Regina Public Library

For immediate release: April 7, 2020

Regina Public Library powerful computer resources help fight COVID-19

Several powerful computers and servers at Regina Public Library are working overtime to help stop the spread of COVID-19, even as books, toys and other library resources wait on the shelves.

On April 2, Regina Public Library began sharing five powerful Digital Media Studio computers, donated by Greystone Financial, and several servers normally used to run the library's public computing workstations to support the folding@home project. This project allows private individuals and organizations to donate their unused computer resources to crunch data for scientists fighting diseases including COVID-19.

"Four of our servers are crunching data on COVID-19 to fight the disease," says Kevin Saunderson, Senior Manager, Corporate Services. "each server is the equivalent of a large number of average desktop computers– that's a lot of power." Regina Public Library relies on these computers and servers to offer services such as public computer workstations and state-of-the-art sound and video editing software. Now that branches are closed, the library can put these significant resources to work to help with the effort to find ways to slow or stop the disease.

"In times of need, supporting our community is the right thing to do," says Saunderson. "If we can help contribute during the pandemic, then we will do so in any way we can."

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