

Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries to open select branches in a limited capacity starting September 8th

Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries will begin in-branch service at select locations across the province as of Sept. 8th in a limited capacity for access to materials and returns.

St. John's, NL- September 3rd, 2020

Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries will open select branches across the province for in-branch services starting on Sept 8th.

Due to the variety in location, size, and staff capacity at each branch, the resumption of public library services across the province will be a staggered approach: methodical and deliberate and services will vary from site to site.

The number of patrons allowed to enter a branch at any given time will vary and **masks are required** when visiting the library.

Staff have been supplied with appropriate PPE; circulation desks have been outfitted with Lexan barriers; and high-touch areas, such as public computers and desks will be sanitized frequently after each public use. Directional arrows will be used to direct foot-traffic and physical distancing will be required. Operational hours at each location will vary and many have changed since the pandemic.

Patrons will be encouraged to continue placing their items on hold for in-branch pick-up in an effort to minimize browsing and unnecessary handling of materials. Holds can be placed either through our catalogue at www.nlpl.ca or by calling/emailing branches directly. Readers' advisory services will be ongoing by connecting directly with staff through calling and/or emailing the branches. Computer access will be limited to one hour per day per patron.

At this time, the use of bathrooms will be prohibited; reading nooks, children's play areas, and meeting rooms will not be available; and in-branch programming will continue to be suspended until further notice.

Virtual programming will continue through individual branch Facebook pages and the provincial Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries YouTube channel. Visit us there for access to stories, heritage programming, tutorials, wellness practices, and more.

Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries continues to provide fine-free lending at this time and there will be no exchanging of cash at branches.

For more information about the resumption of public library service, and for a list of participating branches and hours of operations, please visit www.nlpl.ca. Also, check the Facebook page of your local branch for more information about their practices and services.

List of participating library branches opening on September 8th, 2020:

Western Region:

Cormack Public Library

Corner Brook Public Library

Cow Head Public Library

Deer Lake Public Library

Pasadena Public Library

St. George's Public Library

Stephenville Kindale Public Library

Port Saunders Ingornachoix Public Library

Labrador Region:

Labrador City Public Library

Central Region:

Gander Public and Resource Library

Grand Falls-Windsor Public Library

Gaultois Public Library

Eastern Region:

Mount Pearl Public Library

Clarenville Public Library

St. John's Region

A.C. Hunter Public Library

Marjorie Mews Public Library

Michael Donovan Public Library

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