

# PRESS RELEASE

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## STRATFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY REOPENS UNDER STEP 2 REOPENING PLAN

Stratford, ON, June 28 – The Stratford Public Library will reopen to visitors on Monday July 5, resuming indoor library services. During opening hours, patrons will once again be able to browse the collection and check out materials in person. The library has been operating on curbside pickup only since April 2021. In addition to browsing the collection, visitors will be able to pick up holds, use public computers, and access free Wi-Fi without appointment. The MakerSpace will be open for in person use by appointment due to physical distancing restrictions.

“We are grateful that our patrons have been able to use curbside service for pickup of materials during the provincial shutdown and Step 1, but we miss having them in the library.” said Julia Merritt, CEO of the Stratford Public Library. “Throughout the pandemic we have seen a real need for library services and for human connection. We are extremely happy to be able to provide in-person services again.”

With Step 2 of the provincial reopening plan, libraries are permitted to open, allowing visitors at 25% capacity. Patrons visiting the library must follow public health guidelines, including wearing a face covering, staying 2 meters from others, sanitizing or washing hands, and staying home if sick. There will be a maximum of 25 visitors in the building, so we are requesting that visitors limit their time in the library and “Browse & Go”. The library is also no longer required to quarantine returned materials.

For those who prefer to use the library’s curbside service, contact-free pickup of holds remains available during regular hours.

For more information on the library’s reopening plans, visit [splibrary.ca/reopening](http://splibrary.ca/reopening), call 519-271-0220, or email [AskSPL@pcin.on.ca](mailto:AskSPL@pcin.on.ca).

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If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Julia Merritt, CEO at 519-271-0220 x110 or [jmerritt@stratford.ca](mailto:jmerritt@stratford.ca)

