

The Book Nook - Books on Wheels

by Kate Oland

What's green, blue, and 'read' all over? The brand new Victoria County Bookmobile! Cape Breton Regional Library is pleased to officially announce the launch of the new vehicle, which will continue the 50-plus years of bookmobile service to communities all over Victoria County.

The bus is a brand new Thomas Built, custom-fitted by The Bus Boys in Moncton, New Brunswick. The interior layout was designed by CBRL staff in cooperation with the Bus Boys, and incorporates many changes that will improve service to our patrons.

While it carries about the same amount of material as the previous bookmobile, the new bus allows for better organization and improved comfort. Children's materials are housed along one wall and under the back window, and organized

for easier access. I'm particularly happy about new shelving that allows us to 'face out' books for displays (because, despite the old saying, people DO judge

print books and audio books now have their own, easy-to-find section, and there's a terrific new magazine area. Young Adult fiction has a much larger

vehicle in which to deliver a service we're proud of. It feels great to know that the Cape Breton Regional Library Board supports the service strongly

enough to have invested in a new vehicle for Victoria County. It feels wonderful to hear regular patrons' appreciative comments, and to welcome new patrons to the service. And (it must be said) my spine feels infinitely happier on the bumpy back roads, thanks to the air seats!

If you haven't had a chance to visit the new bookmobile, keep an eye out for information about special launch celebrations happening in communities around the county



The new Bookmobile, servicing all of Victoria County, has arrived! Happily accepting the keys from Claire Dethridge, Chair of the Cape Breton Library Board, is Bookmobile driver, Library Clerk and all round good guy, Larry MacDonald.

books by their covers!).

There's much more room for adult fiction, and a beautiful new display area for our excellent DVD collection. Large

space, too. And spacious storage compartments make it easier for us to bring specially-requested books from other libraries to patrons in their own communities - a service that's been growing steadily as patrons learn how to request materials on-line.

So far, patron response has been excellent. People are enjoying the comfortable, padded benches, the improved lighting, and the welcoming atmosphere. I imagine that our summertime patrons will also appreciate the air conditioning - a new (and welcome!) feature on the new rig, thanks to an on-board generator.

As for the bookmobile staff, we are LOVING the new bus! It feels terrific to have a new, well-organized, and reliable

this summer. The bookmobile crew will be hosting Summer Reading Program parties, giving tours of the new bus, and offering 'quick lessons' on requesting materials on-line. And, of course, if you see us stopped somewhere in the county, come check us out! The service is free, and it's for everyone. Come out and enjoy YOUR new bookmobile!

For more information about the bookmobile, or any library branch or service, visit us on the web at www.cbri.ca; check out our Facebook page, or call the bookmobile staff at 295-2055.

Kate Oland, Baddeck Branch/Victoria County Bookmobile - 295-2055
Leona Stockley, Victoria North Regional Branch (Ingonish) - 285-2544

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June 25th – Tracy Cavanaugh
June 26th – Michelle Stephens

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