



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 27, 2026

The Ex Libris Association (ELA) is pleased to announce that **the W. Kaye Lamb Award for Innovative Services to Seniors recipient for 2025 is the Kingston Frontenac Public Library.**

The W. Kaye Lamb Committee selected the Kingston Frontenac Public Library's innovative *Older Adults Hub*, which operates out of the library's Rideau Heights Branch located in a low-income neighbourhood with limited services.

The W. Kaye Lamb Award is named for Canada's first National Librarian and is given biennially in recognition of library service specifically designed to meet the needs of seniors. The Award Committee members were impressed with KFPL's submission which detailed the impact of the Older Adults Hub. It was developed in partnership with Kingston Community Health Centres (KCHC) to provide an opportunity for older adults to learn, play, stay active and meet others and become part of their community in a positive way. Key elements of the [Monday](#) morning older adults day program include KCHC-facilitated Seniors Strength, Fitness & Balance Maintenance Exercise Group, a café for chatting, and a Super Seniors Speaker Series. Other programs include the Library-facilitated Board Game Café, Monthly Book Club, Tech Tutor sessions and a mobile library that brings lending collections into the program space. Library staff reported successes beyond the program's growth as seniors started to gain confidence and form relationships with each other and the program facilitators. Staff commented that the participants had found real friendships in the group. The 'Hub' model has provided multiple accessible programs that offer a variety of fun and free activities where they can meet with neighbours.

Pictured below is Kingston Frontenac Public Library, CEO Laura Carter receiving the W.K. Lamb Award plaque and cheque from ELA President, David Harvey and Donna Burton, selection committee member at the Ontario Library SuperConference Awards Gala, held on [Thursday, January 29, 2026](#).



(Photo credit: Yvonne Bambrick)

The call for applicants for the W. Kaye Lamb Awards resulted in a wide and varied response from libraries across Canada. Consequently, the Committee determined that the Edmonton Public Library (EPL) be acknowledged for their inter-generational program "Together We Grow" with an Honourable Mention Award.

EPL's *Together We Grow* program expands the library's services to underserved communities, reaching seniors who cannot visit the library due to mobility, memory, or other health issues while nurturing positive relationships between generations by bringing early literacy programming into retirement residences. This program provides engaging activities for seniors, especially those with memory care needs, and gives young children and their parents a chance to connect with another generation. By fostering empathy and understanding between age groups, *Together We Grow* seeks to combat senior's social isolation and to help older adults find joy in interacting with the youngest members of our community, contributing to a more inclusive and connected community.

EPL CEO, Pilar Martinez and Youth Services Manager, Elaine Jones are pictured below receiving the Honourable Mention W. K. Lamb award and cheque from ELA President, David Harvey, member Carmen Konigsreuther Socknat and Treasurer Bob Henderson at the Ontario Library SuperConference on [Thursday, January 29th](#) .



(Photo credit, Todd Kyle, W. Kaye Lamb Award Committee member)

Ex Libris Association (ELA) congratulate Kingston Frontenac Public Library and Edmonton Public Library on being successful recipients of the 2025 W. Kaye Lamb Awards through their well-developed programs that foster learning and connection for seniors and older adults in their communities.

We thank all libraries who expressed interest in the award in 2025 and for their continuing work in providing excellent and innovative services to seniors and older adults.

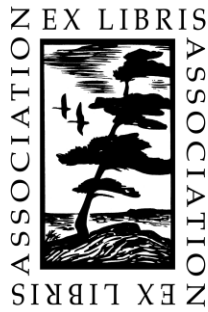
To learn more about the award, please visit:

<https://www.exlibris.ca>

For more information contact:

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L'Association Ex Libris est fière d'annoncer que le Prix W. Kaye Lamb pour les services innovateurs aux aînés 2025 est décernée à la Bibliothèque publique de Kingston Frontenac.

Le comité W. Kaye Lamb a sélectionné son programme innovateur Older Adults Hub, qui est offert dans la succursale Rideau Heights, située dans un quartier à faible revenu et aux services limités. Le Hub offre de multiples programmes accessibles qui proposent une variété d'activités qui regroupent des aînés avec leurs voisins.

Le Prix W. Kaye Lamb est nommé d'après le premier Bibliothécaire nationale du Canada, décerné annuellement en reconnaissance des services de bibliothèque conçus pour combler les besoins des aînés. Le Prix de 500\$ a été présenté lors du congrès Ontario Library Association le 29 janvier.

L'appel à nominations pour le Prix W. Kaye Lamb a tiré une réponse large et variée des bibliothèques partout au Canada. Alors, le comité a déterminé que la Bibliothèque publique d'Edmonton sera reconnue pour son programme intergénérationnel Together We Grow avec un prix Mention honorable. Ce programme lutte contre l'isolement sociale des aînés en présentant des activités de littératie précoce dans des résidences de retraite. Ce prix a été présenté également lors du Congrès.

L'association Ex Libris félicite les bibliothèques de Kingston Frontenac et d'Edmonton en tant de lauréates des Prix W. Kaye Lamb pour leurs programmes bien développés qui favorisent l'apprentissage et la connexion chez les aînés de leurs communautés. Nous remercions toutes les bibliothèques qui ont manifesté leur intérêt en fournissant des services innovateurs pour aînés.

Pour de plus amples renseignements au sujet du Prix, veuillez contacter :
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