Parton's program wants children to "let their imaginations soar"

New program will provide one book a month for newborns at the Pictou Landing First Nations community

BY SARAH REGAN
THE NEWS

Country singer Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is coming to the Pictou Landing First Nations community.

Every parent living in the community who has a newborn will be eligible to receive a free, age-appropriate book every month in the mail until their child's fifth birthday. The child will receive 60 brand new books in total.

The program is designed to give children an early start to their learning and development, and encourage reading and language skills at an early age. Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is being made available to newborns in 13 First Nations communities in Nova Scotia through the support of the Federal Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, Atlantic Division, Invest in Kids and The Dollywood Foundation of Canada.

"Reading to children each day is one of the best gifts you can ever give them," Dolly Parton said in a written statement. "I hope that precious moments with books from my Imagination Library program will inspire children to let their imaginations soar."

This year, the Imagination Library will deliver more than five million hardcover books to 470,000 children throughout the United States and Canada.

Each family in Pictou Landing will have the opportunity to register their newborn for the program by calling The Imagination Library at 1-877-583-KIDS ext. 293 or visiting the website at www.investinkids.ca or www.imaginationlibrary.com.