

# Media Advisory

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For immediate release

## Clarington Public Library Places Second in Canada at the TD Summer Reading Club Library Awards

June 6, 2018—Clarington Public Library is very proud to be awarded second in Canada for its TD Summer Reading Club 2017 program. The national TD Summer Reading Club Awards ceremony was held on May 31, 2018 at the Manitoba Library Association Conference in Winnipeg.

Clarington Public Library has been recognized for its innovative and high quality TD Summer Reading Club last year. The Library focused on engaging the community and literacy-driven programs, and partnered closely with local school boards in supporting students' literacy skills and love of reading.

The national awards initiative recognizes the most innovative and effective TD Summer Reading Clubs in public libraries in each official language. The TD Summer Reading Club and Awards are developed and managed by Library and Archives Canada (LAC), Toronto Public Library, and TD Bank Group.

"We're exceptionally proud of this achievement, and what it means for our Library and Clarington," states Terri Gray, Library Board Chair. "It says a great deal about the value the community places on literacy, and the role the Library plays in educational support."

"We're looking forward to an exciting summer, expanding on 2017's success," says Ms. Gray. The Library plans to continue the eNewsletter with highlights of upcoming activities and ways families can increase their literacy at home. Each week during July and August the Library offers an Epic Experience designed for children of all ages to learn through play. Drop-in programs will be offered throughout the week to help children attain their reading goals and stay motivated.

Registration for this year's TD Summer Reading Club is now open. The Library invites everyone to help officially start this year's TD Summer Reading Club activities on July 1, with the **Canada Day Kick-Off Party!** The event is being held at the Courtice Branch (2950 Courtice Rd.), and families can drop in between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. to explore, learn, create, and discover how they can defeat summer brain drain.

For more information about the Canada Day Kick-Off Party and to register for the TD Summer Reading Club, please visit the Library's website: [www.clarington-library.on.ca/src](http://www.clarington-library.on.ca/src).

### **More About the TD Summer Reading Club**

TD Summer Reading Club is Canada's biggest, bilingual summer reading program for children of all ages, all interests, and all abilities. It celebrates Canadian authors, illustrators and stories. It's designed to inspire kids to explore the fun of reading their way – the key to building a lifelong love of reading. This free program is co-created and

delivered by 2,061 public libraries across Canada, with 718,399 participants in more than 38,000 programs.

“Summer brain drain,” or “summer slide,” occurs over the summer months when children are out of school, often making September a stressful time of playing catch up and getting back into the learning mindset. A 2012 report from the CODE Summer Literacy & Numeracy Project noted that children who read over the summer and attend literacy-enriched programs maintain their literacy and numeracy skills, seeing academic gain and increased confidence the following school year. Summer reading clubs hosted by public libraries help to mitigate, even reverse, “summer brain drain.”

For more information about the TD Summer Reading Club and the Library and Archives Canada press release, please visit: <https://www.canada.ca/en/library-archives/news/2018/05/kudos-to-innovative-td-summer-reading-club-programs-for-kids.html>.



*From left to right: Jessica Roy, Toronto Public Library; Sherry Telfer, TD Bank Group; Sarah McConnell, Clarington Public Library; and Helen DeRoia, Library and Archives Canada at the TD Summer Reading Club Awards Presentation, Manitoba Library Conference. (Photo courtesy of Daniel Colangelo, Toronto Public Library.)*

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Contact:  
Sarah Vaisler  
Deputy Director  
905-623-7322 ext. 2705  
[svaisler@clarington-library.on.ca](mailto:svaisler@clarington-library.on.ca)