



County of Prince Edward  
Public Library & Archives

# Literally

Inside!

## **Author Talks You Won't Want To Miss:**

Shani Mootoo  
Paul Vermeersch  
Paula Quig  
Marianne K. Miller  
and Phil Norton

## **Tech Workshops**

Discover AI, stay safer  
online and more

## **Storytime**

Spark a lifetime love of  
reading

*and more!*

**Autumn 2025**



# Author Talks

## Paul Vermeersch

Saturday, September 20 at 2 p.m.  
Picton Branch Library

Paul Vermeersch will discuss his latest book of poetry, *NMLCT: Poems. Fables and fairy tales collide with virtual reality, artificial intelligence and monstrous myths in a world where no one knows what to believe.* Books and Company will be present with the book available for sale.



## Paula Quig



Paula Quig will join us to discuss her novel, *Missing*. *Nearly everyone in Prince Edward County remembers what they were doing when they heard about the disappearance of Crystal Watts. One hot August night, the sixteen-year-old vanished from the summer camp where she had been working as a counsellor, never to be seen again. Twenty years later, Crystal's childhood friend Sarah returns to The County to find out what happened that horrible night.*

The author will have copies available for sale.

Date to be confirmed, please call (613) 393-3400 for details.

## Shani Mootoo

in conversation with Carlyn Moulton

Wednesday, October 1 at 7 p.m.  
Picton Branch Library

From celebrated writer Shani Mootoo comes an innovative and revelatory work of autofiction *Starry Starry Night* listed in CBC Books: "Canadian fiction books we're excited about this fall." Carlyn Moulton, art curator and owner of the Oeno Gallery, has been a devoted reader of Mootoo's work since being seduced by *Cereus Blooms at Night* in 1996. Books & Company will have copies of the book for sale.



## Marianne K. Miller

Thursday, October 2 at 2 p.m.

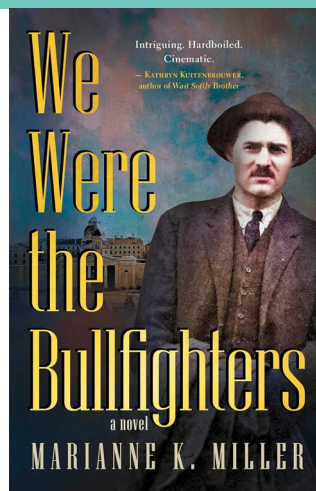
Picton Branch Library

Join Marianne K. Miller for an engaging presentation about her new book, *We Were the Bullfighters*.

In 1923, Ernest Hemingway, struggling with the responsibilities of marriage and unexpected fatherhood, has just made a big mistake. He decided that for the baby's first year he would interrupt his fledgling writing career in Paris and move his family to North America. No longer a freelancer, he now has a gruelling job with a difficult boss, as a staff reporter for the *Toronto Daily Star*. On his first day, already feeling hemmed in by circumstances, he's sent to cover a prison break at Kingston Pen.

The escaped convicts, led by notorious bank robber Norman "Red" Ryan, are on the run, making their way from the bush north of Kingston, to the streets of Toronto, and then through towns and cities across the United States. Their crimes become more brazen, their lifestyle increasingly glamorous. Growing more and more preoccupied with Ryan and his willingness to risk everything to be free, Hemingway ponders duty, freedom, and what stops a man from pursuing his dreams.

Books and Company will have copies of the book available for sale.



## Al Purdy A-frame Alumni Chapbook Launch

Saturday, October 4 at 2 p.m.

Picton Branch Library



Join recent alumni in launching a new chapbook that celebrates Al Purdy's influence, his legacy, and how the A-frame continues to serve as a community gathering place for writers. The chapbook includes work by Charmaine Cadeau, Damian Rogers, Ronna Bloom, Cornelia Hoogland, John Barton, H. E. Casson, Ariel Gordon, Tanis MacDonald, Madhur Anand, Elena Johnson, Manahil Bandukwala, Liam Burke, Armand Garnet Ruffo, Anna Swanson, Matthew Hollett, Kirsteen MacLeod, Jessica Bebenek, and Bren Simmers. Several of the writers will be in attendance at the launch. Limited free copies of the chapbook will be given out. All are welcome.

# 📖 Book & Writing Groups 📖 - - - -

**Not Your Average Book Club - A new book club**  
**First meeting Tuesday, September 9 at 2 p.m.**  
**Bloomfield Branch Library**

Each month we'll select a genre and select our own books. Then we'll share about the books with each other and leave with some great reading recommendations.

