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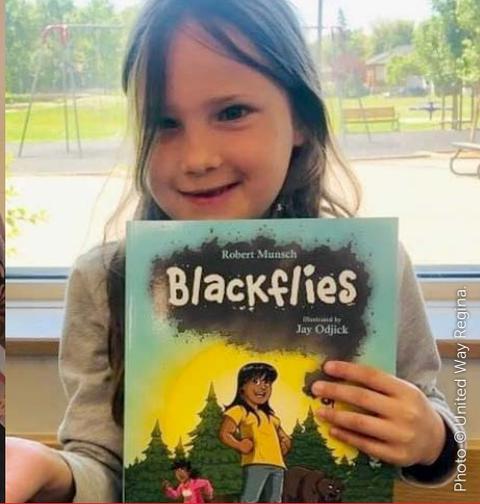


Photo © United Way Regina.

SCHOLASTIC CANADA **Possible Fund**

Launch and FY23 Impact Report



Photo © United Way Regina.



We are thrilled to announce an exciting milestone in our company's ongoing commitment to improving literacy across the country and fostering a joy of reading: the launch of the **SCHOLASTIC CANADA POSSIBLE FUND.**

The Scholastic Canada Possible Fund provides quality books to children and families in underserved communities and in areas recovering from crises or natural disasters by partnering with grassroots community groups, organizations with on-the-ground literacy initiatives, and charity and nonprofit partners nationwide.

Under our revised policy, applicants must meet at least one of the following criteria for consideration:

- Organizations that serve low-income children and families; Indigenous, Black, racialized and newcomer children; children with disabilities; and children facing other intersecting barriers (with the intention of fostering literacy and a joy of reading).
- Organizations with established literacy programs who have a demonstrated commitment to addressing inequity and lack of access to print books.
- Organizations directly supporting recovery or rebuilding efforts following crises or natural disasters.



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Photo © Children's Book Bank.

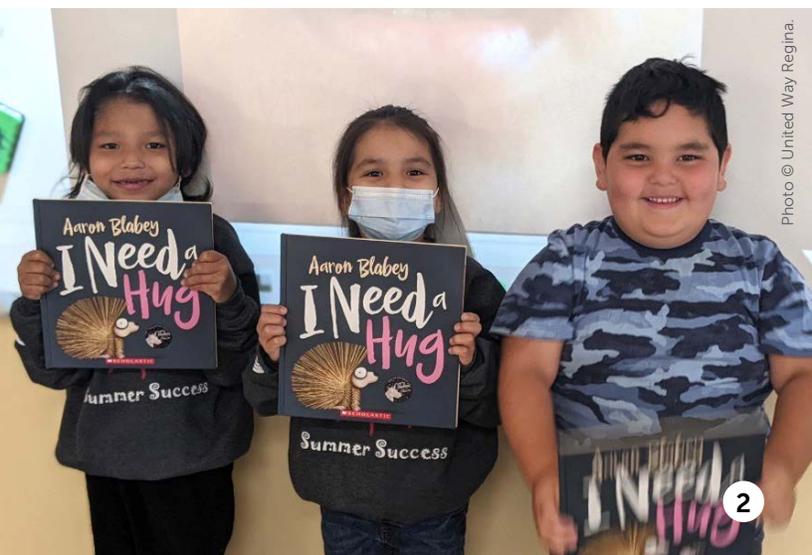


Photo © United Way Regina.

DONATIONS

Going forward, all donation requests must be submitted using the request form found on our newly updated [webpage](#). Each request will be thoughtfully reviewed and assessed, taking into consideration our donations guidelines, available inventory, and our commitment to ensuring that books reach organizations with the most effective impact on literacy.

It is important to note that our commitment to donating books is not new! For over sixty years, we have built partnerships with a wide variety of organizations and donated many thousands of books to children across Canada through our Trade division, our French division, and the Classrooms Care and Camp Read-a-Lot initiatives run by our Book Clubs team. We are proud to keep building on our rich history of philanthropic initiatives by centralizing these efforts under the Possible Fund banner.

Thank you for joining us in this important endeavour. Please visit <https://www.scholastic.ca/aboutscholastic/donations.php> for more information.

