

Staff Activity and Community Impact Report

June 19, 2025, Board Meeting

Events, Programs, and Services of Note

Cherryhill Mall Seniors Fair

Staff attended this Seniors Fair and spoke with 165 attendees about Visiting Library Service, digital resources, adult programs and getting help using technology.

Fanshawe Dragon Boat Festival

This event was held at Fanshawe Conservation Area on June 7, with close to 1,000 people attending. Around 140 people visited our booth to learn about the Library and its programs.

Gathering on the Green

Staff attended this annual event on Saturday, June 7 in Wortley Village. They spoke to 775 attendees, over double last year's effort. Many attendees were interested in summer programs and reading clubs/challenges.

Girls in Aviation

Staff attended this event on June 3rd at the London Airport to help grade 6-8 girls learn about careers in aviation and related fields. The team talked to over 800 students, teachers and other community partners about summer programs and technology for teens.

Join the Club

On May 24th, the Library Commons at Central hosted 29 clubs and 160 attendees looking to learn about them. Club representatives love the opportunity to build their membership as well as network with other groups.

Science Rendezvous

Science Rendezvous at Western University on May 10 was the largest event we have attended so far this year, with an attendance of 3700!

Stem to Stern

This event was held at the Rowing Club at Fanshawe Conservation Area on June 4th. 500 grade 7-8 students from around the city came to race boats they had built in class. We distributed over 200 summer flyers to interested students and had strong engagement at our booth.

Touch A Truck

The Optimist Club of London-Fanshawe sponsored this event on June 7th at Northridge Public School. It offered the opportunity to have meaningful conversations with 165 attendees, with several families suggesting the Library Outreach van was their favourite.

Womb to Walking Trade Show

Staff attended this first-year event which focused on early parenting. Held at the Western Fair District Agriplex on May 30th, staff interacted with approximately 500 individuals. 99 Baby's Book Bags were distributed while staff shared the importance of reading, singing and talking to babies face to face.

Western University Staff Health & Wellness Fair

This fair was held on May 14 and was an excellent opportunity to connect with Western employees.

In the Media

Recent news stories published by LPL:

- Summer READ: Stopping the Summer Slide: How one-on-one reading support changes the way children learn to read.
- Borrowing and Hold Limits Changing on OverDrive and Libby: New limits reflect rising costs and growing demand for digital materials.
- From Hobby to Hustle: *Nourhan Ali's creative journey with a little help from her friends at the Library*

The Library It List on CBC London Morning (segment airs every 3 weeks):

- CBC London Morning: Support for Mental Wellness at LPL

In The Community

LPL Makes a Difference for Families at Ronald McDonald House

At our monthly outreach visit to Ronald McDonald House on May 10, staff visited with two families whose children were receiving treatment at LHSC. After her child had been playing for a little while, one of the mothers said: "You have no idea how crucial it is for someone like you to come in and offer this."

Patron response to changes to Overdrive borrowing and holds limits for eBooks and eAudiobooks

“Thank you for your info on new hold and borrow rules. I support your decision on capping holds and borrows. Too often I find that all my holds come at the same already inconvenient time, and I just can’t read or listen when the opportunity comes. This doesn’t seem predictable, but it certainly limits the opportunities for others to borrow. As well, I am pleased the library can support a wider variety of authors, print and digital, because bestsellers aren’t eating up library resources.

I wanted to tell you what a fantastic job LPL is doing. My sister in BC has a much more limited selection and long wait times. Friends I talk to about books are envious about London’s partnerships with other libraries as it extends our choices and builds robustness in the system. Many Londoners don’t know this exists.

I have also found, to my surprise and delight, that items with months long hold lists on Libby are sitting on London shelves.

I appreciate all you do. Thrilled to see Milton added to our possibilities.”

“Thank you for the outstanding explanation re: borrowing on Libby in the June newsletter. I had no idea the cost involved in electronic borrowing. When in doubt, I’m going back to borrowing my beloved paper copies from the library. I hope so many benefit from the knowledge we’ve gained from this outstanding explanation.”

“This is the clearest communication I’ve seen from any large organization in a long time - especially for a change that could be seen as negative. By the end, I didn’t have a single unanswered question. Not surprised it came from lpl.ca”

“The library has always been my best friend, but never more than now. My eyesight has deteriorated till I am unable to read books, so my app with Libby and my iPad to the rescue. I’m grateful for this amazing service and find that I have an endless supply of good reading and wonder whatever I would do without “Libby “. And I thank my library friend. “

Upcoming Events and Programs

Bricks and Brews at Storm Stayed – June 24th

Unleash your creativity while enjoying a cold craft brew! Join us for a fun, relaxing evening of building with LEGO at Storm Stayed Brewing Company—bring your own bricks or play with sets provided by the Library. Whether you are a seasoned builder or just looking for a nostalgic fun time, this is the perfect opportunity to connect, create, and unwind.

Storybook Gardens Friday Night Festival

Staff are excited to once again be taking part in the festival starting June 27th! Every Friday night features a new theme and focuses on diversity and engagement.