Dreams Become Reality in the Port Colborne Library Contest

By KEASHA MAILE, PCO

Imagine a library where anything could be available to borrow.

The Port Colborne community is invited to dream big and think boldly, because their local library is

listening – and if they can dream it, the library can lend it.

From May 1 to 30, residents are invited to get creative with the Port Colborne Public Library's My Dream Borrow contest.

Through a ballot submission, community members can share their "dream borrow" – a unique item they wish to borrow from the library. The possibilities are endless. The winning suggestion will be added to the Library of Things collection, with the selected community member receiving the honorary first borrow.

The Library of Things is a nontraditional collection of items available to borrow from the Port Colborne Public Library over a one-week period. The collection features a range of interactive technology, equipment and toys, including colourblind corrective glasses, snowshoes, light therapy lamps, pickleball equipment, gardening toolkits and more. All



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items are available to borrow free of charge.

Port Colborne Public Library CEO Rachel Tkachuk says her team can't wait to see the public's ideas in the contest.

"There are many items people want to try once or use occasionally, but might not want to buy — we're asking our community to dream big and tell us what they'd love to see added to our Library," says Tkachuk. "We've already heard many interesting ideas: a VCR, a dog agility kit, a dehumidifier, a metal detector for the beach. Libraries are always trying to connect people with the resources they need, and this contest is a fun and creative way to stay responsive to what our community values and wants to explore."

Ballots for the contest may be submitted until May 30 at the Port Colborne Public Library, the Vale Health and Wellness Centre, City Hall, and virtually by emailing library@portcolborne.ca.

To learn more about the Port Colborne Public Library, visit www.portcolborne.ca/ library