



Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Oshawa Public Libraries – Everyone Loves a Good Surprise!

Oshawa Public Libraries, June, 2021

Earlier this year, Oshawa Public Libraries (OPL) staff decided to add a fun twist to OPL's popular Library Take-Out (curbside) Service, "Surprise Checkouts!"

In previous years, OPL hosted "Blind Date with a Book" displays for Valentine's Day at its branches.

The displays held paper-wrapped books with a vague description written on them, and customers would choose a book based on its description without knowing the title or author for a "surprise" read. Since customers could not browse the Library's in-house displays for Valentine's Day this year, Library staff began offering a "surprise checkout" option during the closure for a fun option.

Customers can choose to receive a surprise checkout when they complete their online booking form on the Library's website for their Take-Out appointment or by telephone. When a customer requests a surprise checkout, staff will choose an item to add to their order with a postcard that says, "Enjoy your surprise checkout! Write back and let us know what you thought of it!"

Feedback for this added service has been very positive. Some customer comments included, "Surprise book was very much appreciated," "Enjoyed the surprise, Lisa. Thanks a million," "Both books were excellent! Thanks for picking them for me," and "This is a really nice story. The illustrations are beautiful, and it's nice to see so many faces. Thanks for choosing this."

While Oshawa Public Libraries prepares to open its doors once more for in-person browsing, the Library's Take-Out Service will remain available for those who feel more comfortable doing so, and will continue to offer surprise checkouts for people who'd like to discover great new reads with a little help from OPL.



Oshawa Public Libraries serves the City of Oshawa through 4 locations. To learn more about Oshawa Public Libraries, visit our website at oshlib.ca. To get the most current updates on what's happening at the Library follow us on Twitter and Instagram @oshawalibraries

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Media Contact:

Dina Pen

Corporate Communications and Marketing Strategist

Oshawa Public Libraries

(905) 579-6111 ext. 5214

dpen@oshawalibrary.on.ca

