

NEWS & Notes

PEACE LIBRARY SYSTEM'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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SPRING 2016

Freedom To Read Week 2016

February 21-27, 2016



Each year near the end of February Canada honours Freedom to Read Week where the reading community celebrates the intellectual freedom we are granted in Canada due to the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. This week is our Canadian equivalent of the American version, Banned Books Week, which is sponsored by the American Library Association and is typically celebrated in the autumn.

Why do we set aside a week for talking about intellectual freedom in Canada? Even though we live in a country that celebrates diversity of opinion and belief, censorship and challenges to reading material still happen all the time. It's important that we don't take our freedom to read or our freedom of expression for granted. In public libraries, access to information is a cornerstone of what we offer to our communities, so being aware of intellectual freedom issues is critical.

Check out freedomtoread.ca for more information.

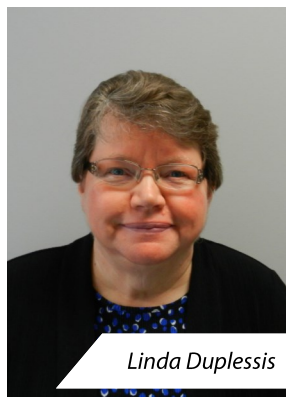
Ideas for Freedom to Read Week

Whether you want to get started on your plans for next year's Freedom to Read Week or you want to celebrate intellectual freedom all year round, freedomtoread.ca has lots of great ideas for programs and events you can try at your library.

These include:

- Start a banned books club where you read books that have been challenged in Canada and discuss censorship—a list of books that have been challenged in Canada can be found at <http://www.freedomtoread.ca/censorship-in-canada/challenged-works-list/>
- Make a display highlighting challenged materials
- Ask your municipal or local council to declare your community a Freedom to Read Zone and make it an event
- Contribute an article to a local newspaper highlighting intellectual freedom or reviewing famously banned books
- Host a photo contest on the topic of freedom of expression
- Request a Freedom To Read kit and posters for next year's events

>> From the Director



Linda Duplessis

It's hard to believe that the first two months of 2016 are almost gone! Here at PLS we have been busy with performance appraisals, the 2015 audit and our Annual Report to PLSB. We are consciously implementing strategies from our 2016-2018 Plan of Service to provide support in key areas. We'll be looking for a new digital trainer & IT assistant to come on board. We plan to hire a summer student to develop a marketing strategy for the next few years, and also help you develop marketing materials. We'll be scheduling mini-orientations for library boards, along with helpful documentation. And we'll be finding ways to help you with library programming ideas. It's going to be a busy year, but we look forward to working with you to keep library services in our region strong and vital.

New PLS Member

I'm very pleased to announce that the Village of Girouxville has joined Peace Library System effective January 1, 2016. Girouxville does not have its own library but now all residents will be able to visit any member library and receive a TRAC card and a TAL card. They will have access to digital resources and full TRACpac privileges. The Village of Girouxville joins 37 other municipalities and one Metis Settlement – now 39 members in all.

Message to the Municipal Affairs Minister

The seven library systems sent a joint letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Danielle Larivee. The three key topics addressed in the letter were funding for headquarters buildings, operating grants/sustainability, and services to First Nations. These topics were again raised on January 13 when the Minister met with the chairs and directors from all 16 provincial library nodes. Minister Larivee is very supportive of public library service and stated her commitment to sustain current funding and look into the issues that were raised.

New eResources for 2016

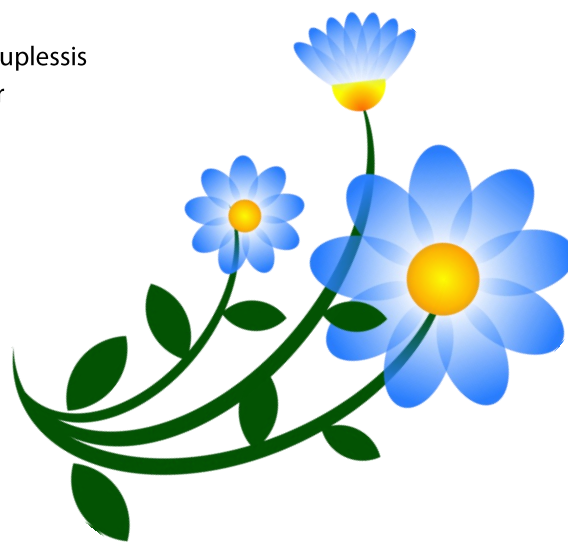
PLS's budget for eResources has increased by more than \$20,000 for 2016. This includes the cost of adding or continuing new resources such as Tumble Books Premium (K-6), Grant Connect and Library Aware. Due to the end of subsidies by the Public Library Services Branch, we are also budgeting for the TAL Core databases and for OCLC's Worldcat Discovery services (TAL Online). The PLSB will continue to fund hoopla, Mango, Press

Reader and Zinio (platform fee only). PLS will continue to offer Ancestry Library Edition, Auto Repair Reference Center, Cypress Resume, NoveList, Small Engine Repair Reference Center, and World Book Online.

