

## 2. Welcome from the Librarian and Archivist of Canada

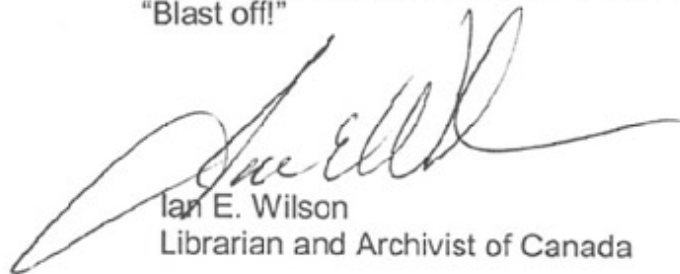
### **Blast Off!**

For the second consecutive year, Library and Archives Canada offers children, from ten provinces and territories across Canada, the opportunity to join the TD Summer Reading Club. As a national institution, we are proud to bring our expertise and our support in coordinating this unique national program. The TD Summer Reading Club will be offered to over 100,000 children through public library networks nationwide.

Throughout the summer, public libraries from various regions of Canada will have the privilege and the important task to promote books and reading to thousands of children while making it entertaining as well. This year's theme, space exploration, was selected to captivate the imagination of young Canadians and help them discover different galaxies within the universe and the exciting fields of astronomy and spatial aeronautics. The TD Summer Reading Club relies upon the librarians' dynamic talents and the participation of the local public libraries to encourage children to pick up good reading habits during the summer holidays. Every child will receive a logbook, a poster and stickers that were specially created by Ange Zhang, a renowned illustrator. The staff manual contains reading activities, games and easy-to-make projects that libraries, whether they are in a rural or urban area, can offer to Canadians of all ages.

We wish to thank TD Bank Financial Group for its generous financial contribution to this project. We also would like to acknowledge the exceptional collaboration of the Toronto Public Library which founded the club and developed the English content and the Ottawa Public Library which was entrusted with the adaptation of the French content. We also wish to mention the participation of the Montreal Public Library and the Canadian Space Agency, who considers space exploration as a most appropriate and timely theme.

Let's work together to promote the fun of reading to young Canadians and to help them explore the wonderful world of books and space. Encourage young readers to reach for the stars all the while staying grounded by using this summer's slogan, "Blast off!"



Ian E. Wilson  
Librarian and Archivist of Canada