

Date of Meeting: May 22, 2025

Report Number: A29-25

Report Subject: May 2025 Chief Executive Officer Report

Recommendation:

1. THAT the Clarington Public Library Board receive Administrative Report No. A29-25: May 2025 Chief Executive Officer Report.

Report Overview:

To provide the Board with information about operational highlights and key activities in May 2025.

Highlights

Orono Library Heritage Designation Ceremony

On May 24th, Board members are invited to enjoy refreshments and cake from 10:00 am to 11:30 am at the Orono Library Heritage Designation Plaque recognition event. Additional information will be included in the June CEO Report.



Curious Communities: Library Card Discount Program

On June 1st, CLMA will launch the *Curious Communities: CLMA Card Discount Program* where local businesses offer a small discount when customers present their library card, demonstrating the value of having a library card and supporting small and business in the community. Businesses that have confirmed participation include:

- Apple Blossom Flowers
- Beauty Paramedic
- Chanterelle Bistro
- Chronicle Brewery
- Coffin Creek Coffee
- Joey's World
- Roam Markets
- Bella Vida Head Spa
- Goodfella's Pizza

At the April 28th, 2025 meeting, the Council of the Municipality of Clarington approved additional funding to complete the required modernization of the Sarah Jane Williams Heritage Centre (SJWHC) elevators. (See letter provided in Item 5 Correspondence under Consent).

On April 24, 2025, Directors A. Dee and J. Gardner attended the Clarington Board of Trade (CBOT) Annual General Meeting & Business Awards event and received a certificate in recognition of CLMA's five-year membership.

Human Resources

Safety & Health Week – May 5-10, 2025

The annual Safety and Health Week was celebrated from May 5th to 10th at CLMA. The primary goal for the week is to focus employers, employees, partners and the public on the importance of preventing injury and illness in the workplace, at home and in the community.

During the week, staff were invited to participate in daily activities including “Spot the Hazards” quizzes and the “15 x 7 Challenge” to spend 15 minutes outdoors daily and record their activity. Staff submitted their responses for a chance to win prize packs from the CLMA Joint Health & Safety Committee. In addition, staff enjoyed a healthy snack distributed to all CLMA locations during the week.

On May 7th, the annual Branch Inspectors meeting was held to discuss topics including creating and maintaining an engaged workforce with health & safety, and a refresher training on health & safety.

*At right: CLMA Branch Inspectors
Back row: Michelle, Helen, Alison, Lisa, Sarah
Front row: Andrea, Debra and Nikki*



Collections

Book Locker Grand Opening



On May 7th, the grand opening of the Book Locker at the Darlington Sports Complex in Hampton was held. Mayor Foster, Councillors Elhajje and Zwartz, Board member R. Hooper along with Municipal and CLMA staff attended the event.

(Pictured at left: Board member R. Hooper, Councillors M. Zwartz and S. Elhajje, Mayor Foster, CEO M. Machacek, Manager, Collections and Resources A.

Brydon and Director, Strategy & Innovation A. Dee)

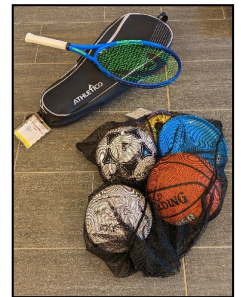
The book locker features high interest adult fiction and non-fiction materials and a small collection of high interest children's picture books and graphic novels. CLMA members can retrieve items by scanning their library card to open the door, select their book(s) and close the door. After the door has been closed, the items will be checked out to the library card used. All items have a RFID tag that is registered by the locker when it is removed from the shelf.

For additional information please see the Durham Region news article included in this Agenda under Consent Items or visit [Clarington launches new library locker service in Hampton](#).

Sports Equipment and Lawn Games

On May 12th, the Sports Equipment and Lawn Games Collection was relaunched for the Spring/Summer season!

Members can borrow pickleball, tennis, Bocce ball sets, and more for up to one (1) week! This collection encourages customers to get outside and try new activities, be active, reduce stress, and build social connections.



Programs and Outreach

The April programs were very well-attended with 145 programs offered and 2,219 in attendance.

Other programs well attended in April include:

- Easter Storytime– 67 participants (Courtice)
- Paint a Pot, Plant a Seed – 27 participants (Orono) and 50 (Courtice)
- Fairy Garden Evening Storytime – 32 participants (Bowmanville)
- Garden Programs for Adults (in partnership with Newcastle Gardening Club) - 34 participants (2 sessions)
- Free Tax Clinics - 57 participants (2 – Bowmanville/1 – Newcastle)
- Adult Author Visit with Robert Rotenberg, Criminal Lawyer – Councillor and Library Board Member L. Rang moderated the program – 28 attendees (Bowmanville)

MapleFest



CLMA's second annual MapleFest Book Sale took place at the Bowmanville Library on May 3rd from 10am-3pm. Prior to the event, community members were encouraged to donate books, DVDs, magazines and video games for the sale. During the festival, CLMA staff hosted an outdoor booth to provide family activities while promoting library card registrations, CLMA programs and services, and the Book Sale. The event featured the popular "Fill a Bag for \$10"

deal, which generated over \$900 in revenue, supported literacy by selling good quality books to families, and helped to promote a circular economy.

Outreach ambassadors from the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) also joined the MapleFest activities in Bowmanville and provided giveaway prizes and take-home activity sheets. Their visit was a great opportunity to promote the ROM Community Pass

that CLMA offers, and to let the community know about the exciting exhibits ROM has on display.

During the months of April and mid-May, CLMA hosted many outreach classroom events and interacted with 877 students including:

- Clarke High School Wellness Fair
- Welcome to School Kindergarten Nights (St. Elizabeth Catholic and Dr. Emily Stowe Public)
- Edna Thomson Early Learning and Child Care Centre
- Lego Lunch at Boston Pizza in Bowmanville

At right: CLMA staff member Michelle engages with an attendee at Boston Pizza Lego Lunch



CLMA visited many facilities through our Good Neighbours program delivering 123 items to 15 members including Bowmanville Creek Retirement Residence and Community Care Durham.

Customers and Staff Comments

- (April 23) A card of thanks was mailed to CLMA from a family in the community:

“Just a quick note to thank you for hosting Ramadan storytime last month! It is truly wonderful to see our community spaces hold space for events like these and foster a sense of inclusion and belonging especially for our children! Truly – thank you from the bottom of our heart for making us feel seen, celebrated and included.”

Report Submitted by:
M. Machacek, Chief Executive Officer
May 22, 2025