Little Ones in Libraries Symposium

PLS is providing financial assistance to help two libraries (High Prairie and McLennan) send staff to Little Ones in Libraries, a special symposium hosted by the Public Library Services Branch on February 25-26 in Edmonton. We would have helped more but registration filled up very quickly and there weren't enough spots! We will be asking the libraries to report back on what they learned so it can be shared with other libraries in the region.

Linda Duplessis
Director



Submit to News & Notes!

Submissions are welcome at any time and will be in the next newsletter. **Submissions from public and school libraries welcome!**

Please send photos and articles to Emma Stewart at estewart@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca.

Please note: PLS email inboxes can only receive emails less than 10 MB in size. If you do not receive an email acknowledging that your submission was received, delivery may have been prevented due to file size. Please contact Emma Stewart.

What's trending in books

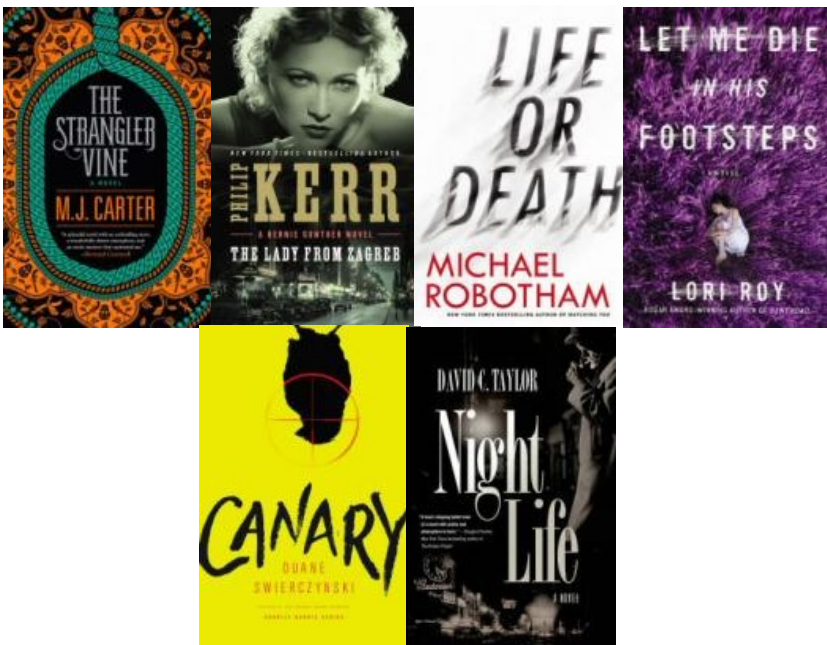
CBC CANADA READS FINALISTS 2016

This year's Canadian Battle of the Books is taking place between these 5 novels:

Birdie by Tracey Lindberg
Bone & Bread by Saleema Nawaz
Minister Without Portfolio by Michael Winter
The Hero's Walk by Anita Rau Badami
The Illegal by Lawrence Hill



EDGAR AWARD FINALISTS 2016



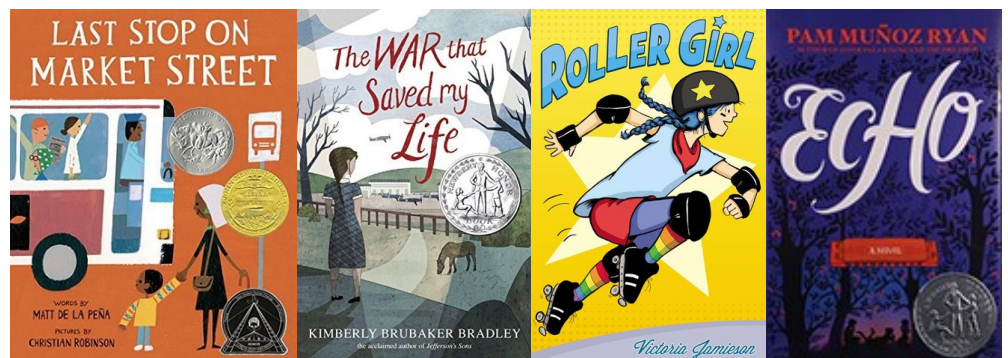
The Edgar Awards celebrate the best works of mystery and suspense fiction. This year's nominees for best novel are:

The Strangler Vine by M.J. Carter
The Lady From Zagreb by Philip Kerr
Life or Death by Michael Robotham
Let Me Die in His Footsteps by Lori Roy
Canary by Duane Swierczynski
Night Life by David C. Taylor

NEWBERY MEDAL 2016

The winner of this year's Newbery Medal is **Last Stop on Market Street**, written by Matt de la Peña and illustrated by Christian Robinson.

The Newbery Honour books for 2016 are **The War that Saved my Life**, written by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley; **Roller Girl**, written and illustrated by Victoria Jamieson; and **Echo**, written by Pam Muñoz Ryan.



>> Consulting Corner



News & Notes

News & Notes is your quarterly professional guide to news, services and connection with the staff at PLS.

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Katherine Wiebe and Emma Stewart

Here we are in March already! Momentum is building in the Consulting Department as we break new ground with our 2016-2018 Plan of Service goals, and prepare for this year's Rural Libraries Conference, TD-Summer Reading Club, and author tours.

Emma and I will be contacting you in a month or so to start setting up consulting visits to your libraries, as well. We'll catch some of you in the spring and some in the fall. It's going to be a full year, and we look forward to working with you.

LibPAS

Congratulations to the libraries for completing your LibPAS Annual Reports to the Public Library Services Branch! The deadline was February 29. That's a weight off your minds, I'm sure, and now your boards can begin submitting their 2016 Operating Grant applications to the Branch, deadline June 15. All of the forms needed are at http://www.municipalaffairs.alberta.ca/plsb_funding_and_grants. The board must be careful to insert its legal name on the application form, which is "[Name of Municipality] Library Board." Remember to provide your municipality with the one-page forms (Direct Payments) for 2015 expenses it paid directly on behalf of the library and for the 2016 expenses it intends to cover directly for the library.

New Staff

Libraries spoke loud and clear during the needs assessment stages of our 2016-2018 Plan of Service development, which demonstrated that technology/eResources training and increased IT support are on the forefront of everyone's mind. To that end we are posting for a new position of "Digital Trainer and IT Assistant" to be shared between the IT and Consulting departments. We hope to find just the right fit and have someone in place for April. Some aspects that the new person may help with on the Consulting Department side of things include eResources training/troubleshooting, device training webinars, updating documents and creating tutorials for devices and platforms, and helping libraries deliver tech programming to patrons.

In-House Collection

We have completed a review of the purpose, usage, and content of our in-house Collection, which many of you have seen when on tour of PLS headquarters. We inherited the University of Alberta Extension collection in 1985. Its last thorough weeding took place in 2005, and we have earmarked 2016 for the next extensive weeding of the collection.



TD Summer Reading Club

The TD Summer Reading Club – **Wild!** is well under way with both the promotional materials and prizes orders already submitted. Thirty libraries are participating in the TD Summer Reading Club this year, and seven libraries are running independent programs.



Looking Ahead

Other goals we will be working on for 2016 include creating an orientation package of basic information for new library managers, providing Human Resources training, compiling an online index to link programming ideas and resources, and creating an Introduction to eResources package to be used by libraries for promotional events.

Have a great year!

Katherine Wiebe and Emma Stewart
Consulting Services Department

>> Rural Libraries Conference

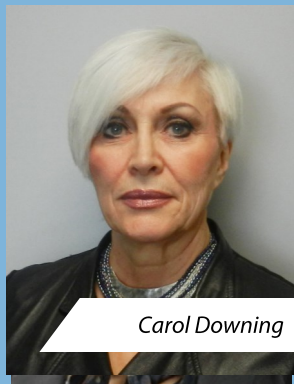
Though it feels like 2016 has only just begun, planning is already well underway for this year's Rural Libraries Conference. The theme for this year's conference will be "Leading from the Library" and our two keynote speakers are already confirmed: Kathy Archer and Megan Hartline. They will be talking about leadership themes and discussing how libraries and library staff can take on leadership roles in their communities.