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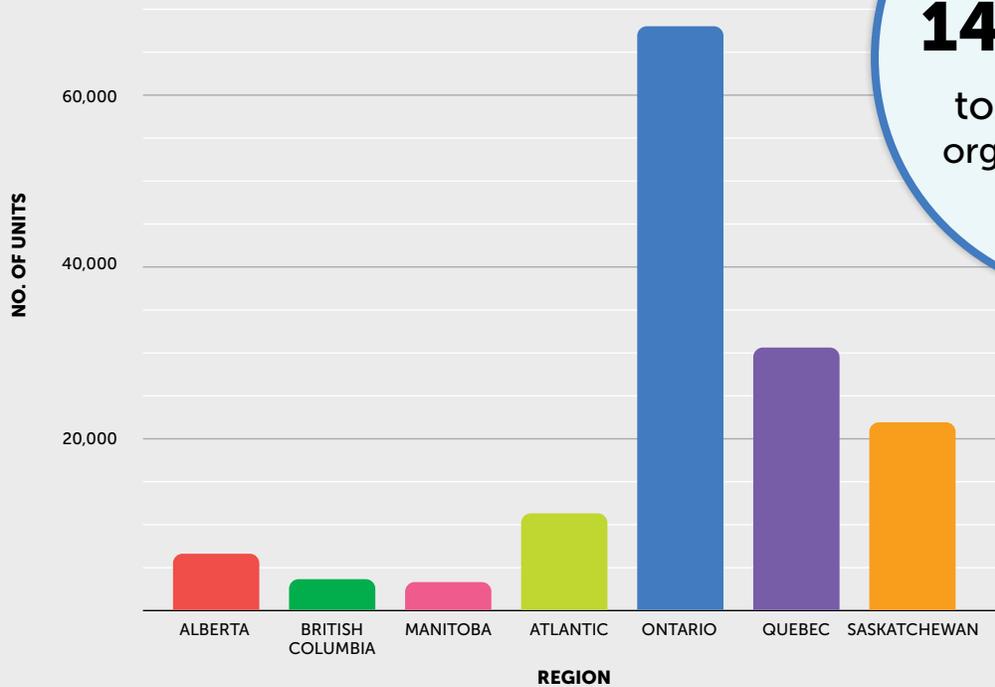
Photo © 2023 Kits for Kids.

Photo © Children's Book Bank.

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DONATIONS YEAR IN REVIEW: 2022-2023

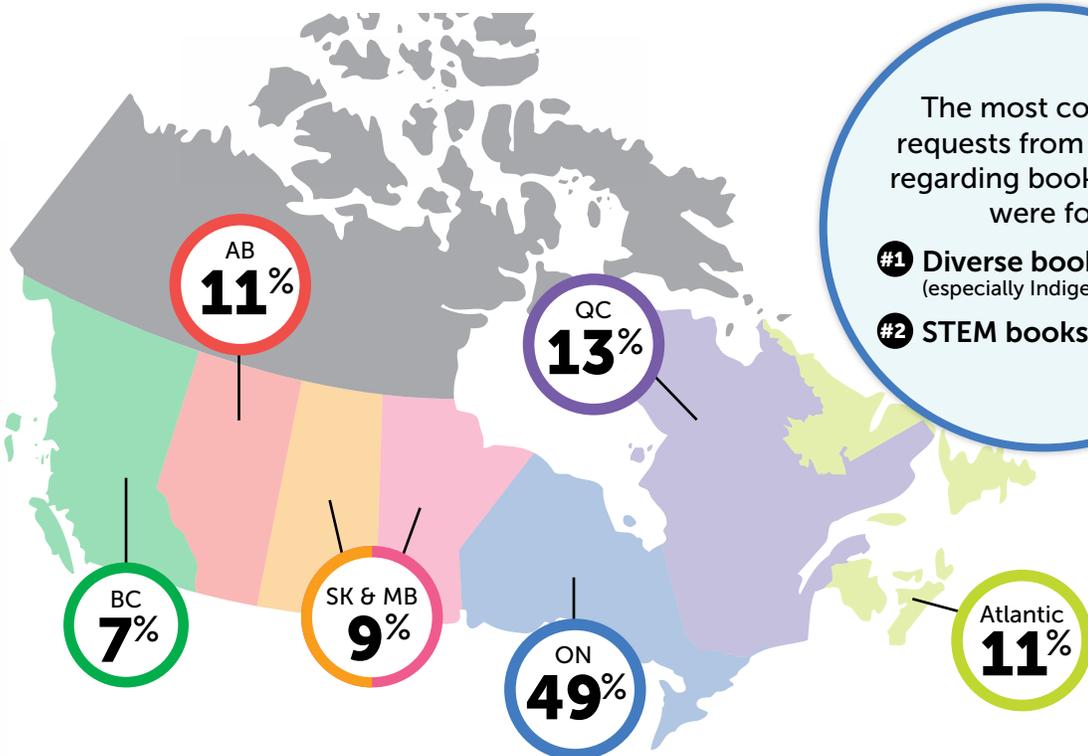
Here is the breakdown of books donated to each region:



In the last fiscal year we donated **145,393** books to **136** partner organizations across the country!

Accessible version: <https://schol.ca/x/donategraph>

And, here are our donation partnerships broken down by region:



The most common requests from partners regarding book content were for:

- #1 Diverse books (especially Indigenous titles!)
- #2 STEM books



PARTNER SPOTLIGHTS

Indigenous Communities and Organizations

In the past year, Scholastic Canada donated 31,122 books and other educational items to 24 Indigenous schools and organizations across the country. Our partnerships are both directly with Indigenous communities and with organizations that serve them. They include the Healing of the Seven Generations Backpack Program, which provides First Nations, Inuit and Métis children with the supplies they need to start the school year, as well as programs run through the First Nations Education Initiative, the Interlakes Reserves Tribal Council, the Sioux Lookout First Nations Health Authority, and the Keewatinook Internet High School.



