

Dear Friend of FTRW,

With Freedom to Read Week having wrapped up a few weeks ago, the BPC and our Freedom of Expression Committee just wanted to thank you so much again for your help with distributing posters! While this year's FTRW was unlike any other, your support helped us spread the importance of the freedom to read and write even in these uncertain times.

Community engagement was extremely high on social media, as many organizations that were shut down due to the pandemic used it as an outlet to run their FTRW campaigns this year. Librarians nationwide wrote blog posts, shared FTRW-themed book collections and highlighted different challenged books written by Canadian authors every day. Schools and universities across the country hosted online events and incorporated the freedom to read into their lesson plans. This contributed to a deepening appreciation of literary freedom and helps Canada maintain our reputation as a bastion of free expression.

This year's participants found a variety of creative outlets to celebrate FTRW while remaining safe and following public health guidelines. Giveaways and competitive games were held online by some, while others took part in book-exchanges. Other activities included sharing "caught reading" selfies, creating and uploading FTRW-themed videos and skits, "blind dates" with books, reading challenges, trivia nights and more. Members of the Book Fairies of Canada left challenged books with notes attached to them in open areas for community members to find and enjoy.

This year's poster and advertisements featured bold illustrations by award-winning comics artist, illustrator and author Michael DeForge and designed by Boyd Gordon, of Boyd Gordon Design.

Freedom to Read Week is an extremely important initiative and we really couldn't do it without your support. Thank you. We look forward to continuing our partnership with you next year.

With warm regards,

Sukaina Jamil
Program Coordinator
Book and Periodical Council