The conference website has been updated to reflect the new theme; check it out at www.rurallibrariesconference.com. Check out the logo for this year's conference below!



We look forward to seeing you all at the 2016 Rural Libraries Conference on September 22 and 23 at the Pomeroy Hotel & Conference Centre! Stay tuned for registration later this year.

>> Tech Services Tidbits



Carol Downing

The Acquisitions Department is happy to report that year end roll-over procedures in Polaris balanced the encumbered funds and Peace Library System has recovered from the "purged Purchase Order" dilemma of 2015. The first financial statements of 2016 will be sent out at the end of February. Ordering and Cataloguing is proceeding as normal.

French material from the French Language Resource Centre is arriving steadily and going on the shelves in Grande Prairie Public Library.

Cliff and Wendy have been busy reorganizing the Courier area to make their workflow more efficient.

The relatively nice winter is putting us all in the mood for an early spring.

Carol Downing
Assistant Director and Technical Services Manager

>> The Good, the Bad and the Technology



Fred Richard

Well, it has been a busy 4+ months, to say the least, and there always seems to be a phone call. The HelpDesk tickets definitely help me keep track of things but I always like taking a few minutes to grab a call if I can't be onsite. You can get a better understanding of a problem sometimes just by hearing a voice explain it rather than reading about it and visual is always the best.

There were a lot of changes prior to my arrival and looks like 2016 is going to be another year of changes. A few key things myself and Janet will be working on are:

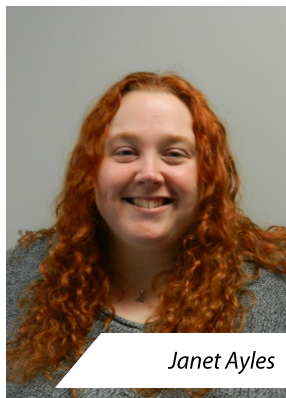
- stabilizing things so that it all stays running smoothly; no server or web site crashes
- working with Janet to come up with an email alternative (myself, like many of you would like to keep it as close to what we are currently using... which is a possibility)
- looking into backup so that nothing gets lost and all stays intact
- increasing bandwidth so that everyone has faster internet connections
- getting new computers & printers set up for various libraries with new budgets for the year

The email is a big one and we want to try and make the transition as smooth as possible for everyone. If there is a different choice we go with we are always here to offer advice, provide some training and walk you through how things work. If we remain using a Microsoft product then things will look very similar. Either way whatever mail system we go with all your contacts, emails, etc. will be moved over without having to set things back up.

I have spoken to several libraries in my short time here so far and have already been onsite to 10+ libraries and am hoping to visit many more when the weather is nicer. I enjoy working with all of you and always try to ensure I resolve your problems or at least explain to you what the issue may be and research, research, research! I am always just a help desk ticket or phone call away.

Fred Richard
Desktop & Network Administrator

>> From the IT Desk



Purging Inactive Patrons

It's just about time to purge some inactive patrons. What does that mean? Well, it means that any patron who has been expired for more than two years (so prior to December 31, 2013) with \$10.00 or less in charges on their account will be deleted from Polaris. Why? The short answer is to keep the database clean. Without annually cleaning things up, the number of expired accounts would just keep growing. When is this happening? Keep an eye on your email as I'll be sending out lists of expired patrons by the end of February. The actual purging of accounts will happen on March 11, 2016.

Polaris Leap

It's time to step out from behind your circulation desk! Leap allows you to take circulation anywhere (as long as you've got an internet connection). Leap gives you the same circulation functions (check in, check out, patron registration and renewal) that you have in your library. You can access Leap on the PLS website (look for the orange bar under Quick Links) or at <https://leap.tracpac.ab.ca>.



New IT Staff

It's true; we'll be looking to add new staff to the IT Department. No, we haven't lost Fred. Instead we're creating a new position. The new position will be for a Digital Trainer and IT Assistant,

