity and positive approach.

In its initial form the Human Library is a mobile library set up as a space for dialogue and interaction. Visitors to a Human Library are given the opportunity to speak informally with "people on loan"; this latter group being extremely varied in age, sex and cultural background.

The Human Library enables groups to break stereotypes by challenging the most common prejudices in a positive and humorous manner. It is a concrete, easily transferable and affordable way of promoting tolerance and understanding.

It is a "keep it simple", "no-nonsense" contribution to social cohesion in multicultural societies. Read more about the history.

The process is very similar to the traditional method of checking out material, with the difference being that the customer and the 'book' interact in a public setting for 15 to 20 minutes. Additionally, a group can experience the interaction together. The topic is selected from a catalogue, the customer then registers and is directed to the 'book'.

Topics included: Joint Ventures; How to be the next



HUMAN LIBRARY: Rob Whent (left) participated in the March Human Library event. His topic-Be Your Own Boss.

Donald Trump; Small Business 101; Eco-Friendly Business; Open for BUSINESS; Build on Your Passion; and Creating a connected, vibrant community in the broadband economy.

WHAT'S NEW is produced by
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**

Windsor's Community Archives

Exhibit Schedule 2011

April	Archives Awareness Week
May	We are not Amused: Royalty in the Archives
June	Ford City in pictures
July	Trains, Planes and Automobiles
August	Street scenes of Windsor
September	Back to School
October	Architecture in your Archives
November	Remembrance Day
December	Vintage Holiday Greetings