



**GREY HIGHLANDS
PUBLIC LIBRARY**



MAY 2026 CEO Report

Adult Services

Our Community, Our Health

In recognition of Mental Health Week, *Our Community, Our Health* was held on May 5 in Flesherton. A community member shared their personal experience of surviving an eating disorder, alongside an informative presentation by SEGCHC registered dietician Donna Martin, providing both lived experience and professional insight.

Women's Writing Circle

The Women's Writing Circle, led by Stephanie Needham, began on May 14 in Markdale. This five-week reflective writing series, *The Second Half of Life: Opening the Eight Gates of Wisdom*, reached full registration with eight participants, supporting an intimate group setting.

Closet Writers

Closet Writers was offered in May in Flesherton with Owen Sound Poet Laureate Jennifer Frankum. Following the initial session, the program will continue on a monthly basis.

Special Event Highlight: The Spring Café

The Library hosted the Spring Café in May, welcoming community members for an evening with award-winning Canadian author Terry Fallis, who shared insights into his latest release and his writing journey.

The Library extends thanks to the Friends of the Flesherton Library and Highland Grounds for their support in making the event possible, as well as to all who attended. Events like this continue to strengthen community connections and support the Library's role as a gathering space.



Teen Services

Teen Drop-In: Songwriting Circle

A special Teen Drop-In was held on May 14 in Markdale, featuring a songwriting circle with musician and producer Daniel Davies. The session was rescheduled due to the Markdale Book Sale and welcomed ten teens, who took part in discussion and creative exploration related to songwriting.

Children's Programming

Storytime

May Storytime themes included Mother's Day, Rain, Bunnies, and Bugs, offering opportunities for stories, songs, and seasonal activities that supported early literacy development.

School Visits

The Library hosted a visit from the Beavercrest Kindergarten class. During the visit, the class enjoyed a story and exchanged their books.

Kindergarten Outreach

Staff attended the Kindergarten Introduction Day at Beavercrest Community School, where 26 families were present to register their children. The Library participated as part of a broader community information event and shared information about programs, services, and lending materials. A similar outreach table is planned for the Osprey Kindergarten Introduction Day on May 21.

Homeschool Programming

The homeschool program continues to grow, with registration now reaching 35 children. The May 28 session will have participants visit the Library to build bluebird houses and learn about bluebirds.

Mother's Day Mug Making

The Mother's Day Mug Making program welcomed 15 children. Participants selected from pre-printed designs and personalized them to create a mug to take home as a gift.



Upcoming Programs

Author Visit with Carolyn Morris

The Library will host a special author visit with Carolyn Morris on Saturday, June 6 at the Flesherton Branch from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM. The program will feature a farm-themed Storytime, followed by a hands-on experience where children can meet and interact with live baby ducklings.



PA Day Program: Let's Play!

A PA Day program will be offered on Friday, June 5, featuring a lineup of large-scale and classic games. Activities will include Giant Snakes and Ladders, Jenga, a three-legged race, and an egg balance challenge. The program will run at the Markdale Branch from 10:00 to 11:30 AM, and at the Flesherton Branch from 1:30 to 3:00 PM.



Statistics

Library Statistics Comparison (January - May)

Total Items Circulated

Year	Flesherton	Markdale	Kimberley	Overdrive
2023	5314	7360	813	6056
2024	6344	7662	284	7015
2025	5678	7797	614	6868
2026	5231	7356	412	7347

New Patrons in Flesherton

Year	New Patrons
2022	68
2023	121
2024	65
2025	57
2026	52

New Patrons in Markdale

Year	New Patrons
2022	66
2023	91
2024	72
2025	52
2026	76

New Patrons in Kimberley

Year	New Patrons
2022	2
2023	7
2024	0
2025	7
2026	5

Online Services Usage Statistics (January - May)

Kanopy

Year	Visits	Plays	Minutes Played
2026	2270	460	14840
2025	2442	560	14091
2024	4653	556	21261
2023	2414	647	19440

LinkedIn Learning

Year	Learners Logged In	Content Viewed (hours)
2026	14	19
2025	15	7.7
2024	17	24
2023	18	22

Facebook Statistics January – May (2023-2026)

Year	Views	Reach	Interactions	Link Clicks	Visits	Follows
2026	187.8k	20.7k	2.1k	266	3.6k	79
2025	191.2k	22.1k	2.2k	126	4.4k	833
2024	Unavailable	25.4k	3.1k	521	8.9k	130
2023	Unavailable	Unavailable	Unavailable	Unavailable	Unavailable	933