



Pictou-Antigonish  
Regional Library

## Press Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library launches new local history and culture online resource**

The Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library has launched [www.NovaStory.ca](http://www.NovaStory.ca), an extensive website featuring local historical and cultural resources for Antigonish and Pictou Counties.

“NovaStory.ca is a major leap forward in ensuring our community’s heritage and culture is made easily available to everyone.” explains Library Board Chair Troy MacCulloch. “Our regional library has been involved in digitizing materials for many years, now this gives a platform to do more, on a larger scale.”

Novastory.ca is an online software system that allows users to search, browse, view, print, and download the original materials in digital form, including books, pamphlets, letters, photos and more. Users can also share what they have found through social media such as FaceBook, Twitter, and other applications. Novastory.ca will be regularly added to as part of Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library’s ongoing commitment to make local information accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The site includes a special feature called MapBrowser. This allows the user to browse the two counties using Google Maps then overlay historical maps. The user can also click on a community and see what digital materials are available for that area. Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library is one of only a few public libraries in the world to have this feature available.

“Novastory.ca, combined with MapBrowser, gives a person a whole new way of looking at their community.” says MacCulloch. “For example, I can find my current property on Google maps, overlay a map from 1876 to see what was there before, and see if there are any historical materials available. It will be popular with genealogists, historians, and anyone else interested in the history of a place.”

Novastory.ca is an initiative of the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library with help from the Community Access Program (CAP). Local partners include the Pictou County Shared Services Authority, Municipality of the County of Antigonish, Pictou Historical Photograph Society, Antigonish Heritage Museum, Pictou County Roots Society and local community members.

The web site is now live and will be added to regularly, users are encouraged to check back often. An official launch will take place in September.

NovaStory.ca can be found at [www.novastory.ca](http://www.novastory.ca) or by going to the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library website [www.parl.ns.ca](http://www.parl.ns.ca).

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