



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Congratulations! ADOPT-A-LIBRARY LITERACY PROGRAM CROWNS THE 2018 WORLD LITERACY CHAMPIONS.

The numbers are in, and it's a winner! This year's highly competitive WOW! Reading Challenge came to a close on April 4th 2018. The 2017-2018 WOW! (or World Literacy) Challenge had 75 schools register, with a total of 13,503 students who competed. And how much did they read? Elementary school students read just shy of half a million books, coming in at a count of 462, 042 books – while the Middle and High School students read a total of almost 2 million pages (1,958,742 pages to be exact).

The former Cape Breton - Victoria Regional School Board schools were the front runners in this year's competition, taking home top honors in 6 of 8 categories, including winning 6 gold, and finishing in the Top 3 in two other categories. Other public schools from around the province that did exceptionally well - include schools from Shelburne County, Annapolis County, Cumberland County, and Pictou County. First place finishes for First Nation schools include Membertou Elementary, L'nu Sipuk Kina'muokuom Elementary, We'koqm'aq Middle School, Wagmatcookewey Middle School and L'nu Sipuk Kina'muokuom High School.

The following is a complete list of schools who won GOLD in their respective categories,

- 1) Membertou Elementary School
- 2) We'koqma'q Mikmaw Middle School
- 3) L'nu Sipuk Kina'muokuom High School
- 4) North Colchester High School
- 5) Parrsboro Regional High School
- 6) Hants East Rural High School
- 7) Baddeck Academy Middle School
- 8) Donkin-Gowrie Complex Middle School
- 9) Dr. T.L. Sullivan Middle School
- 10) Donkin-Gowrie Complex Elementary School
- 11) Evelyn Richardson Memorial Elementary School
- 12) Shipyard Elementary School

Gold Medal Winners in the Past Champions Category (where schools who have won the competition in the past 2 years go head-to-head against each other) are:

- 1) A.G. Baillie Elementary School
- 2) Donkin-Gowrie Complex Elementary School
- 3) Malcolm Munroe Middle School
- 4) Baddeck Academy Middle School
- 5) North Colchester High School
- 6) Advocate District High School

- 7) Wagmatcookewey Middle School
- 8) L'nu Sipuk Kina'muokuom Elementary School

In this sport of reading, any school in the world can register to compete in this team event. The 2019 Wow Reading Challenge will begin in early November 2018 and run until April 2019. The competition is hosted by the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library.

The WOW! Reading Challenge is a community-led program with partners including but not limited to the RCMP, local police agencies, school boards, librarians, teachers, Community Service groups and others who believe that “fighting crime one book at a time” makes sense.

For a complete list of winners, and further information about the program, please visit www.fightingcrime.ca.

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