



Friends of the
London Public Library

Community Support For Your Library

September 2026

Among Friends

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

On behalf of the Friends' Executive, I hope you have had a wonderful summer and are now looking forward to the fall. We have been busy with a number of events and are looking forward to more in the coming months.

Annual Giant Fall Book Sale Preview Night

Mark your calendar for Thursday, October 15, 2026, from 6:30–8:30pm at Centennial Hall, Lower Level. Join members of the Friends' Executive and our volunteers for a first look at the sale and an opportunity to make your purchases before it opens to the public. More details are included inside.

Book Sale Volunteers

We need volunteers for the Annual Giant Fall Book Sale. If you know someone who may be interested, please share the information included in this newsletter.

Book Store News

Our volunteers are creating an online store featuring a wide range of items that have been set aside. Read more inside.

Speaking with Friends

On Saturday, June 13, a large crowd gathered to celebrate the publication of the second edition of London Street Names. The new edition includes 30 additional stories about how London's highways and byways received their names.

Thank you for your continued support as a Friend. If you know someone who would like to become a member, they can learn about the many benefits inside. I also extend my sincere thanks to our volunteers for generously giving their time and talents, and to the Friends' Executive for their dedication and commitment.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carmen Sprovieri".

Carmen Sprovieri, President

Website: <https://friendslondonlibrary.ca/>

Voicemail: 519-661-2448

Email: friends@lpl.ca



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2026 GIANT FALL BOOK SALE IS ALMOST HERE

Mark your calendar! Eagerly anticipated by readers and book lovers of all ages, the Giant Fall Book Sale returns to Centennial Hall in October. Join us:

- **Friday, October 16, 2026, 9am–9pm**
- **Saturday, October 17, 2026, 9am–5pm**
- **Sunday, October 18, 2026, 10am–5pm**

Come to the Lower Level of Centennial Hall from October 16–18 with the Preview Night for Friends of the Library members and sale volunteers happening on Thursday evening, October 15 from 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM.

What should customers expect at this year's sale? Literally, thousands of items – books, CDs, DVDs, magazines as well as some interesting oddities and ephemera. While we have a large quantity of recent London Public Library withdrawals, allowing the Library system to create space for new books, we have an even larger number of items donated by members of the public since last year's sale. We have received several significant donations that have enriched many of the more than 56 book categories offered at the sale. Parents, teachers, homeschoolers and early childhood educators will find an extensive selection of children's materials, especially for the early years.

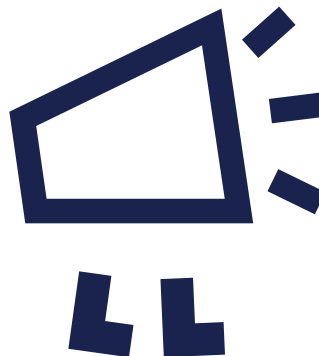
For those looking to expand and enrich their audio-visual collections, we have much to offer, particularly in CD and DVD formats. Vinyl albums and books on CD will also be available in large quantity, along with some VHS and audio-cassette tapes.

Pricing

Item	Price
Pocket Novels (paperback):	\$2 each
Hardcover and trade paperback books:	\$4.00 each
Children's books:	\$1 each
Teen and young adult books:	\$2 each
CDs, DVDs, and audiobooks:	\$1 each
LPs:	\$1 each
Magazines	\$0.25 each
Sunday pricing:	\$5 per bag

Prices remain relatively unchanged from last year. We will also have an expanded Specials section featuring unique and rare items identified through our sorters' research. These materials will be individually priced.

On Sunday, enjoy our popular Fill a Bag sale. Fill one of the bags we provide for just \$5.



Cash, debit and credit are accepted. An ATM will also be available on the Lower Level. For more information, visit friendslondonlibrary.ca.

Save the dates. We hope to see you at the sale!



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FRIENDS ANNUAL GIANT BOOKSALE *PREVIEW NIGHT INVITATION*

As a member of Friends of the London Public Library,
you are invited to the Preview Night before the sale.

The Preview Night:

Date: Thursday, October 15, 2026

Time: 6:30–8:30pm

Place: Centennial Hall, 550 Wellington St., Lower Level

Join members of the Friends' Executive and our volunteers for a first look at the sale and an opportunity to make your purchases before it opens to the public. There is a great selection, great prices and something for every age and interest. We hope you can join us.

Cash, Credit and Debit Cards are accepted.
Proceeds go to London Public Library.

The sale opens to the public on Friday, October 16 and continues through Sunday, October 18. Please share this information with anyone who may be interested.





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VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED FOR OUR ANNUAL BOOK SALE

We are using Signup.com to organize volunteers for our upcoming Annual Book Sale.

We are seeking volunteers for the following positions:

1. **Setup staff** who will unload and unpack sale material and help set up and organize the tables. Boxes may be heavy. We need some volunteers who can lift up to 25 lbs. (11.4 kg).
2. **General Floor Staff** who will keep the tables organized and well stocked throughout the sale.
3. **Information Desk Personnel** who will sign in volunteers, certify student volunteer hours, and answer customer questions.
4. **Cashiers** who will process cash, credit, and debit payments.
5. **Cashier assistants** whose duties may include processing electronic payments or tallying purchases using express sheets.
6. **Greeters** are a welcoming presence at the entrance of the sale. They will help customers locate the elevators, washrooms and ATM. They may also survey customers after the sale on their overall experience and opinion of the sale.
7. **Clean-Up Staff** who will assist with repacking and loading any unsold material.