For the first meeting, please bring a great book you read this summer to discuss. Future meeting topics and dates will be discussed. Register at [peclibrary.org](http://peclibrary.org) or just drop in.

## **Philosophy Reading Group**

Join us for an in-depth reading of a philosophy text, chosen by the group. Thursdays at 5 p.m., starting September 11  
Picton Branch Library. All welcome. Register at [peclibrary.org](http://peclibrary.org) or call (613) 476-5962.

**Are you a fan of supernatural fiction, urban fantasy or speculative fiction?**

Oriella Stillo is planning a new group that invites fans of these genres to join for conversation and connection. Readers, writers, movie and TV fans, and more, are welcome to join in. All adults are welcome, and the schedule will be set at the first meeting. If you're interested in joining, please reach out to Oriella directly at [orstillo@gmail.com](mailto:orstillo@gmail.com) and she'll notify you of the date and time.

**25**  
**years**

## **Open Floor has been meeting for 25 years!**

This group invites you to bring a piece of your original writing: poetry, prose, article, essay, or song to read. Or you can just come and enjoy.

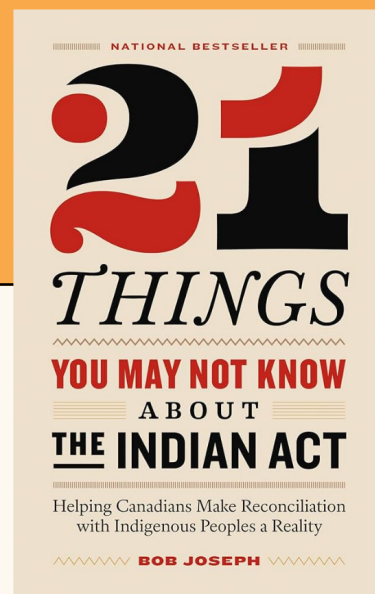
Join the anniversary celebration at the Wellington Branch Library on Saturday, October 4 from 2 to 4 p.m. Stories, poems, and refreshments.

For more information, call Roz at (613) 399-5414 or email [rozwriter@hotmail.com](mailto:rozwriter@hotmail.com)

## Reconciliation Reading Group

Join us to discuss  
**"21 Things You May Not Know About The Indian Act"**  
Facilitated by Jessica Chase and Liz Zylstra

Bloomfield Branch Library, 300 Main Street, Bloomfield  
September 24<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:30pm





# Tech Help

Join us to learn something new. Call to register (613) 476-5962 or at [peclibrary.org](http://peclibrary.org). Can't make it to a workshop? **Book a free one-on-one appointment.**

## September

### **Hands On with Artificial Intelligence**

Friday, September 12  
at 11 a.m.

Wellington Branch Library

Wednesday, September 24  
at 2 p.m.

Picton Branch Library

Explore major AI platforms, including ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini, and more.

You'll get hands-on experience with practical applications like meal planning, language learning, trip planning, garden design, and more.

## October

### **Decoding Disinformation**

Friday, October 3 at 11 a.m.  
Wellington Branch Library

Explore disinformation, the impact of censorship, and strategies for staying safe online.

### **Makerspace Drop In**

Wednesday, October 22  
at 2 p.m.  
Picton Branch Library

Discover tools in the Makerspace. Learn about the Bambu Lab X1C 3D Printer and the Xtool M1 Ultra laser cutter.

## November

### **Online Safety and Privacy**

Friday, November 7  
at 11 a.m.

Wellington Branch Library

Stay safer online and protect your privacy - learn practical tips and strategies

### **Decoding Disinformation**

Wednesday, November 19  
at 2 p.m.

Picton Branch Library

Join us for a workshop exploring the rise of disinformation, the impact of censorship, and essential strategies for staying safe and informed online.

## December

### **Understanding AI From Origins to Today**

Friday, December 5  
at 11 a.m.

Wellington Branch Library

Join us as we define, discuss and demystify AI, be critical about AI-related claims, and talk about the major implications of AI.

### **Online Safety and Privacy**

Wednesday, December 10  
at 2 p.m.

Picton Branch Library

Stay safer online and protect your privacy - learn practical tips and strategies

### **99.3 CountyFM with Prince Edward Learning Centre**

offers free workshops *Seniors and Technology: Embracing the Digital World*. It's an opportunity to share your experiences with and attitudes towards technology and discuss how we spend our time in the digital world. And perhaps identify some opportunities to use digital technologies in new ways.