Photo © The Learning Team.

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Little Free Libraries

Little Free Libraries is a non-profit organization that aims to create greater and more equitable book access in neighbourhoods around the world by creating publicly accessible, free community book exchanges. They provide libraries at no cost to underserved urban, suburban, rural and Indigenous communities, as well as in geographic areas with sparse access to books (known as “book deserts”). One of their key priorities is to champion and to stock libraries with diverse books. This year, Scholastic Canada donated 444 books to six LFL neighbourhood partners, including the KW Little Free Diverse Libraries Initiative, which aims to “amplify the voices of Black, Indigenous and racialized authors, as well as writers from other historically marginalized groups (2SLGBTQIA+, those with disabilities) and to help educate, inspire and encourage and promote anti-racism across the region.”



Photo © Little Free Library, 2023.

PARTNER SPOTLIGHTS

Fondation pour l'alphabétisation

Fondation pour l'alphabétisation is a non-profit organization with a mission of supporting Quebecers in developing and maintaining their literacy skills. This includes providing educational programs for children and adults, granting funding for community literacy projects, and engaging in policy advocacy that increases awareness around literacy issues to stakeholders. In the past fiscal year, this organization was Scholastic Canada's largest donation partner and our primary donation partner in Quebec, with over 25,000 books and other educational items donated.



Photos © Fondation pour l'alphabétisation.

Ukrainian Organizations

This year we donated books to four organizations supporting refugees who have arrived in Canada from Ukraine, resulting in a total donation of approximately 1400 books and other educational items. Some of our partners included the Manitoba Parents for Ukrainian Education's Backpack 4 Hope initiative and the Ukrainian Youth Settlement and Belonging Project.



Celebrating Kids of all Abilities

This year we donated 1100 books to four organizations to support the success of several events and celebrations organized for children with disabilities. This included the Cerebral Palsy Kids and Families and the Newmarket Lion's Club annual holiday parties, as well as several "Unbirthday" events thrown by Friends4Kindness, an organization created to foster inclusion and celebrate kids who have trouble connecting with others.

MEET OUR CORPORATE DONATION COORDINATORS

From the initial intake of requests, to thoughtful selection of relevant stock from across all channels, to communicating with internal and external partners and stickhandling each donation to ensure seamless deliveries to all of our grateful recipients, their contributions to our philanthropic efforts have been invaluable!



Christina Winfield, Corporate National Account Manager for Key Trade Sales, has been with Scholastic for twenty years. As part of her role, she has led the charge for all English donations since 2017, when we began our 60th anniversary Champions of Reading donation program.

“Each individual donation request has merit. From the smallest one-person organization right up to very large organizations...”



Gabrielle Girard Lacasse, National Account Manager for the French division, has been with Scholastic for six years. She began working with Christina on donations in 2018 and has been overseeing the French contributions ever since.

“I really enjoyed making sure the children were receiving different books throughout the years that were appropriate for their age groups. I was imagining them growing up with my selection of books for them.”

CELEBRATING CLASSROOMS CARE

In 2005, Scholastic Book Clubs created a program to give all Canadian children the opportunity to read for a greater purpose: Classrooms Care. Through this initiative, all classrooms across Canada were encouraged to read 100 books from February to April. All books counted, whether they were read at school or at home. The teacher kept track of the books their students read on a free Classrooms Care poster provided by Book Clubs at the beginning of the program, and when a class read 100 books, a donation was made in their honour with the help of Scholastic’s Literacy Partners.

We are eternally grateful for our Literacy Partners’ parts in ensuring that these books got into the hands of children who needed them most, and are still committed to providing them with the same quantity of books as previous contributions. Going forward, as we continue to evolve the program to meet the ever-changing landscape in Canada, the Scholastic Canada Possible Fund will replace the Classrooms Care program.



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Messages of Thanks



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IBBY Canada
@IBBYCanada

Thank you, @scholasticCDA, for donating these amazing books to our Reading with Newcomer Children program. We love reading with you!



“ Thank you so much for the generous support...this will have a huge impact on our children and families. ”

Big Brothers Big Sisters of PEI



“ Well, our festival on the weekend was a smashing success! A big, big thank you for the generous donation of books! We were able to give about 3000 kids a new book for free! ”



Photo © Rotary Club of Hamilton.

Photo © The Reading Partnership.



We had so much fun in our **Kids ReadTO** book club last fall, with **95** of the city's coolest kids connecting online to read *Front Desk* by Kelly Yang.

Thank you to **Scholastic Canada** for providing copies of the featured book to our young readers this fall. This program is made possible thanks to the support of **United Way Greater Toronto** and **Pinball Clemons Foundation**.

