

Millinocket Memorial Library Director's Report

August/September 2025

Prepared by Library Director, Diana Furukawa, for Millinocket Town Council, 9.17.25



LIBRARY UPDATES

Programs

Recent programs have included a book discussion and exhibit about Frances Perkins and her legacy, an author discussion on "North Woods at Night", our biweekly "Baby and Me" group with Maine Families, our Teen Grief Support Group with True Connections Behavioral Health, and our recurring art explorers programs.

Upcoming programs include a talk with renowned Maine author Monica Wood, a series of events in collaboration with the Millinocket Historical Society and Boreal Theater called "Memories of the Mill", our annual "Meet the Candidates" night with local candidates for Millinocket School Board and Town Council, and our annual youth Halloween Party.

Operations & Staffing

The Library's Board has formed a Hiring Committee in its search for our next Library Director. As of September 12th, the position has been posted far and wide, in the hopes that we will be able to complete the hiring process before I wrap up at MML. More information about the process is available at: MillinocketLib.org/Jobs. Please spread the word to anyone who might be interested in applying. In the meantime, the Board and I are working diligently on succession planning for the Director role to ensure as smooth of a transition as possible.

The Library will be closed for a Staff Development Day on September 29th. This will provide an invaluable opportunity for the staff team to dive deep into meetings and trainings in a way that isn't possible when the Library is open. The focus of the upcoming development day will be on drafting MML's 2026 work plan— essentially, determining what our goals are for 2026, in alignment with our strategic plan.

Facilities

Our elevator modernization project began on September 8th. So far, the project is going well and is on budget. While initially slated to take about four weeks, the project is likely to be complete by September 19th, allowing us to begin the grant reimbursement process with the USDA— the project's primary funder.

Finance

The Library's Finance Committee is currently working on a first draft of the 2026 Operating Budget, which will be discussed by the Board of Directors in October. Following that meeting, I intend to present an updated version of the budget to the Town Council and public to be able to incorporate your thoughts and feedback before it is finalized in December.

LIBRARY STATISTICS

Patrons	August 2025	July 2025	Change	August 2024
Cardholders	3169	3148	21	2951
Adult Cardholders	2489	2473	16	2309
Youth Cardholders	670	667	3	639
Millinocket Resident Cardholders	2348	2336	12	2200
Out of State Cardholders	95	91	4	74
Circulation	August 2025	July 2025	Change	August 2024
Active Cardholders	404	397	7	463
Circulation	1225	1484	-259	1238
Active Cloudlibrary Users	38	36	2	24
Imagination Library Users	182	187	-5	186
Program Engagement	August 2025	July 2025	Change	August 2024
Library Website Visits	1843	2303	-460	2318
Facebook Likes	2073	2066	7	1975
Instagram Followers	742	741	1	713
Adult Programs	8	12	-4	6
Adult Program Attendance	100	252	-152	92
Children's Programs	22	27	-5	26
Children's Program Attendance	117	171	-54	110
Community Meetings	22	26	-4	11
Community Meeting Attendance	111	150	-39	67
		<i>No data- counter</i>		
Foot Traffic	2847	<i>issue</i>	<i>N/A</i>	2856
Library Volunteer Hours	126.5	166	-39.5	177
Number of Reportable Incidents	5	8	-3	7
Facilities	August 2025	July 2025	Change	August 2024
Hours Open	169.5	183	-13.5	180.5
Computer Sessions	412	410	2	259
Public Meeting Room Use	177	197	-20	81
EV Charges	30	26	4	13
Wifi Connections		<i>No data- router issue</i>		683