

Book created by local children to be shared with Port Colborne community

Posted on Thursday, February 27, 2025



An award-winning book created by Port Colborne children will now be available in local school libraries as well as for purchase at the Port Colborne Public Library.

Created at the City of Port Colborne's Touch-A-Truck event on Oct. 3, the book features a compilation of pictures drawn by local children to reflect their experiences exploring different trucks, vehicles, and equipment that help City staff perform their day-to-day jobs.

The pictures were then compiled by the Port Colborne Public Library into a book that was made available to check out from the library and recently won the Minister's Award for Innovation at the Ontario Library Association Super conference on Jan. 30.

Now, the library will be donating a copy of each book to all elementary school libraries in Port Colborne, and making the book available for sale, with any proceeds going towards children's programming at the library.

Port Colborne Public Library CEO Rachel Tkachuk said the book is a celebration of children's voices in the city.

"The Touch-a-Truck Book inspires literacy and allows children to see themselves reflected in their community by making them published authors in their own schools and library," she said. "We are grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with the City on this project."

Tkachuk said the recent award recognition has created greater awareness of the book.

"We are deeply honoured to receive the Minister's Award for Innovation, and we are grateful for the recognition of our efforts to connect the community through storytelling and creativity," she said. "It's great to be able to share this type of project with libraries from across the province."

Copies of the book can be pre-ordered for \$10 at the library. Orders will be printed on demand and payment can be made with cash, a debit card or cheque.

More information about the Port Colborne Public Library and its initiatives can be found at <u>Portcolborne.ca/library</u>

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