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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## Celebrate Ontario Public Library Week with the launch of our new innovative Media Lab!

Join us from October 15th – 21st 2017 to celebrate Ontario Public Library Week. "Over 4.5 million Ontarians, or nearly 33 percent of the population, hold a public library card." (Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport).

Library Cards are free for residents and taxpayers of the City of Niagara Falls. Just stop by any of our four locations with ID and proof of address to get your Library Card. With more than 150,000 items to choose from, including books, movies, music, games, magazines and more, there is sure to be something for everyone.

"As I reviewed our Annual Survey report for 2016, I see that 2016 was a great year! Did you know that the Niagara Falls Public Library had 496,500 in person visits at our four locations!" Alicia Subnaik Kilgour, CEO/Chief Librarian was delighted to announce. "That's a very successful year." Kilgour also added that the Library offered 1,639 programs with 27,759 attendees. In addition they also offered 50,582 computer sessions and our WIFI sessions topped out at 77,195 sessions.

"This year in celebration of Ontario Public Library Week, our Library Team decided to empower our community by enabling their 'voice', and facilitating the creation of content. This will be achieved through a new Maker Space and Media Lab, which encompasses a Recording Studio and Video Editing Lab. This new innovative space will be equipped with leading edge technology, 3D Printers, green screens, computers and software," said Kilgour.

"Interactive and dynamic programming are already in the works, our team is familiarizing themselves with the new equipment and have varied knowledge and expertise. They are thrilled to be using their knowledge, skills and abilities to empower our community.

The Oakes Room will be transformed into flexible Maker Space and Media Lab space, with all the equipment being stored in mobile carts.

Artists, artisans, musicians and students will be able to book the space to explore, discover and create content. We will support local artists and encourage them to publish their work and share the content with the community, whether that be a piece of art, an eBook, audiobook, or podcast."

The Oakes Room Media Lab will be opened on Monday, October 16th at 1:00 p.m. at the Victoria Avenue Library by a ribbon cutting ceremony with Mayor Jim Diodati.

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## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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