

For immediate release

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VIRTUAL REALITY LANDS AT HALTON HILLS PUBLIC LIBRARY All ages will enjoy gaming and virtual travel

HALTON HILLS, ON – Get your headsets on and prepare to go where you’ve never gone before.

A brand new VR system is ready and waiting for people of all ages to explore at Halton Hills Public Library. This summer, kids and adults will be able to drop in for a quick 15 minute demo, or book the systems for group play.

On Saturday mornings throughout July and August, the library will have plenty of different games to explore! Anyone aged 10 and up is welcome to play; children aged 10-12 will need a signed permission form from a parent or guardian.

Also starting in July, up to six people can book the system for 45 minute sessions. Interested groups can check the schedule at hhpl.on.ca for dates and times. VR will be available at both the Acton and Georgetown Branches throughout the summer.

“We decided to make our VR system portable so that we can engage the community, and especially youth, in places where they gather outside of the library,” said Jodie Mandarino, Youth Services Librarian. “We’ve brought VR to the youth drop-in centres in Georgetown and Acton and participated in an event at Centennial Middle School. We purchased games that are collaborative in nature so that the gaming experience is more of a group activity than an individual one. It is great to be able to engage youth with the library in new and innovative ways.”

The fun starts with “Retro Game Day”: **the official launch June 9 at the Georgetown Branch from 9:30 am – 5:00 pm.** People can get their retro game on from Pong to Xbox as they experience a wide variety of vintage video games powered by the Personal Computer Museum.

ACTON BRANCH

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www.hhpl.on.ca
askus@haltonhills.ca

GEORGETOWN BRANCH

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HALTON HILLS PUBLIC LIBRARY

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While the games of the past are sure to delight people of all ages, there's also the living room of the future with the fun and interactive Multi Touch Digital Centre. PlayStation VR, Bluetooth-enabled headsets and phones, iPad Pros, and a full, room-scale HTC Vive Virtual Reality System will be ready with lots of games to try!

"As the library continues its transformation as a community hub, we are incorporating technology to meet the needs of all members living in our community, including older adults," said Lee Puddephatt, Community Librarian. "This summer, the library is popping up in long-term care facilities and active living centres; we're thrilled to host this Retro Games Day event to celebrate games of the past and virtual reality games of the future."

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About the Halton Hills Public Library

The Halton Hills Public Library (HHPL) provides free access to a wide-range of books, music, movies, online courses and so much more. Professionally-trained Library staff go beyond Google in the search for information. Every week, approximately 5,200 people come through the Library's doors, in addition to the more than 7,500 who visit electronically. For more information on programs, services, hours of operation and access to the online catalogue, visit www.hhpl.on.ca.

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