

Mr. Dewey and Friends

Newsletter of the Friends of the Guelph Public Library

☒ *FRIENDS* and the *MUNICIPAL ELECTION* - *YOUR* Involvement Counts

The municipal election will take place on Monday, October 27, 2014. The deadline for declaring intent to stand for election has now passed, and the names of all candidates for Mayor and Council are a matter of public record.

As a registered charity, the Friends of the Guelph Public Library cannot support any particular candidate for any office. The role of the group and its members and supporters is always to support and advocate for the Library in every possible way, not only concerning library buildings, but also concerning financial support to maintain our excellent information collection, excellent staff and excellent services. In the context of an election the role of the Friends is to work tirelessly to ensure that voters have full and accurate information about the Library when they examine candidates' platforms and make their voting choices.

It is important that voters select candidates with vision and a broad understanding of the ramifications of their platforms. *Your* role as a supporter of the Library is to inform yourself and be prepared to question candidates and supply accurate information when you encounter misinformation or uninformed voters between now and election day. Go to all-candidates meetings and ask questions about the Library's future.

For more about library-related issues, there is a wealth of information at Kitty Pope's blog on the Library website: <http://kittysonapositivenote.wordpress.com/>. This site includes some truly startling information about the Public Library as an economic generator, about the role of public libraries in the community and also the changes both to those communities and to libraries in the 21st century.

- ☒ Think carefully before you vote.**
- ☒ Confirm your name is on the voters' list, and your voting method and site**
- ☒ Attend all-candidates meetings and debates**
- ☒ Understand the platforms of the candidates and the issues at stake.**
- ☒ Ask questions about candidates' support for a new main library in the Baker Street district**
- ☒ Share your knowledge broadly**



Friends of the Guelph Public Library

Executive 2013-2014

Virginia Gillham, Chair

Alan Pickersgill, Treasurer,
Library Board
Representative

Mary Mulholland, Vice Chair,
Membership

Anne Mackay

Library Board
Representative

Members at Large

Marjorie Bethune

Mei-fei Elrick

Liz Macrae

Graham Smith

Ex-Officio Members

Kitty Pope Library CEO

Lisa Cunningham,
Library Liaison

May Goodwin
(Adjunct) Secretary

Newsletter Editors

(Adjunct Executive Members)

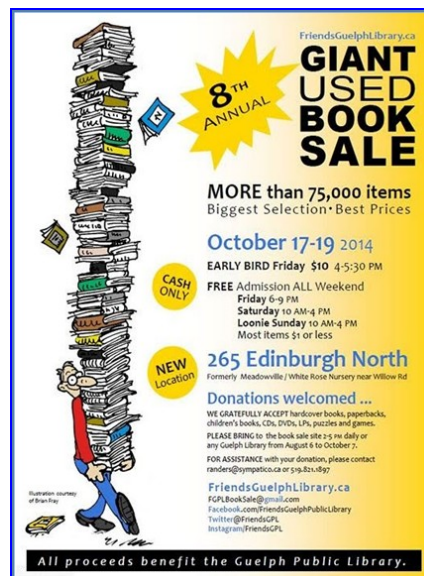
Marilyn Crooks
Susan Ratcliffe

Technical Support

Linda Kearns

The Executive welcomes your comments
and suggestions.

Members may be contacted individually;
written submissions may be left with
Circulation staff at the Main Library or
branch libraries



Who are the Friends, and what do they do with the revenue?

The Friends of the Guelph Public Library is ***an arms-length organization*** whose mandate is to support and advocate for the Guelph Public Library. The Friends of the Guelph Public Library is a registered charity under the provisions of the Federal Government of Canada.

The annual book sale is the major fund raising activity of the Friends of the Guelph Public Library.

Income from the book sale, together with other income earned by Friends' activities throughout the year, is used to support various Individual library activities such as assisting with other library fundraising activities, supplying matching dollars for grant applications and the like. In the past month a donation of \$1000 from The Friends has been made to the Library's new campaign to purchase a ViewScan III microfilm scanner. The Friends applaud the initiative to further preserve local heritage information and are pleased to be able to play a tangible part in allowing that project to proceed.

Most of the funds raised by the Friends, however, including most of the income from the annual book sales, are invested and are accruing toward a major gift to the Library in support of the planned new main library building . <http://www.library.guelph.on.ca/about/main/index.cfm>

The book sale has been an annual autumn event since 2007. The first sale happened in the Old Quebec Street Mall. It lasted only one day, offered slightly under 20,000 books for sale and grossed about \$10,000. Marj Bethune planned and led that sale entirely on her own, and her plan is the template on which we have based the sale's evolution ever since. Each sale since has been increasingly larger and earned increasingly larger sums of money.