SEPT. 18 - PRINCE EDWARD LEARNING CENTRE (PELC) - 3:00PM - 5:00PM

OCT. 2 - WELLINGS OF PICTON - 3:00PM - 5:00PM  
15 Wellings Drive, Picton

Oct. 20 - WELLINGTON LIBRARY - 3:00PM - 5:00PM

Register at [993countyfm.ca](http://993countyfm.ca) or by contacting Lori  
Email [Lori@pelc.ca](mailto:Lori@pelc.ca)  
(613) 476-1811 ext 114

There will be complimentary beverages, snacks and a gift. We can also assist with transportation if required. All locations are accessible.

We are working in partnership with the Prince Edward Learning Center, the County of Prince Edward Public Library and The Prince Edward County Community Care for Seniors Association. The program is made possible by the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors program.

# Astronomy Talks

Join members of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada for Astronomy Talks in partnership with the South Shore Joint Initiative.

## September

**Saturday, September 13**  
**Milford Fair**

Interested in astronomy?  
Meet members of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada at the Milford Fair. Learn about our local dark sky and efforts to preserve the night. Take a look at our closest star, our sun and do it safely with the aid of our club volunteers.

## October

**Saturday, October 11**  
**2 p.m.**

Picton Branch Library  
Vera C. Rubin and Observatory  
Learn about Vera Rubin and her work on galaxy rotation and her discovery of dark matter. Explore the Vera C. Rubin Observatory, located on the summit of Cerro Pachon in Chile. Find out why this 8.4-meter telescope and largest digital camera ever built is important to us all.



Photo credit: Rubin Observatory

## November

**Saturday, November 8**  
**2 p.m.**

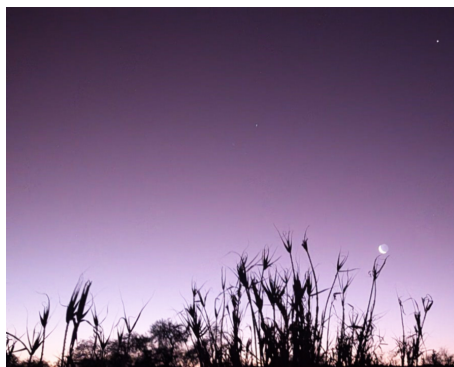
Picton Branch Library  
**Atacama Desert – Day and Night**

The sky view on a clear dark night in Canada is nice, but the view from the Atacama Desert is FANTASTIC!

Why are they putting all the new big telescopes on mountaintops in Chile? It's not only because it's high, dry, and dark, the southern hemisphere is full of night sky wonders. Join us as three astronomers share their experiences and astro photographs from a recent venture to Chile.



Atacama Photo Credit: Donald Town



## December



Stonehenge Photo Credit Vicky WJ

**Saturday, December 13**  
**2 p.m.**

**Picton Branch Library**

Join the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada to explore the cultural significance of the solstices and equinoxes and find out why these celestial events occur. Travel back in time to learn about the importance the Babylonians, Egyptians, Toltec-Mayans, and ancient Britons placed on the solstices and equinoxes.







# Learn & Connect



## Photography Adventures with Phil Norton

Thursday, October 9 at 2 p.m. Picton Branch Library

Tickets \$15 at [peclibrary.org](http://peclibrary.org) or at the Library.

The camera has been a lifelong guiding force for County Photographer Phil Norton to experience the world, both near and far, and gain a broad understanding about how things work in nature and human society. His slide presentation will touch on several documentary themes that have preoccupied him over the decades, both personally and professionally, as well as the evolution of photography.

## French Conversation Group

All welcome - join us for a friendly French Conversation Group. Tuesdays at 1 p.m.

In person at the Picton Branch Library and/or virtual. Please register at [peclibrary.org](http://peclibrary.org) for the virtual/in-person schedule.

## Backyard Bird Feeding

Learn about thoughtful backyard bird feeding. Discover tips to attract a large variety and number of birds to your yard and learn about common challenges and steps to take to maximize joy from this hobby.

Dan Guenther of Wild Birds Unlimited will share his expertise and answer questions.

Thursday, October 16  
2 p.m.

Picton Branch Library



## Functional Fitness

Please note that Functional Fitness is cancelled until further notice. Please contact [liz@peclibrary.org](mailto:liz@peclibrary.org) to be notified when it resumes.

## Newcomers Group

Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.

First Meeting October 7

Are you new to the County? Join the newcomers group! We meet Tuesday mornings at the Picton Branch Library.

Anyone new to the area is welcome to join us, enjoy social time and guest speakers from community groups and volunteer organizations.

