The Library Ghost and the Canadian Libraries Issue

A series of confused ghosts looking for information

Samantha Walters
Introducing... The Opera

I mean, The Library Ghost!

BOO!

Haunting Canadian libraries since 1997
Canadian Summer Reading Clubs

The Library Ghost presents...

Here's a Canadian book for you!

Best time of the year! Look at all these people reading!

Sorry...

But look at all these recommended books the library has.

Really?

I work here. I know.

But wait...

There's more!

There's a reason I haunt the public library.
Libraries hold more than just books, they run many other programs!

But where and how do they get funds? How do they prioritize funding?

Post! Where's all the money from?

Taxes.

But do you get anything special for buying Canadian books? Or for holding reading clubs or festivals?

I don't know.

Do you know anything?

Hey! We get government funding, but there's nothing that says we get more money for buying certain books. You're a ghost why do you care?

Also some libraries are getting their funding cut up as it is.
The Library Ghost presents: Where are all the books?

Sometimes certain books are... difficult to find, particularly some Canadian books.

If they're not popular people may not find them.

Some libraries have themed blind bags filled with books.

This gives libraries a good chance to show off Canadian books!

Or Canadian books may be showcased on a table of recommended books!
The Library Ghost presents...
Summer Reading Clubs
Part II

Running a summer reading club is left up to the library or library system
However...

TD Bank also funds a summer reading program. Their list of books features Canadian books by Canadian authors!

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Libraries are not required to provide a book list, even when they do, the list does not need to include Canadian books.

Which is why it's my job to introduce people to Canadian books!

Watch out!
Summer reading clubs and festivals are often aimed at kids and teens. They're a great way to introduce new and unheard-of books!

And show how important libraries are to everyone.

And one of my favourite parts! Book readings are often held at libraries.

A few days later...

Whoooo! Book reading day!

Why's there a ghost?

What a great way to discover new books and authors.

Too bad I can't eat the food.

They still won't tell me if they get more funding to hold book clubs, readings or festivals.
Some Ghostly Solutions... maybe

While there is a lack of information on how libraries split their funding, and if they get any benefits from promoting Canadian books... That doesn't mean I can't come up with some of my own solutions to this problem!

Transparency seems to be an issue, being able to see the charts and numbers of how the money is split up can lead to more solutions!

I'm sure there are many solutions out there! But for now I think I'll stick to throwing books at people... There's not much else I can do. I'm just a ghost!

Perhaps libraries would have more incentive to promote Canadian books if promised more money or grants for doing so.

Maybe having one day dedicated to Canada Reads, libraries can hold a few days scattered through the year to promote Canadian books!