

# Fraser Hickson and MINIBIBLIOplus



Fraser Hickson is an independent library serving Quebec since 1885. We improve the lives of our citizens through our Mission of raising literacy levels and empowering our partners to bring books to life starting with the very young who are those who need them the most. Since 2013, We have offered free public MINIBIBLIOs, or mini-library services on the island of Montreal. An Early Literacy Component was added in 2017 to create our MINIBIBLIOplus program.

#### A MINIBIBLIO includes:

- Books selected from our collection;
- A training session on tracking;
- Replenishment of materials with an expert's assistance;
- Mutual partner promotion.

The Early Literacy Component includes:

- Weekly reading activity by trained FH volunteers;
- Early literacy workshop for parents;
- Early literacy tool kit.

We mentor educators, parents, and volunteers creating the opportunity to



instill in children the desire to read paving their future with lifelong learning skills and prosperity. We have developed 70 sites since 2013 and we would very much like to offer complementary services in the Eastern Townships if we are needed. At the urging of literacy organizations across the country we have been urged to take our model to the national stage. This will require funding but we are finding that as we explore the idea many people are on board.

#### WHY WE DO THIS:

To make higher literacy skills a na-

tional objective! We really believe in personal connection and the importance of parents reading to their kids. According to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), a mere 1% increase in literacy skill levels across Canada would add \$32 billion to the national income (Canada's Literacy Challenge, TD Economics, Feb 2012). In other words, persuading parents that reading daily to their children from day one is a high-yield investment for their future success and costs nothing when books are easily available and accessible.



**Global Excel is proud to support local organizations that enrich our shared community.**

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