

Burlington Public Library

BPL's goal is to continue to offer online collections and engaging content as we continue to gradually re-introduce in-person services.

BPL's strategy recognizes that the way we interact with our community and customers during and after the pandemic will be different than how we delivered our services pre-pandemic. The duration and parameters for each phase of our re-designed service are informed by the Province's direction, public health recommendations and guidelines.

Phase 1: Pre-Opening – clearing materials and cleaning facilities - COMPLETE

Phase 2: Holds Pick up – access to 2 locations for holds pick up only - COMPLETE

Phase 3: Limited Services – more locations open for holds pick up & modified computer access - COMPLETE

Phase 4: Increased Services – some collections browsing; computer use

Phase 5: Re-designed Services – all locations open

On July 14, BPL initiated Phase 3 adding modified computer access at Central Library and Tansley Woods Branch while also opening Aldershot and New Appleby branches for holds pick up service and computer access. On August 11, we will be shifting Aldershot and New Appleby branches into Phase 4, for general library use which includes browsing collections as outlined in the Province of Ontario Stage 3 Framework. On September 1, we anticipate reopening Alton and Brant Hills with Phase 4 offerings and shifting Tansley Woods to Phase 4. We are currently working with City of Burlington Recreation to understand the implications of the indoor gathering limit in our shared facilities. As BPL gradually moves into Phase 4, there will be many restrictions in place and enhanced cleaning protocols. Branches are being reconfigured to support physical distancing requirements and we will have greatly reduced capacity.

We are continuing with limited hours at this time:

- Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, 11am to 7pm
- Saturday, 9am to 5pm
- Branches will be closed to the public Friday, Sunday & Monday, and on holidays.

BPL continues to follow the City's 2020 Expenditure Restraint Program to help ease the financial impacts. As of July 31, 124 of BPL's part-time and full-time staff continue on a Declared Emergency Leave. We are recalling staff as required to support the reintroduction of redesigned service. As we reintroduce library services gradually, will do so responsibly, at the earliest date we can.
