

# PRESS RELEASE

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## SPL LAUNCHES BORROW THE MAKERSPACE

The Stratford Public Library is excited to announce the launch of a new and innovative service, 'Borrow the MakerSpace'. Customers will now be able to take home the latest in Maker technology to turn their creative dreams into a reality.

Kits will include popular MakerSpace tools such as slide scanners for digitizing memories, as well as vinyl cutters and heat-presses for making custom t-shirts, tote bags, and décor. Throughout the spring, we'll be rolling out additional kits with recording and design equipment including podcast mics, halo lights, a drawing tablet, a 3D design mouse, and more.

"These kits are a wonderful creative outlet and an important way for the community to access new technologies," Krista Robinson, Systems Librarian says. "We know that during the pandemic, people have been exploring new skills and hobbies, however with many people out of work, purchasing specialty equipment is not always possible. That's where the library comes in."

The Library MakerSpace which was founded in 2017 is currently open for virtual appointments 3 days a week. "We hope the Borrow the MakerSpace kits allow makers to have more time to work on their projects in a comfortable and safe setting." Robinson says.

With a valid Stratford Public Library card, a library member can borrow 1 kit at a time, for a period of 1 week.

The Borrow the MakerSpace project is funded by Perth Community Futures through the Regional Relief and Recovery Fund, supported by the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario.

Meghan Marshall, General Manager of Perth Community Futures says, "This is an incredible opportunity for our community to access tools that will help to support and grow their business at a critical time. We are incredibly grateful to our partners at FEDDEV Ontario for their continued assistance"

For more details about how you can Borrow the MakerSpace, visit [www.splibrary.ca/makerspace](http://www.splibrary.ca/makerspace).

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If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Eric Ball, at 519-271-0220 x163 or [makerspace@pcin.on.ca](mailto:makerspace@pcin.on.ca)