Please contact the group leader, Judy, by email at [judyinpicton@gmail.com](mailto:judyinpicton@gmail.com) to register and with any questions

## From Tide to Tundra Tales of Far-flung Birding in Canada

Thursday, November 22 at 7 p.m.

Picton Branch Library

From Tide to Tundra: Tales of Far-flung Birding in Canada

Kyle Blaney, a Belleville resident, developed a passion for birding after a serendipitous encounter at Prince Edward Point National Wildlife Area in Prince Edward County. In this engaging presentation, Kyle shares what draws him to birds and birding, and chronicles his unique goal to bird every region of Canada. He highlights his favorite photographs from adventures this year in Churchill, Inuvik, and Labrador, sharing the compelling stories behind each shot. Kyle also discusses the optical and digital tools he employs, emphasizing that the most vital for capturing bird photos are his brain and feet. Join Kyle for an inspiring exploration of curiosity, dedication, and the beauty of Canada's diverse birdlife.

## Two New Weekly Storytimes!

Join us for stories,  
songs, and more.  
All are welcome.

Wellington Branch  
**Saturdays at 10:30 a.m.**  
Starting Sept. 6

Bloomfield Branch  
**Thursdays 10:30 a.m.**  
Starting Sept. 11

### Picton Branch Storytime Schedule

Storytime for Young Children  
Thursday and Friday at  
10:30 a.m.

Storytime and Singalong  
Saturday mornings at 10:30

*Saturday Special Guests:*  
Oct. 11 author Eve Gane  
Oct. 18 author YS Lee  
Oct. 25 Musician Chloe Fox  
Nov. 22 - South Shore Joint  
Initiative - all about Owls

### Take the 1000 Books (or more) Before Kindergarten Challenge!

The concept is simple. Read a book (any book!) to your child and record it on a tracking sheet. Reading just one book a day will add up to more than 1000 in three years - and you can reach the goal even faster by reading more books each day. We'll celebrate with you as you reach milestones such as 100 books read, 250, and more. Drop into any branch of the Library for more information.



A Celebration of Jewish Culture in Prince Edward County  
**OCTOBER 3-5, 2025**  
*Music. Film. Books. Food. Fall colours.*  
Join us for a weekend of connection, creativity, and cultural flavour

Sunday, October 5  
10:30 a.m. to noon  
Picton Branch Library

Welcome to Story Time!

Jewish Storybooks From  
Around the World at GOOD  
LOX FEST!

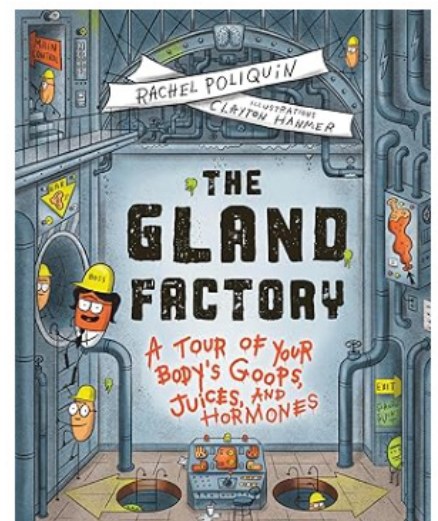
With stories from  
Jewish communities  
around the world  
read by special guest  
community members.  
You will be transported  
through time and place,  
sparking your imagination  
and deepening your  
understanding.

This event is organized by  
the **Good Lox Festival**.  
Find out more information  
at [goodlox.com](http://goodlox.com)

Clayton Hanmer  
**Book Launch Party and  
Drawing Workshop**  
Saturday, Nov. 22 at 2 p.m.  
Picton Branch Library

Join illustrator Clayton  
Hanmer to celebrate the  
launch of his latest book,  
"The Gland Factory: A Tour  
of Your Body's Goops,  
Juices, and Hormones"  
written by Rachel Poliquin  
with an interactive drawing  
workshop. Best for ages  
8 - 12

Please register at  
[peclibrary.org](http://peclibrary.org) or by calling  
(613) 476-5962





# 📌 Youth 📌



## **The Secondary After School Social Club (Better known as SASS Club)**

Drop into the Picton Branch Library after school on Tuesdays for fun new activities each week. Examples include art, podcasting, filmmaking and STEAM projects. Highschoolers and teens 13+ welcome. Tuesdays at 3 p.m.



## **Discover YOUTH at Picton Pride**

Discover YOUTH participated in Picton's Pride parade carrying a chain-maille inspired banner, created with recycled materials. Thanks to artist Danielle Reddick for working with us!