Virginia Gillham, Chair
Friends of the Guelph Public Library

Can you help us?

After five months of increasingly desperate searching, and after nearly cancelling for 2014, The Friends of the Library were delighted, in very late June, to find a home for the 8th annual book sale.

We remain permanently indebted to the Christie family for allowing us to use their *Fastforms* space for four years and in the process enabling the absolutely exponential growth of the sale to an all-time high of 75,000 items on offer last year and a profit of more than \$81,000.

In 2014 we are grateful to the Wellington County Catholic School Board and their recent past Director of Education, Don Drone, for giving us access to the former White Rose Nursery building on Edinburgh Rd. at the Willow Rd intersection. This space has many of the same features we enjoyed at *Fastforms*, and the added benefit of an enormous parking lot!

We had enquired about this space very early in our search, but at the time it was on the market and not available. In the interim the building was sold but will not change hands until after the sale. Don Drone, well-known for his community involvement in many areas, has been a major book sale supporter and as soon as it became possible he offered it to us. To say we were both relieved and delighted might well be the understatement of the century! The Board people at all levels have been extremely supportive and helpful. We feel very fortunate.

For obvious reasons, this will be our location for this year only, and we certainly hope not to have to spend five more desperate months searching in 2015.

WHAT WE NEED:

- 10,000 sq ft of dry, empty space
- Good lighting
- Good wiring

IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE:

- A loading dock

FACTS TO CONSIDER:

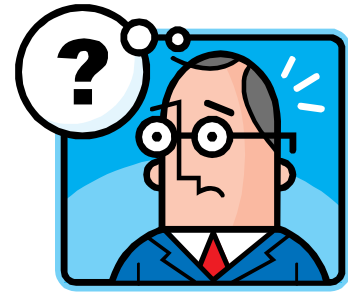
We cannot easily shift our date significantly. A Spring date would conflict with the Elora Festival Book Sale with whom we have something of a partnership arrangement. A summer date would drastically reduce the availability of both volunteers and customers.

We cannot afford to pay. Anything close to going rates for our needs would be as much as, or more than, the current income of the sale.

We are a registered charity and can offer tax receipts.

We are very good and responsible tenants and always leave the premises in better shape than we found them.

We would appreciate your help.



BOOK SALE FACTS

The annual book sale is the major fund raising activity of The Friends of the Guelph Public Library.

The sale has been an annual autumn event since 2007, the first sale in the Old Quebec Street Mall.

The facts below illustrate its growth to Sale Number Eight, October 17 - 19, 2014.

Community support of the book sale has made its annual expansion possible.

FUN FACTS FOR COCKTAIL PARTY CONVERSATION

Some numbers are approximate. The revenue figures are exact to Feb. 2014.

Number of shoppers

2012 4,474 shoppers (no Thursday stats available)
 2013 6,250 shoppers (including Thursday)
 5,950 shoppers (not including Thursday)
 Increased number of shoppers comparing numbers
 without Thursday @ 1500 or **@ 33%**

More than 200 volunteers

Approximately 75,000 books and related items on offer

Revenue facts

<u>Year</u>	<u>Gross Revenue</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Net Revenue</u>
2007	\$10,253.50	\$1,966.75	\$ 8,286.75
2008	\$16,235.58	\$4,447.15	\$11,788.43
<i>2008 was the only year we were required to pay anything for space. We paid utilities for the sorting space. Hence the relatively higher expense figure.</i>			
2009	\$21,439.98	\$3,174.69	\$18,266.29
2010	\$27,660.71	\$3,662.94	\$23,997.77
2011	\$42,201.55	\$3,697.56	\$38,503.99
2012	\$67,357.71	\$7,729.24	\$59,628.47

2013 \$88,172.70 @ \$7,003.27 \$81,169.43

Investment Goal

The Friends' fund-raising revenue, including most of the income from the annual book sales, is invested and accruing toward a major gift to the Library in support of the planned new main library building.



A LOSS FOR GUELPH



Library Chief Executive Officer Kitty Pope will leave her position in Guelph effective October 31 to assume the same position in her home city of Windsor. She describes the transition as 'bittersweet'.

