

SHORTGRASS CLIPPINGS

VOLUME VIII, ISSUE 1. JAN/FEB 2018

INTRODUCING OUR LATEST ACQUISITION

Shortgrass is pleased to offer a warm welcome to Erica Tsui, who will be our acting Acquisitions Officer for the next 13 months. Originally from Ontario, Erica previously worked for the federal government and in museums. In her spare time, she loves to travel (27 countries so far!), and do “non-adrenaline inducing activities” like hiking, canoeing, and camping. She also likes to take her cat for walks - so she’ll definitely fit in at Shortgrass. Welcome, Erica!



CONGRATULATIONS, KELTIE!

In addition to her soon-to-be new addition, Acquisitions Officer Keltie Turner (who will be away on maternity leave beginning in February) recently celebrated her five year anniversary at Shortgrass. Thank you for your hard work over the years.



SHORTGRASS CALENDAR

January

15: Library Managers Meeting
17: SLS Board Meeting

February

19: Family Day (SLS office closed)
21: SLS Board Meeting

March

19: Library Managers Meeting
30: Good Friday (SLS office closed)

April

2: Easter Monday (SLS office closed)
18: SLS Board Meeting

May

14: Library Managers Meeting
16: SLS Board Meeting
21: Victoria Day (SLS office closed)

CHANGES TO ALBERTA'S EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS

On January 1, Alberta's updated **Employment Standards Code** went into effect. The updated standards include significant changes and additions to almost all aspects of the code, including regulations around leave, rest periods, wages, and youth employment. Additionally, changes have also been made to the standards governing the administration and enforcement of these laws, including a new penalty system for employers who violate the code.



The Shortgrass Library Board is also reviewing and updating its own internal policies to ensure that they meet these new standards. More information about this will be made available to library managers and staff as these changes are put into practise.

A full overview of the changes and additions, as well as educational resources and tools, can be found by visiting:

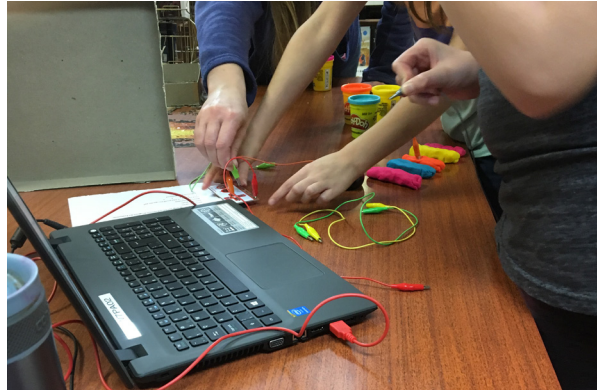
www.alberta.ca/employment-standards.aspx

SHORTGRASS LIBRARY SYSTEM
2375 10 AVENUE S.W.
MEDICINE HAT, AB T1A 8G2



NEWS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES

Library patrons at **Irvine Community Library** had a great time learning how to create projects using MaKey MaKeys! Participants tried their hand at MaKey MaKey pianos, Tetris, and even a dance game!

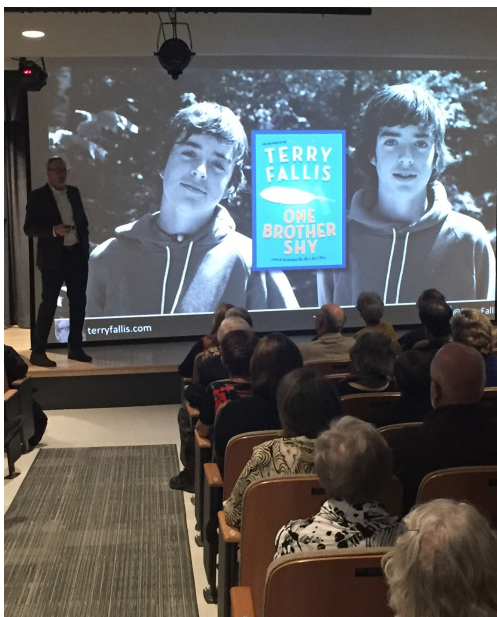


We always love to see the new art that **Duchess & District Public Library** has on display in their space! This piece is from the T'REX travelling exhibit, hosted by Duchess in December 2017.



A NEW THEATRE FOR MHPL!

After a long closure, **Medicine Hat Public Library** proudly reopened its newly renovated theatre this past November with a weekend-long party! Those who purchased a theatre seat plaque attended an invite-only author talk with Terry Fallis, and members of the public were invited to celebrate with cake, a magic show, and a showing of *Despicable Me 3*. The new theatre features accessible seating as well as the city's first T-Loop for those with hearing aids. Congratulations, MHPL! We can't wait to take in an event!



L-R: Author Terry Fallis; Mayor Ted Clugston with his family's seat; Cake for all!

CLIENT SERVICES UPDATE

One of our newest programming kit pushes all the right buttons...literally! Member libraries are now able to borrow our new, easy-to-use **Button Maker Kit**, which comes with everything you need to make pinback buttons like those pictured below.

We've also created two new **Board Game Cafe** kits! With a variety of different board games in each box -- including party, strategy, and card games -- the kits are great options for both kids and kids at heart.

