

COMMONPLACE BOOKS



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ABOUT THE BUSINESS

Located at 105 Thames Street South, Commonplace Books is a locally owned independent bookstore dedicated to celebrating the joy of reading and fostering meaningful conversations around books. The store primarily carries new releases from major publishers and independent presses, while also highlighting works by local authors from Oxford County and surrounding communities, along with a curated selection of used books.

Beyond retail, Commonplace Books aims to be a community hub for readers, regularly hosting author appearances, book discussions, and special literary events that bring people together to share stories and ideas.

A DREAM TURNED REALITY

Commonplace Books opened its doors in October 2025, bringing a long-held dream to life for its owner Shannon. After moving to Ingersoll in 2023 with a desire for a smaller community atmosphere, the bookstore began as an idea for a mobile book business that would pop up at markets and events throughout Oxford County.

When significant layoffs affected the Ontario college sector, where the owner had been working after pursuing graduate studies in higher education policy, the opportunity arose to bring that dream forward sooner than expected and transforming the idea into a full physical bookstore in the heart of downtown Ingersoll.

Inspired by the many women entrepreneurs operating in the downtown core and the strong culture of supporting local businesses, Ingersoll quickly proved to be the perfect home for the store.

A HUB FOR READERS AND COMMUNITY

Commonplace Books proudly employs local residents and regularly hosts community-focused events that celebrate literature and storytelling. From author readings and book signings to themed events and children's programming, the bookstore aims to create a welcoming space where readers of all ages can connect.

The store has also supported regional initiatives such as Oxford Pride and looks forward to continuing to expand its partnerships with community organizations and local events.

MILESTONES & MEMORABLE MOMENTS

Although still a young business, Commonplace Books has already created some memorable moments. On opening day, eager readers lined up outside before the doors opened, filling the store throughout the day which was a clear sign that the community was excited to welcome an independent bookstore back to downtown Ingersoll.

Another highlight was the store's celebration of Paper Bag Princess Day, honouring the beloved children's book by Robert Munsch. The event welcomed around 40 children who gathered for story time, crafts, and activities, turning the bookstore into a lively space full of imagination and laughter.

With more events and collaborations in the works, Commonplace Books continues to grow as a gathering place for book lovers.

PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

Commonplace Books offers:

- New book releases from major publishers and independent presses
- Books by local and regional authors
- A curated used book selection
- Special book orders for titles not currently in stock
- Bulk discounts for schools, teachers, therapists, businesses, and organizations

These services ensure that readers, educators, and professionals alike can access the books they need while supporting a local independent business.



Soll SPOTLIGHT SERIES

Commonplace Books

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www.commonplaceingersoll.ca

 Commonplace Books

 @commonplacebooks.ingersoll



LOCAL SHOUTOUT

When the team at Commonplace Books needs a coffee break or a quiet moment, their favourite local stop is The Evergreen, a downtown café they've loved since it first opened.



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