A Canadian born and bred, Kitty came to Guelph in 2010 from Illinois, having worked previously in several libraries in Canada, the U.S., and the Middle East. She is quick to praise the strengths of this city, and also of the GPL staff whom she describes as 'the jewel in the crown' of the Guelph Public Library.

During her four years in Guelph, Kitty introduced a new Guelph focus by featuring the work of Robert Munsch and highlighting other Guelph personalities. She has overseen the development of a new GPL website featuring the profiling of local personalities; inclusion of blogs by librarians; and updates on the expansion of e-library resources. Guelphites have responded enthusiastically to special Library events – who can forget the ugly Christmas sweater contest, the Royal wedding breakfast and the Jubilee tea – and the weekly newspaper review of a local restaurant?

She has been the public face of the Guelph Public Library, repositioning the issue of a new main library from a remote possibility to an inevitable one. Acknowledging the financial difficulties of such an investment in the immediate future, she says she feels confident *it will happen* as soon as it is economically *feasible*. "The groundswell is there".

In the words of Library Board chair Anne MacKay: "It's a huge, huge loss for the city. She's been amazing. She amplifies the enthusiasm that people in this city have for libraries. People get giddy about libraries when she's around."

The Windsor library system is similar in size and philosophy to Guelph's. Both are moving inexorably forward using the most modern information technology to meet the diverse information needs of 21st century library users.

GUELPH PUBLIC LIBRARY WELCOMES NEW CEO

The Guelph Public Library welcomes its fourteenth chief executive officer in the 132-year history of the Library. The Library Board appointed Steve Kraft as CEO effective October 1st, 2014.

In making the announcement, GPL Board chair Anne MacKay said, "Continuing the tradition of great leadership at the Guelph Public Library, Steve brings his enthusiasm, knowledge and the support of the staff to his new position. The board looks forward to working with him as we maintain our commitment in connecting people to the wealth of resources that libraries have to offer all residents."



Steve was born and raised in Dashwood, Ontario and received his master's degree in Library and Information Science from University of Western Ontario in 1983. Over the past 30 years, he has worked his way through the Guelph Public Library, serving as Children's Reference Librarian, Manager of Information Services, Director of Main Library and since April 2013, as Assistant CEO.

"With knowledgeable staff, a vast collection, online research tools, and numerous community events for all ages, the library will continue to provide new and innovative lifelong learning opportunities. I am truly honoured to serve the needs of our Royal City and grateful for the support of the GPL Board" said Steve Kraft upon news of the appointment.

**Everyone is invited to join the GPL Board in welcoming Steve Kraft
into his new position as CEO
on Wednesday, October 1st from 10 AM to Noon and 4 to 6PM at the Main Library.**

THE “ROBERT MUNSCH AWARD” IS ANNOUNCED

The Guelph Public Library, along with The Friends of the Guelph Public Library, are proud to announce the winner of “*The Robert Munsch Award*.” This year’s recipient wrote the best short essay or position paper discussing the place or impact of the writings of Robert Munsch in English Language Children’s Literature. Congratulations to **Nadine Lincoln** for her award winning paper, “*Spunky Female Protagonists in Munsch Narratives*.” Nadine, a recent Master of Library Science graduate from the University of British Columbia, received a cheque of \$1,000 from the Friends of the Guelph Public Library in honour of her lively, well-focussed essay written from a personal and female perspective.



“Robert Munsch is Guelph’s most famous living citizen and Canada’s best-selling author. He is our hometown hero. We are thrilled to celebrate his stories and add to the body of research about Bob and his impact on Canadian kid’s lit” said GPL CEO, Kitty Pope.

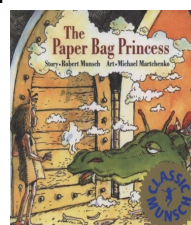
Thank you to judges Mary Rubio PhD in Literary/Theatre Studies and professor at the University of Guelph, GPL’s children’s librarian Ben Robinson and Information librarian Karen Cafarella as well as to Friends of the GPL Chair, Virginia Gillham. A special thanks to everyone who entered the writing challenge. Entries were received from across Canada and as far away as Kansas, United States.



Ben McCarl with **Robert Munsch** at the unveiling of the Paper Bag Princess statue in the GPL Children’s Department.

