

# Education minister expresses disappointment over 'malicious attack'

and trying to uncover as much information as we can."

At the EQAO, last Thursday began with good news, Jones said, after officials learned an Ontario-run school in Egypt had completed the online test "with no issues ... they did the assessment well prior to 8 a.m. our time.

"And then at 8 a.m. our time, there was a huge influx of junk traffic from IP addresses from all around

the world, inundating our host application for the assessment ... As far as I'm concerned, they were absolutely targeting us. Somebody knew the timing and somebody knew the IP addresses to attack."

Despite the four hours of technical troubles that followed — where at the worst, 99 per cent of traffic was not from schools or boards — it appears almost 16,000 teens in Ontario managed to complete the test.

The EQAO is looking into whether those students "who look as though they completed the assessment" will be able to receive credit for the test as opposed to re-taking it again next March.

## Consideration

EQAO staff would like to be able to provide confirmation to those students who appear to have completed the assessment, "but we're

not there yet; we don't have a firm answer yet, but we're giving it every possible consideration right now." Jones apologized for the inconvenience and frustration experienced by students and staff.

"It was certainly really disruptive and disappointing for schools and students and for us as well," said Jones, who stressed that student privacy was "not breached in any way."

At Queen's Park, Education Minister Mitzi Hunter said "it is extremely disappointing that this deliberate and manipulative attack, this malicious attack has happened and prevented our students from completing the test as planned."

Added Jones: "It's been particularly disappointing now that we know somebody intentionally directed an attack," he said.

— with files from Kathy Yanchus



## Chief Librarian's Remarks

A happy and safe Halloween to all this coming Monday. For those ages 2 to 5 years, caregivers are invited on October 31 between 10:00 – 11:30 am to bring their children in costume to the Main Library to **trick-or-treat** at our Public Service Desks, while supplies last.

I also hope that you can join me in attending **An Evening with Margaret Atwood** on November 30, where she will discuss her novel, *The Heart Goes Last* (with book signing to follow). For details and to purchase tickets to this exclusive event, please visit [www.OneBookOneMilton.ca](http://www.OneBookOneMilton.ca).

Finally, **MPL is redesigning its website** and we'd love to hear your feedback and suggestions of how we can deliver a better, more user-friendly online experience. Complete the survey at <http://bit.ly/2dqzRFr> by November 30, 2016.

It's that time of year to cozy up with a good book in hand. Book 173 in my reading challenge is well underway.

Leslie Fitch

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## What's On



### Children's Drop-in Storytimes

Main Library & Beaty Branch

Drop-in for our year round storytimes!  
Visit [www.mpl.on.ca](http://www.mpl.on.ca) for locations and times.

**Rise 'n Shine** (0-3 years), Saturday mornings  
**Wee Reads** (6-23 months), Tuesday afternoons  
**Shake Rattle & Read** (2-4 years), Tuesday afternoons  
**Family Storytime** (3-6 years), Saturday mornings

## LAURIER Inspiring Lives.

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**Wednesday, November 9: Laurier Milton Lecture Series**  
7:00 – 8:30 pm, Milton Centre for the Arts  
(Ages 18+)

Lecture: Archaeology at Old Fort Erie  
Presented by: Dr. John Triggs, Department of Archaeology and Classical Studies, Faculty of Arts

Please register at [www.mpl.on.ca/lectures.php](http://www.mpl.on.ca/lectures.php)



