



MEDIA RELEASE

Wasaga Beach Public Library
120 Glenwood Drive,
Wasaga Beach, ON, L9Z 2K5
www.wasagabeach.library.on.ca

LIBRARY NOMINATED FOR MINISTRY AWARD

Wasaga Beach, ON. February 4, 2019 — Wasaga Beach Public Library's *Connect With Seniors* project was shortlisted for an Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport's Ontario Public Library Service Award. WBPL was nominated for the **Angus Mowat Award for Excellence**, which recognizes a commitment to excellence in the delivery of public library service in small, medium and large library systems.

Winners of the Angus Mowat Award for Excellence were announced on Thursday, January 31 at the Ontario Library Association Super Conference. Although WBPL was not selected, the library is happy to have been chosen as a finalist by its peers; an independent committee of public library representatives.

The library's *Connect with Seniors* project has put special emphasis on seniors' services to promote healthy aging through social inclusion, lifelong learning, and community engagement. WBPL's seniors-centric initiative not only brings older adults together, it also takes them away to out-of-town cultural attractions.

WBPL was also recognized as part of the award-winning Simcoe County Library Co-operative. The Simcoe County Libraries *Immigrant Hub* project won a **Minister's Award for Innovation** that recognizes successful new approaches that demonstrate a positive impact in a community and are of continued value to public libraries. The *Immigrant Hub* project was designed to strengthen the capacity of libraries to create vibrant, diverse and welcoming communities. As part of the project, WBPL staff have been trained to assist newcomers, volunteers have been trained to help immigrants with language development, and multilingual collection materials have been made available. All initiatives are designed to increase inclusivity, acceptance and understanding of immigrants in the community.

-30-

For more information, please contact:

Pamela Pal
CEO,
Wasaga Beach Public Library
ppal.wbpl@wasagabeach.com
(705) 429-5481 ext. 2404