## **Discover YOUTH**

Our weekly drop-in is an all-inclusive safer space for 2SLGBTQIA+ youth and allies. We regularly host guests from our local queer community and beyond. We often do art projects and workshops - always with snacks!

**We meet every Friday from 3-5 p.m. downstairs in the flex space at Picton Branch Library.**

We often have activities out in the community, so it's a good idea to send an email before you arrive - [jhoward@peclibrary.org](mailto:jhoward@peclibrary.org), but you're also welcome to just show up.

We do NOT meet on snow days, holidays or school PA days.



# Community Events

## Milford Fall Fair



Saturday, September 13  
The Friends of the Milford Branch Library will have their annual book sale and Lego table at the fair. Find out more about the fair:  
[www.milfordfallfair.com/](http://www.milfordfallfair.com/)



The Friends of the Ameliasburgh and Consecon Branches will have their annual book sale at the Ameliasburgh Fair, September 20. Find out more about the fair  
[ameliasburghfallfair.ca/](http://ameliasburghfallfair.ca/)



**Save The Date**  
**Thurs., November 13, 2025**  
**10 am - 3 pm**  
**Stay for the day!**

**FREE**

## Seniors' Information & Active Living Fair

Featuring senior care and programs for adults 60+



- Free admission & parking
- Presentations & demonstrations
- Open to the public
- Door prizes & healthy snacks
- Program & course registration
- 45+ exhibitors

**FREE lunch** while supplies last!

Wellington and District Community Centre, 111 Belleville Street, Wellington, ON

For more information contact 613-476-7493

[info@communitycareforseniors.org](mailto:info@communitycareforseniors.org) | [www.communitycareforseniors.org](http://www.communitycareforseniors.org)



Hosted by the Prince Edward County Community Care for Seniors Association

Scan QR code



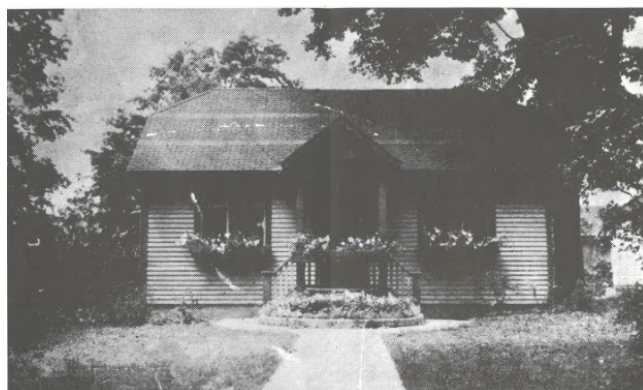
**We'll be at this year's Milford Fair, Ameliasburgh Fair, and the annual Seniors' Information and Active Living Fair.**



If you're organizing a fair or other event and would like the library to "pop up", please contact Liz Zylstra at [liz@peclibrary.org](mailto:liz@peclibrary.org) or by phone (613) 393-3400.



# Thank You



Thanks to the **Built Heritage Fund at the County Foundation** for supporting the restoration of windows at the Bloomfield Branch Library.

Thanks to the **Stark Family Fund through the Community Foundation of Kingston** for supporting new heating and cooling and shelving for the branch.



Thanks to The Elderberry Fund (Sarah and David) for supporting programming at the Library.



We're excited to announce a project called "Healthy Lives and Well-Being Information for Everyone", a Seniors Community Grant program. In early 2026, we'll announce a series of talks and workshops on a variety of health and well-being topics.

Funding provided by the Government of Ontario



The **Huff Family Fund through the County Foundation** supported an author series in June in recognition and celebration of Pride Month, National Indigenous History Month, and Canadian Multiculturalism Day.

This is the first of a three-year series and we would love to hear your feedback and suggestions. Which authors should we book for next year? Do you prefer talks in the afternoon or evening? Please send your thoughts and suggestions to [liz@peclibrary.org](mailto:liz@peclibrary.org).

Thanks to the Wandering Albatross Bookshop in Bloomfield for partnering with us on this series.



Thanks to the **John M. and Bernice Parrott Foundation** for supporting new windows at the Consecon Branch. (Pictured: a historic photograph of the library building when it was still operating as the Holy Trinity Church)

LIBRARIES  
FOR LIFE

BIBLIOS  
POUR LA VIE



# ONTARIO PUBLIC LIBRARY week



LA SEMAINE DES BIBLIOTHÈQUES  
PUBLIQUES DE L'ONTARIO



/ o l a

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY  
PRÉSENTÉE PAR

∴ ontario library association

OCTOBER 19–25, 2025 | DU 19 AU 25 OCTOBRE 2025