



Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Oshawa Public Libraries Connects the People of Oshawa to the World of Information and Each Other.

Oshawa, July 8, 2022

In a time when internet access is a necessity for everyday living, not a luxury, public services like Oshawa Public Libraries (OPL) remain a staple of reliability and accessibility in the community.

When Rogers customers across Canada were stranded without connection on Friday, July 8th, Oshawa residents who could not access resources needed for work, communication, and countless other outlets after a nationwide network outage sought connection at OPL locations.

"I can't say enough..." said a local Rogers customer, David, who, along with many others, settled in at one of four OPL locations to access online resources through their public Wi-Fi. "To say the staff was amazing is an understatement," he continued, regarding library staff at the Northview branch, "I still can't believe how accommodating and friendly they were."

"We quickly ran out of tables, seating areas and power outlets at our study areas. As customers started finding spots on the floor where they could at least use our Wi-Fi, we realized we needed to do something," said Gail Canonaco, Manager of the Northview branch.

The staff took action to accommodate the vast amounts of people in need of workspaces and power connections, pulling extra tables and chairs from the events area and setting up make-shift desks for customers to use.

The early morning outage had businesses and residents scrambling to adapt to functioning without connection in a world where it's no longer a privilege. People usually working from home to the general public arrived at our branches, laptops often in hand and open, looking for a Wi-Fi connection. People came to our branches from across the region to connect and connect they did. Library visits and connections to the Library's Wi-Fi networks nearly doubled on July 8th compared to previous Fridays.

As well as offering countless programs, online resources and, of course, books, OPL strives to enrich the lives and potential of the people of Oshawa by connecting them to the world of information and each other.

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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