

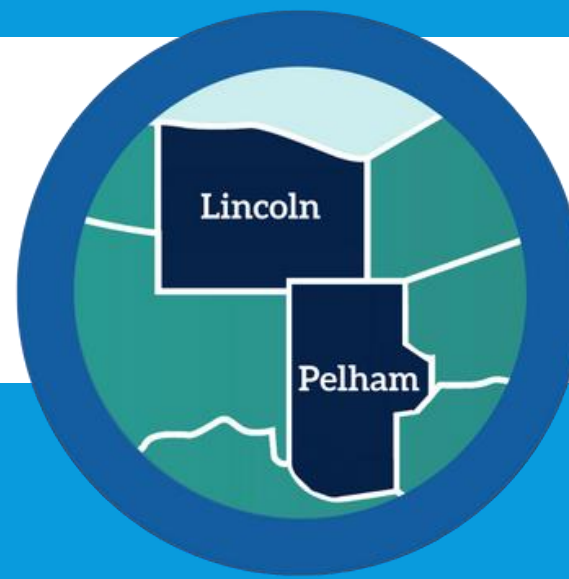
MOBILE BRANCH

THE CONCEPT

- “Rosie” has driven hundreds of kilometres providing access to the library wherever she goes. She brings maker activities; games and story times as well as materials to borrow and take home. The most surprising result of Rosie’s travels is the number of books and DVDs that were borrowed from the pop-up library. The library’s ability to create new memberships on the spot enables the new card holders to borrow items right away – from the park or daycare or the fire hall – anywhere the van can travel.
- The planned Bookmobile will be a Ford Transit commercial cargo van with a 7-foot ceiling which will be electric with no emissions. The height will allow for staff and customers to stand inside while looking for materials. It will need shore power so that the van will have power when it is not running so as not to idle for long periods and to enable it to be heated. An awning will enable service to continue during inclement weather. In addition to retro-fitted shelving inside, a ramp will enable access as well as the addition of several book carts to increase the number of items the van will have to offer.



THE NEED



Why a Mobile Branch?

- Combined, the Towns of Lincoln and Pelham occupy almost 750 sq km – which represents about 40% of the Niagara Region. Currently, there are four bricks and mortar locations to provide library services to over 42,000 people. Those residing in areas outside of Beamsville, Fonthill, Vineland and Fenwick must travel to obtain physical materials and services.
- **For a variety of reasons, families and seniors, adults and children, are unable to visit a branch, and this need paves the way for a library bookmobile.**
- Building projects are planned in two of our communities over the next five years. A mobile branch would allow the library to provide uninterrupted services during this time – and lessen the need to secure alternate locations during construction.

THE PLAN:

ACT AS A “BOOKMOBILE” PROVIDING MATERIALS FOR CHECKOUT ON A REGULAR ROUTE, AND:

Make library resources available to those who can't easily visit a branch

- Seniors Residences
- Care Homes
- Adult Day programs
- Daycare Centres
- Food Banks

Attend events and activities in the community to raise awareness of library services and resources

- Area parks and camps
- Holiday events
- Regional events – e.g. One Book, One Niagara; Fall Fairs

THE LOOK:

- FORD 2023 E-Transit
- Comes with on-board power
- Will require shelving, awning and a ramp installation
- Cost today: \$80,610 + retrofit \$30,000 = \$110,000 (+taxes)
- Insurance for staff drivers included in municipal fleet policies
- Upkeep managed by Town Fleet as it will be a shared capital asset

