

Millinocket Memorial Library Director's Report

December 2025/January 2026

Prepared by Interim Library Director, Nicole Brennan, for Millinocket Town Council, 1.09.2026



LIBRARY UPDATES

Programs

Every Tuesday is Teen Crafter Collab, where a volunteer sets out art supplies in our teen room to encourage our younger patrons to sit & create. It's open-ended and often results in amazing works of art. Some weeks it's 4 kids; some weeks it's a dozen and we have to set up another table. It's always a lot of fun and has become a reliable, low-pressure space for kids to hang out.

Twice a month, we host Senior Chats. This program often features presenters from local organizations and groups. Topics range from local programs available to seniors, to local history, to new businesses coming to our region.

Our puzzle table continues to be one of our most enjoyable passive programs. I lost count of the number of puzzles finished last year, but I'd estimate at least 15 (and they're not small puzzles!). Folks might put a piece or two in place as they pass by, or sit for an hour working on a stubborn patch of snow or sky. It's low-effort but high-impact.

Staffing - New Director Onboarding

We are looking forward to Anna Jensen arriving later this month. Her start will help stabilize staffing following the interim period, and we will share more updates once she is settled.

Help Desk

We're glad to report that the Katahdin Strong effort has raised almost \$35,000 so far this heating season. These funds will help offset recent funding losses affecting several local organizations and will provide meaningful support to households facing high heating costs. Paige Holmes has also been brought on to support this work and has been an effective communicator and initiator, helping to keep the effort moving and well coordinated. This has been a true team effort across partners and volunteers and is a great example of the library's role in supporting community resilience during difficult times.

We saw strong help desk numbers for both December and the year overall. In December alone, we assisted over 60 people, including more than 20 dedicated help desk appointments. Over the course of 2025, we helped more than 600 people, with over 125 appointments since early 2025. Folks who are looking for 1 on 1 assistance with everything from tech help to signing up for services should feel free to call the library to set up an appointment.

Facilities

In November, one of the large window panes in the Children's room was shattered. While we weren't able to identify a specific cause, we were able to rule out anything intentional or malicious. The broken pane is the exterior layer of the window and is not accessible from inside the building; the interior pane remains intact and the window will not be opened during the winter months. We are currently working with Portland Glass to safely remove the shattered glass and replace the pane.

LIBRARY STATISTICS

Patrons	November 2025	December 2025	Change	November 2024	
Cardholders	3227	3242		15	2989
Adult Cardholders	2543	2551		8	2344
Youth Cardholders	667	679		12	639
Millinocket Resident Cardholders	2392	2401		9	2229
Out of State Cardholders	85	95		10	73

Circulation	November 2025	December 2025	Change	November 2024	
Active Cardholders	326	293		-33	397
Circulation	1050	1018		-32	1058
Active Cloudlibrary Users	34	27		-7	33
Imagination Library Users	181	178		-3	188

Program Engagement	November 2025	December 2025	Change	November 2024	
---------------------------	----------------------	----------------------	---------------	----------------------	--

Library Website Visits	2927	2486	-441	1723
Facebook Likes	2092	2098	6	2007
Instagram Followers	754	755	1	719
Adult Programs	11	5	-6	7
Adult Program Attendance	183	26	-157	36
Children's Programs	12	15	3	5
Children's Program Attendance	53	38	-15	44
Community Meetings	12	17	5	7
Community Meeting Attendance	91	80	-11	45
Foot Traffic	2370	2293	-77	1570
Library Volunteer Hours	108	125	17	152
Number of Reportable Incidents	3	2	-1	4

Facilities	November 2025	December 2025	Change	November 2024
Hours Open	144	168	25	151
Computer Sessions	214	353	139	173
Public Meeting Room Use	152	135	-17	100
EV Charges	5	10	5	9
Wifi Connections	<i>No data- router issue</i>			581