**Saturday, November 12: DIY Maker Fest**  
12:00 – 4:00 pm, Main Library (drop-in)  
(All Ages)

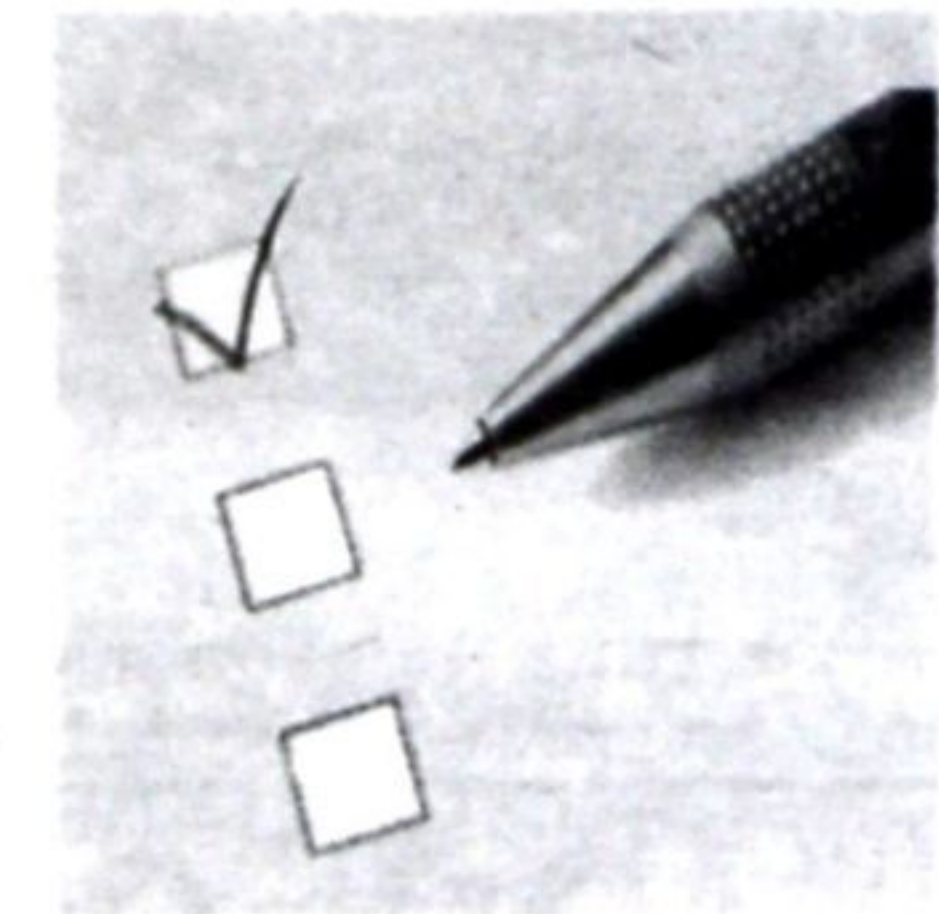
DIY Maker Fest is an afternoon of discovery, innovation, and experimentation. Drop-in and learn about new interests and hobbies or try out some new skills. For details visit [www.mpl.on.ca/a\\_makerfest.php](http://www.mpl.on.ca/a_makerfest.php)

**One Book, One Milton** nominated for the 2016 Angus Mowat Award of Excellence



**Wednesday, November 30: An Evening with Margaret Atwood featuring *The Heart Goes Last***  
7:00 – 9:00 pm, Milton Centre for the Arts  
(Ages 18+)

Tickets are going quickly for An Evening with Margaret Atwood, hosted by **Michael Serapio of the CBC News Network**. Buy your tickets now at [www.OneBookOneMilton.ca](http://www.OneBookOneMilton.ca)

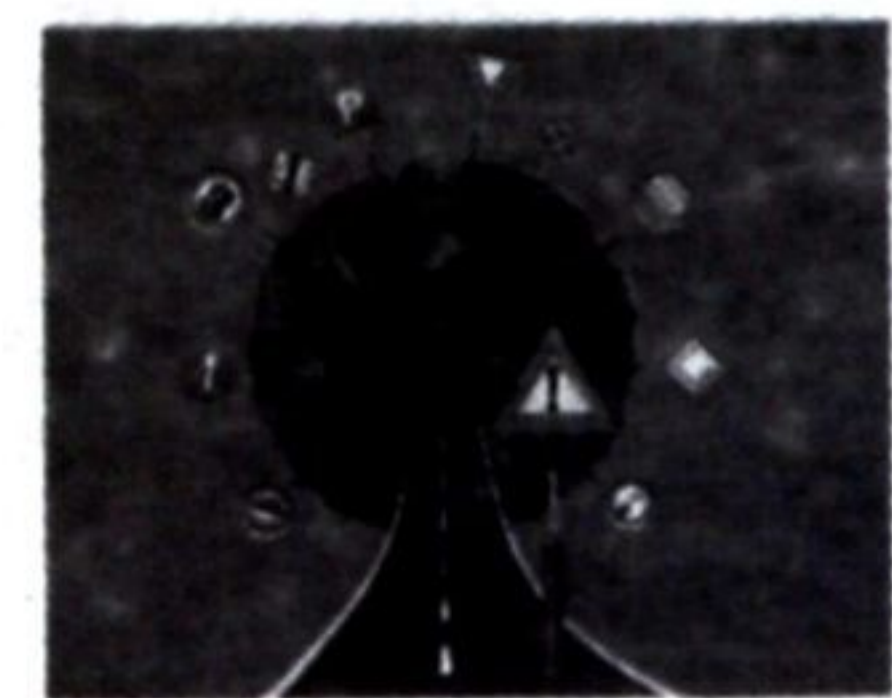


Where can MPL make changes to deliver a better, more user-friendly online experience? Take the survey now at <http://bit.ly/2dqzRFr>

Survey closes November 30, 2016.  
Thank you for your input!

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