

FRIENDS OF CANADIAN LIBRARIES

HOW DO LIBRARIES SUPPORT THEIR FRIENDS IN PRACTICAL WAYS?

- Financially support the initial organizing group
- Provide the Friends with meeting space
- Offer a Friends' section in the Library's newsletter (costs to be borne by the Library to mail this out to Friends' members), post Friends' events on the library's web site, free photocopying, providing basic materials, assistance with posters (especially during the initial organizing stage), and necessary office supplies

HOW DO FRIENDS SUPPORT THEIR LIBRARIES?

The Library Director or key staff liaison person can provide the Friends with a list of what the Library needs.

The Friends will then decide how the money they raised will be spent.

Friends support their libraries by:

- **Holding Fundraising activities and events** so that funds raised can be donated to the library to allow for additional funds for some of the following:
 - project specific funding (e.g. - services for people with print disabilities)
 - money to purchase books, CDs, DVDs or magazine subscriptions
 - Adopt-a-book (Smiths Falls, Ont.)
 - draw prizes for library programs
 - refreshments for library events
 - funding for special library events
 - video stands
 - computer work stations

- Materials for library advocacy/literacy programs in the schools
- Volunteer recognition certificates
- Professional signs
- Landscaping

- **Hosting special events at their libraries:**

- Literacy programs (Nepean, Ont.)
- Books for Babies
- Art and literary events (Georgina, Ont.)
- Artist-of-the-moth show (Warton, Ont.)
- Author readings (Smiths Falls, Ont., Dundas, Ont.)
- Book clubs (Lindsay, Ont.)
- Reading clubs (Cobourg, Ont.)
- Bridge lessons (Hanover, Ont.)
- Bridge tournaments (Abbotsford, B.C., Hanover, Ont.)
- Library history (Ex Libris)
- Carpentry (Lethbridge, Al.)
- Craft demonstrations (Smiths Falls, Ont.)
- Garden tours (Penetang, Ont.)
- Publish local history books - Memories of Elgin County (St. Thomas, Ont.)
- Speakers' series (Canmore, B.C., Lillooet B.C., London, Ont.)
- Summer concert series (Meaford, Ont.)
- Summer reading program (Dundas, Ont.)
- Sponsor children's entertainers

- **Assisting their libraries in other ways:**

- delivering books to people who can't come in to the library (outreach or homebound service)
- assisting with library surveys (Warton, Ont., Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.)
- a welcome service (St. Mary's, Ont.)

- **Providing Public relations support** - increasing the profile of the Library in the community at every Friends event
- **Advocating and lobbying** when the Library Board requires it
- **Supporting capital campaigns** for a new library (Ajax, Ont., Cowichan, B.C.)

(FOCAL POINT Newsletter, Spring, 2001 – Volume 4, Issue 4)