

10:30 Surprise Guest - Constable John Kennedy (Winner CLA Stan Heath Literacy Award)

Adopt-a-Library Literacy program

Once of the memorable moments from Friends' Day at CLA was Michael Colborne's last-minute addition to our program - the winner of CLA's Stan Heath Literacy Award. Constable John Kennedy gave us a 15-minute inspirational presentation.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police have partnered with Scholastic Canada Ltd. in a new Literacy Initiative. This Program entitled "The Adopt a Library Literacy Program" is geared towards children of all ages. Through networking with sponsors, items are obtained at no charge to the libraries. These items will then be used to encourage children to visit their local libraries and to sign out books to read. These items include prizes to be used for reading competitions, books so that the children have a wide variety of reading materials, as well as puppet stages, craft supplies.

In addition partnerships with sponsors has enabled the libraries to support children's summer reading programs, purchase furniture to make the children's areas more comfortable, and much more.

Friends groups can help to initiate this program by proposing and encouraging a partnership between your library, your local RCMP and other municipal police forces. The library and the policing agency join by filling in an online registration form. The program is described on the Internet at: <http://www.parl.ns.ca/adoptalibrary/>

FOCAL members can help to spread the benefits of this national program across Canada, by sharing with our library community the opportunities this program offers. Follow this link from our home page, and find out more about this program. Request sets of brochures from focal@accessola.com.