



Adam in the Wild Photography

THE MIGHTIEST LITTLE LIBRARY IN THE NORTH

Zama City Community Library

Tucked inside the Cornerstone Building in the Hamlet of Zama City is a gem community members have come to rely on for entertainment, relaxation and information—the not-so-tiny community library. The library, which is the northernmost in the province, has an in-house collection containing over 18,000 items, including books, audiobooks and over 5,000 movies and TV series.

“Our library represents the best of what all libraries should be. We keep a current and adaptive presence in our community, collaborating with local organizations and businesses

and supporting local talent by highlighting their art in our common area. This place represents everything we love about living in the north,” said team member Krista Hiltz.

Besides their inspiringly large collection, the library offers services one might usually expect only in larger centres, such as Freegal free music streaming, Freading eBook lending services and a subscription to Rocket Languages. They subscribe to local-interest periodicals such as *NWT News/North*, the *Yellowknifer* and the *Echo-Pioneer* as well as larger publications such as *Life*, *Parents* and *Our Canada* magazines. They also offer

tourism information, a device charging station, computer and printing stations, puzzles, games and more. Plus, the overstuffed chair in front of their fireplace looks inviting enough to disappear into for days.

“We try to think outside the box, bringing in items you may not normally see in a library. We have a Wellness Room which is equipped with a full body massage chair, salt and sunlight lamps and health-related books. We also have a Real Men Read section, a large loaner library of specialty cake pans and they just added a knife sharpening kit to our collection,”

said Kayla Wardley, team member since 2003 and the recently elected Vice Chair of the Regional Mackenzie Library Board.

The four dedicated staff members—Kayla Wardley, Lisa Wardley, Krista Hiltz and Roxane Tarr—are constantly brainstorming new ways to engage and serve their community. These dedicated individuals work hard to provide superior service to their patrons, whether local or not.

Next time you need to escape, be sure to stop in and discover what other treasures are waiting at this mighty little library.



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