



GREY HIGHLANDS
PUBLIC LIBRARY



JUNE 2026 CEO Report

Adult and Teen Services

The Fine Art Journey of the Stick Man

A four-week series, The Fine Art Journey of the Stick Man, was held in Flesherton and led by local artist Ivan Papazov. Eight participants took part, working through the foundations of drawing over the course of the program.



Women's Writing Circle

The Women's Writing Circle, led by Stephanie Needham, wrapped up in June in Markdale. The five-week reflective series brought together eight participants, who completed the full program and shared positive feedback with staff.

Rock Kindness Project

The Rock Kindness Project was held in Markdale and led by Donna Hoffman. Eight participants attended, including local artist Harold Klunder, and created painted rocks as part of the program.



Destress with a Therapy Dog

Three sessions with Hibi the therapy dog are being offered in Flesherton in partnership with St. John Ambulance. The program provides students with an opportunity to take a break and access support during exams.



Community Partnerships with SEGCHC

Several programs were delivered in partnership with the Southeast Grey Community Health Centre. Get to Know Your Library – PRIDE Edition was held on June 18 in Markdale, with registration handled by SEGCHC.

A new monthly program, 2S-GBTQIAA+ Connection, launched on June 20.

Hiking 101: An Introduction to Hiking and the Bruce Trail, delivered with the Bruce Trail Conservancy and SEGCHC, introduced participants to local hiking opportunities.

Teen Night – Summer Edition

Weekly Teen Nights are scheduled for the summer at both branches. Programs will be held on Tuesday evenings in Flesherton and Thursday evenings in Markdale and will be led by our summer students.

Children's Programming

Storytime

June Storytime themes included Ducks, Frogs, Father's Day, and Robots. Programs included stories, songs, and crafts connected to each theme.

School Visits

The Library welcomed multiple class visits throughout June. Two Beavercrest Kindergarten classes visited the Library, where students listened to a story and exchanged their books. Three classes from Macphail Memorial Elementary School also attended. Students created Father's Day T-shirts, participated in a story about fathers, and received information about upcoming summer programs.



Summer Program Outreach

Staff visited Holland Chatsworth Central School and Beavercrest Community School to promote summer programming. Students participated in a StoryWalk featuring The Snail and the Whale and received information about the Summer Reading Club, including incentives, prizes, and upcoming programs.

PA Day Program

The June 5 PA Day program included outdoor games followed by a treat for participants.



Butterfly Habitat Display

A butterfly lifecycle display is set up at the Flesherton Branch, allowing visitors to observe the butterflies as they develop through each stage. This display supports basic learning about life cycles and seasonal change.



Special Program: Carolyn Morris and Ducklings

Author Carolyn Morris visited the Flesherton Library during the Farmers' Market on June 6. She read from her Chick and Duckling series, demonstrated how to hold a duckling, and spoke about duckling care. A pool was set up for the ducklings, which was a highlight of the program.



Upcoming Programs

Father's Day

A Father's Day Mug Making program is scheduled for June 20. Participants will choose from pre-printed sublimation designs and personalize their mugs with markers. The Library will also attend the Rocklyn Classic Car and Tractor Show on June 21, where staff will provide an information booth and a Father's Day craft activity.

Summer Programs Schedule

The Library's summer programming begins June 30 and continues through July and August across the Markdale, Flesherton, and Chatsworth locations.

June 30

Raise the Alarm! launches the summer program series. Participants meet local firefighters, explore a fire truck, and complete an obstacle course.

July Programs

Programs offered throughout July at both branches include:

- **Bead Blast Key Charm**, creating keychains using melty beads
- **Slime Time**, a hands-on slime making activity
- **The Great Toy Story Adventure**, a themed creative program
- **Mini Charm Makers**, creating custom charms using Shrinky Dinks
- **Science Lab: Bouncing Bubbles**, simple science experiments
- **OPP Ride Smart**, focused on bicycle safety and road awareness
- **Paws & Police Work**, featuring a police dog and handler

August Programs

Programming continues in August across both branches with:

- **OPP Ride Smart**, offered again for additional participants
- **Mini Charm Makers**, returning for further sessions
- **Science Lab: Bouncing Bubbles**, continued science programming
- Additional **hands-on activity programs** consistent with the July schedule

Weekly Drop-In Programs

Throughout July and August, weekly drop-in programs will be offered at both branches, including:

- Painted Rocks
- Spaghetti Tower Challenge
- Twilight Fireflies
- Glo Germ Detectives
- Build and Create with LEGO
- Mini Masterpieces
- Personalize It: Pencil Cases
- Fall Fair Fun

Chatsworth Programming

Additional summer programming will take place in Chatsworth and includes:

- Painted Rocks drop-in
- Weekly drop-in programs led by Summer Program Leaders

Staff Updates and Development

Staff Training

Circulation staff attended Supportive Communication and De-Escalation Skills for Library Workers on June 15. The training focused on communication strategies using the CELLS framework, along with practical de-escalation techniques.

Summer Program Staff

Two Summer Program Leaders, Rachel Bowers and Kaitlyn Stafford, will begin on June 25. They will support the delivery of children's and teen programming this summer.

Advancing Public Libraries Leadership

Acting CEO Jeff Rosenberg attended the APLL third term three-day intensive in June and has now completed three of the four program terms.

Interlibrary Staff Visit

On May 25, the Library welcomed staff from the Shelburne Public Library for a visit. The session included a tour of GHPL facilities and an opportunity for staff to connect and share ideas.