To read Nadine’s winning paper, visit:

http://www.guelphpl.ca/munsch/VB_award.cfm

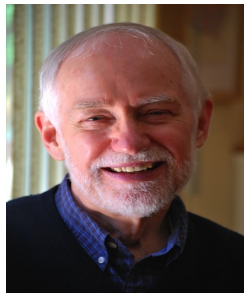


GPL Highlights Guelph’s Local Celebrity: Robert Munsch



- [Biography](#)
- [Books](#)
- [Curriculum](#)
- [Contests](#)
- [Helpful Links](#)

News from the Friends



A True Friend *by Graham Smith (Friends' Executive Member)*

The Friends of the Guelph Public Library recently lost a staunch supporter and great friend, **Jon Wright** (1938-2014). Until a debilitating disease curbed his boundless energy, Jon had been a very involved member of the Friends' Executive. For many years he was a strong supporter of the need for a new and expanded Main Library to serve the increasing population of Guelph.

Jon was a long-time secondary school teacher-librarian, and served most recently as the Head of the Resource Centre at John F. Ross CVI in Guelph, retiring from that position in 1996. I was privileged to work with him as a teacher-librarian colleague for many of those years, and counted him as both a mentor and friend. He was dedicated to instructing his students in appropriate reading choices and in using and evaluating relevant printed and online research resources. This dedication was applied, as well, to his leadership roles in the Wellington County Teacher-Librarian Association and the Executive of the Friends of the Library. Throughout his life, Jon was committed to strong Public education and library systems in Ontario.

The Friends of the Guelph Public Library extend condolences to Jon's wife Janina and his children Jennie, Ted and Peter.

GUELPH READS 2014

The Noam Chomsky Lectures: a play by Daniel Brooks and Guillermo Verdecchia

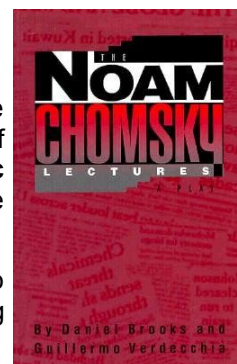
After a spirited and highly entertaining debate at the Main Library one evening last May, the audience chose the play The Noam Chomsky Lectures as the title that should go to the top of reading lists in Guelph. Guelph Reads, **presented by The Friends of the Guelph Public Library**, is patterned after the CBC's Canada Reads, with the significant difference that the audience chooses the winner.

This year's panel members included Guelph author and Giller nominee, Mary Swan, who presented Maclean, by Allan Donaldson, a novel set in the 1940s, relating the life-destroying impact of World War I, twenty years later, on one of its veterans.

Mike Ridley, former Chief Information Officer at the University of Guelph, made the case for poetry with Small Arguments, by Souvankham Thammavongsa, an accessible and fully engaging book of poems, published by a small Canadian Press.

Ajay Heble, professor, School of English and Theatre Studies, and initiator of Guelph Reads! in an earlier version, won the evening with his presentation and defence of The Noam Chomsky Lectures: a play by Daniel Brooks and Guillermo Verdecchia. This award-winning play challenges theatre to "become something other than an expensive alternative to television," and argues that the media is shaping current events.

The opinion was unanimous among both the panel members and those in the audience that all three titles are 'must reads'. All are available through the Library and local book stores.



GUELPH PUBLIC LIBRARY

100 Norfolk Street
N1H4J6
Phone: 519-824-6220

Mr. Dewey and Friends,
the newsletter of The Friends
of the Guelph Public Library,
is published three times a nually:
spring, fall and winter
Next issue: Winter 2014

Submissions, photos and comments
are welcome. They may be delivered
to the Friends mailbox at the Main
Library or to any branch Library.

Website::

Newsletter Editors

Susan Ratcliffe,
Marilyn Crooks

What's New in the Library?

Knit 'N Lit

Calling all knitters and readers!

Join new and experienced knitters for an hour of
knitting and sharing their favorite books.

Wednesday mornings 9:00 to 10:00 AM
Bullfrog Mall



2015 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (to April 2016)

Enclosed is my/our annual membership fee and/or donation.

- New ☐ Renewal ☐ Cash ☐ Cheque (payable to Friends of the Guelph Public Library)
☐ \$10 Individual ☐ \$5 Senior (65+) /Student ☐ \$15 Family (list all members)
☐ Donation

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Postal Code: _____ Day Phone: (____) _____ - _____ Evening Phone: (____) _____ - _____

Email: _____

If you wish to help out (it's voluntary), please indicate your interests:

Book Sale: ☐ Sorting ☐ Set-up ☐ Publicity ☐ Transportation ☐ Sale Day ☐ Cash ☐ Clean-up

Other Friends Activities:

- ☐ Fundraising ☐ Newsletter ☐ Advocacy ☐ Author Visits
☐ Special Events ☐ Membership