



KnitFit Community Knit-a-thon 2011

Frequently Asked Questions

Hello Everyone! It's that time again!

I hope you are all as excited as we are for our upcoming 5th Annual **KnitFit Knit-a-thon!** Again this year the event will take place in two branches, McConnell and Baddeck. Here are some answers to frequently asked questions about the event:

WHAT IS IT?

- 1)The **KnitFit Knit-a-thon** is a fundraising charitable event where knitters and crocheters can donate their time and talent to help Cape Breton families and support children's literacy programs at the library at the same time.
- 2)This year it will take place at the **McConnell** Library, and at the **Baddeck** Library in Baddeck, on **Saturday, February 25th, 2012 from 10am to 5 pm.**
- 3)Knitted/crocheted goods created in Sydney will be donated to the **Salvation Army "Clothe-a-Family" campaign**, a charity that provides free clothes to families in need in Cape Breton County. Already 120 items created since the last Knit-a-thon were donated before Christmas to Loaves and Fishes for their Christmas baskets. Goods created in Baddeck will be donated to the Victoria County branches of the **NS Dept of Community Services** for clients in need.
- 4)Participants are asked to get people to sponsor their efforts at the Knit-a-thon. A pledge sheet is provided. All money donated will be used to support **Children's Literacy programs** at the CBRL. This could include the Summer Reading program, Storytime library programs for different ages, teen programs and other programs we'd like to be able to offer.

WHO CAN COME? ANYONE!

- 5)Knitters and crocheters are welcome to come for all or part of the day. We are encouraging both new and experienced knitters to attend. Several experienced knitters will be on hand to help new knitters with simple projects.

6)Knitters who can't attend are encouraged to donate knitted goods anyway before the Knit-a-thon. We will count knitters, finished products and funds raised.

HOW DO I JOIN IN?

7)Patrons can pick up a **Pledge form** at their local library branch then ask friends and family to sponsor them. These funds will be used for Children's Literacy programs at library branches in Cape Breton and Victoria Counties. Forms are available at each branch, or from www.cbri.ca, or our blog www.knitfitknitathon.wordpress.com .

8)Come to the McConnell Library or the Baddeck Library on Feb 25th, 2012 between 10 am and 5 am to knit or crochet. Donated yarn and needles will be available to use.

9)Participants can start knitting an item on the big day, bring one in progress, or bring finished items. Or they can come and watch, cheer the crafters on, or sponsor another knitter.

10) Participants are asked to please note on the form whether or not each sponsor requires a **charitable tax receipt**. Receipts can be issued for donations of \$10 or more.

11) If unable to come on Feb 25th, participants can still send items or donations in through their library branch.

12) As we will not be getting the pledge sheets back until the day of the Knit-a-thon, we ask that interested knitters **please let their branch know if they are planning to attend**. If there is a storm, we can advise you of a rescheduled date, and we will get some idea of numbers to expect for food. Thanks! If you decide to come last minute though, that's OK too!

DO YOU HAVE TO BE A KNITTER TO HELP OUT? No!

13) As we said before, both **knitters** and **crocheters** are welcome to come for all or part of the day.

14) We are encouraging both new and experienced crafters to attend. We will have several experienced knitters/crocheters helping new crafters with simple projects.

15) **Anyone** can support the Library and the Knit-a-thon by donating money to the branches, and yarn, needles, or finished goods in the Donation Box provided to each branch **before** the Knit-a-thon date.

(good chance to clean out your closet!)

16) **Anyone** can donate money, yarn, needles, or knitted goods **at** the Knit-a-thon, as well.

WHAT ELSE WILL BE GOING ON?

- 17) At McConnell, our regular **Saturday Storytime** will be on at 10:30 am and a puppet show at 2:30 pm. Families are encouraged to attend, join in with the knitting, and/or expose the children to the craft.
- 18) A **light lunch** (finger food) will be provided from 12:00 to 1:30. We are currently approaching sponsors to provide lunch, tea, and coffee.
- 19) We are soliciting **prizes** for participants from yarn stores and producers, as well as local businesses. They are looking good!!
- 20) This will be a fun day, and probably not a quiet day, so conversation and sharing with other knitters and interested patrons will be encouraged to create a buzz! Participants don't have to be really quiet in the library today!
- 21) We will be using the whole library! We will be setting up groups of chairs for knitters around the libraries, starting in the children's section and spilling out into the adult section if necessary. Some sections will be reserved for other patrons; look for the "Crafters welcome here" signs.
- 22) The Nova Scotia Room at McConnell will be used for the light lunch. The registration table, donated yarn and tea will be set up in the Program Room, and prize draws will occur here later in the afternoon.
We ask participants to keep food and drink in these two rooms.
At Baddeck, lunch, tea and donated yarns will be set up by the windows. Registrations and monetary donations will be taken at the main circ desk.
- 23) If products are not completed during the day, participants may finish them at home and bring them to the library during the following week.
- 24) If patrons have any finished items that they would like to donate, they would be very welcome. They can drop them off at your library before the Knit-a-thon, or bring them to the Knit-a-thon on the big day!

WHO'S IDEA WAS THIS ANYWAY?!

25) The KnitFit Knit-a-thon was the idea of two young knitters from Sydney, Carrice Suomu and Sidney Reid. It began as a challenge from the website www.ravelry.com when one person offered to send out a ball of yarn a day so long as the recipient used the yarn to make something for charity. Carrice took up the challenge and decided, "Why stop there!" And here we are...! The Cape Breton Regional Library, Every Woman's Centre (2008, 2010, 2011), the NS Dept of Community Services (2010, 2011, 2012), and the Salvation Army "Clothe-a-Family" program (2009, 2012), thank Carrice and Sidney for your vision!

If you have any questions, please contact:

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