Sign up to volunteer:

1. **Go to the registration website** – <https://signup.com/go/CpqQtqQ>
this will take you to our signup page.
2. **Review the options** listed and choose the position and shift you like.
3. **Sign up** – It's easy, you will not need to register an account or keep a password on Signup.

Note: The Signup app does not share your email address with anyone.

If you prefer not to use your email address or if you have difficulty signing up, please call 519-661-2448. Leave us a message with your name and phone number and one of the Book Sale Coordinators will return your call and help sign you up in the app.

The book sale is a great opportunity for students who need to fulfill their volunteer requirements. If you are a student completing volunteer hours, please add STUDENT beside your name when signing up. If you can lift up to 25 lbs. (11.4kg) please put 25 beside your name.

New and returning volunteers are welcome. Please note that volunteer positions will be open until **October 9, 2026**, after which we will be unable to process any new sign-ups.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE LIBRARY BOOK STORE

The Book Store is open 10am-5pm on weekdays and 10am-4pm on Saturdays, our longest hours since the pandemic.

We are very grateful to all the volunteers who have helped make it happen. We appreciate all the support we have received from our members and the community to keep the store open and busy.

We participated in Bibliomania, hosted by Attic Books, on June 20. We had a great day of sales and introduced new people to the Friends and the Book Store.

Our displays change seasonally, and we have some great themes planned for the fall. At the end of September, we will feature a display for the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Later in the season, stop by for children's books celebrating Thanksgiving and Halloween, selections for Remembrance Day and our large Christmas collection.

We are also creating an online store featuring items we do not normally carry in the Book Store because of their audience or the space available. A wide range of items has already been set aside, and we hope to launch soon. We are finalizing our order fulfilment process and training volunteers. Follow our social media accounts or visit the Book Store this fall for updates.



POP-UP BOOK SALES

Thank you to everyone who attended our pop-up sales at Covent Garden Market.

Unfortunately, we had to cancel our May 23 sale because of heavy rain. It was the first weather cancellation in the history of our pop-up sales. Our June and August sales were very well attended and raised approximately \$1,500

Our final pop-up sale of the year will take place on September 12.



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SUPPORT THE FRIENDS - BECOME A MEMBER

Interested in supporting the Friends?

You can become a member of our organization for a small annual fee. The online application form can be found on our website:

<https://friendslondonlibrary.ca>

Membership benefits include:

- ▶ Advanced notification for programs and events planned or sponsored by the Friends
- ▶ 10% discount at Oxford Book Shop when showing a current membership card
- ▶ 20% discount at the Library Store on Fridays, when showing a current membership card
- ▶ **Invitation to members' special preview night before the annual giant book sale**
- ▶ Members receive invitations to Columbia Sportswear Employee Store events for themselves and up to four guests. With 40–50% off regular retail pricing, great bargains are waiting for our members. You will need to show your current membership card for admission. We anticipate invitations to 2 to 3 events per year, so this is a great opportunity to stock up on quality seasonal items.

Thank you for considering becoming a member and supporting the work of the Friends of the London Public Library.

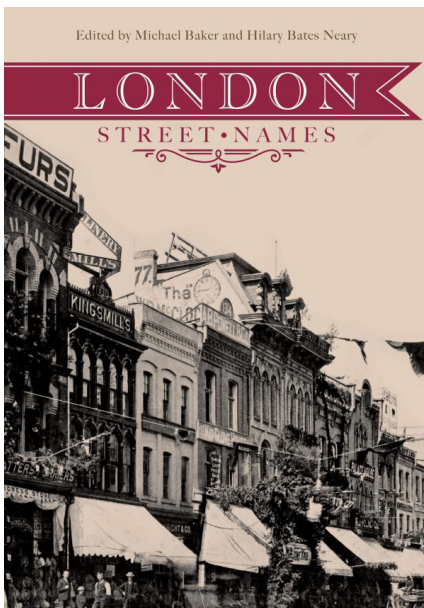
Supporting value-added Library programs



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SPEAKING WITH FRIENDS: LONDON STREET NAMES BOOK LAUNCH



On Saturday, June 13, 2026, a large crowd gathered on the third floor of Central Library to celebrate the publication of the second edition of London Street Names. First published in 2003, the new edition includes 30 additional stories about how London's highways and byways received their names.

Editors Mike Baker and Hilary Bates Neary introduced the book and invited several contributors to share how they discovered and researched their histories. Publisher James Lorimer congratulated London on its bicentennial, spoke warmly about the importance of libraries in furthering local history, and championed the publication of Canadian books.

The Friends' hospitality team of Debby Lowry, Scott Curoe and Lois Gosney provided refreshments for the many Friends and local history enthusiasts who attended. Hilary Thomas of Oxford Books sold all 40 copies she brought and took orders for more.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this celebration of London's bicentennial a success.