



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 13, 2021

### **Public Access Resuming at Port Hawkesbury Library**

Eastern Counties Regional Library (ECRL) is pleased to begin welcoming students, teachers, and members of the public back into the Port Hawkesbury Library (located inside SAERC) beginning September 14, 2021.

The Nova Scotia government's Returning to Class for 2021-22 plan outlines that schools will return to their existing policies on community use of schools. This includes permitting members of the public to enter SAERC and Dalbrae Academy to visit their public libraries. Due to a facility issue, the date to resume access at the Alexander Doyle Public Library, located inside Dalbrae Academy, will be announced at a later date.

Library users will need to follow public health guidance in the school and in the library. This will include COVID-19 screening and visitor sign-in for contact tracing purposes. Masks will be required at all times while inside the school until September 20, and are strongly recommended after that date. Any changes to masking requirements or other public health guidance will be communicated to library users if or when they take effect.

Users of Port Hawkesbury Library can continue to enjoy Borrow by Mail and ECRL's extensive selection of digital content, and they will also have the opportunity to enjoy our great in-person services like browsing, public computer use, and free WiFi access. Curbside Pickup library service in Port Hawkesbury will be replaced with Library Take-out service. Library members can continue to place holds on their online account or with telephone assistance from library staff. They can arrange Library Take-out service with library staff, and their library items will be ready for pick-up just inside the library, in a manner similar to Curbside Pickup but inside the library instead of outside the building. Returns will be accepted inside the library and also in the bookdrop located inside the Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre.

"We want to thank users of the Port Hawkesbury Library for their patience over these last 18 months," said Laura Emery, CEO of ECRL. "We are proud of how staff were able to continue delivering library materials and library services to community members despite the challenges, and we are all very excited, and relieved, to be able to welcome visitors to the Port Hawkesbury Library again. "