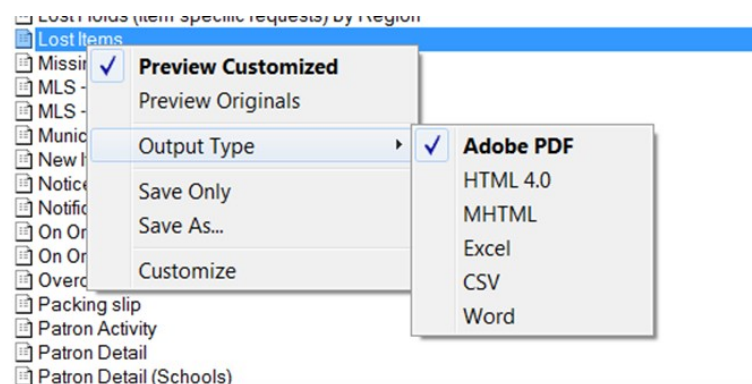
shared between IT and Consulting. In addition to Consulting duties, the new staff member will be able to help out with some troubleshooting. No, this doesn't mean that Fred and I won't be answering calls any more. This new position means that there will be another person available to answer your questions.

HelpDesk

As always, if you have any questions or non-emergency concerns please submit them to helpdesk@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca. However, for emergencies (see the enclosed definition), please call! Emergencies, also known as critical functions, are problems logging in to Polaris, checking items in or out, patron registration, or searching in TRACpac.

Polaris Reports and Notices

Normally when you run a report in Polaris, a PDF is created with the results. Did you know that your report output doesn't have to be a PDF? Reports can be returned in other formats including Excel, Word, CSV (a generic spreadsheet format), or even HTML. It's easy to make the change. Just right click on the report name, click Output Type, and then choose your format. Once you set the new Output Type, it stays until you change it again.



TRACpac and Expired Patrons

Although it makes sense that once a patron expires, everything is blocked (placing holds, logging into TRACpac, all of that), that's not how it works. Even if a patron has expired, or has over \$10.00 in fines or fees on their account, they are still able to log into TRACpac and place holds. Of course, when those items arrive at the library, your patron will have to either renew or pay their fees. However, a patron who is either expired or has excessive fees does not get access to everything. They are not able to use the wifi or access eResources. Those patrons are missing out on all that awesome stuff that's available from Hoopla and OverDrive.

Janet Ayles
IT Services Manager

>> From Grande Prairie Public Library

by Bailey Kuchka, Teen Services, Grande Prairie Public Library

Anyone who has worked with teens knows that getting them to come to library programs can be quite a struggle. It can be extremely difficult to find program ideas that are interesting enough to draw teenagers in, while still remaining within our programming budgets. One thing that I have found to be quite successful in bringing teens in is running after-hours programs. After-hours programs are easy to run, they generally do not require a lot of planning, and the teens absolutely love them. At the Grande Prairie Public Library, we try to run an after-hours teen program every second month.

Teens really enjoy after-hours programs because it gives them the run of the library after closing. These programs always run 6 pm to 9 pm on Fridays at the Grande Prairie Public Library, as our library closes at 6. This gives the teens roughly three hours to run around and scream and shout as much as they want, in an area that is typically known for being quiet. Generally, the Grande Prairie Public Library runs two types of after-hours programs: Nerf Wars, and Lock-Ins.



The first and most successful regularly run after-hours program is our Nerf Warfare program. This is exactly what it sounds like – a bunch of teenagers running around the library while shooting each other with Nerf guns. It is amazing, and very fun to watch. Nerf wars are very easy to do, and they pretty much run themselves. I have had teens at a Nerf war sit and make up their own games on the spot, and teach them to the group. Basically, the staff member's role is just to settle any cheating disputes, and to make sure that no one falls down the stairs. Nerf wars are a

pre-registered program, and always fill up. Before setting a maximum of 30 participants per program, I had anywhere from 40 to 60 teens showing up. I have even had teens coming in from as far as two hours away just to attend. To top things off, the best part of the Nerf Warfare programs is that it appeals to that tricky teen boy demographic that is so hard to draw in!

The other types of after-hours program that I offer are Lock-Ins. In my experience, Lock-Ins generally appeal more to teen girls, but are just as much fun as Nerf wars. I run Lock-Ins less frequently than Nerf wars, and tend to center them around holidays. The last Lock-In I ran was Halloween themed, and teens came dressed in their scariest costumes.

For Lock-Ins, I always try to plan one big activity to start out with, and this usually ends up being a library-wide scavenger hunt. This gets the teens running around and getting to know the library space. Scavenger hunts are always really popular, and can become very competitive. The teens are pretty vocal about what they want to do during Lock-Ins. I usually have 2-3 activities planned just to give them options, and then let them decide what they want to do. Teens love this because it gives them a say, and I usually end up learning something from them. At our Halloween Lock-In, for instance, the teens taught me the game Sardines. It is like reverse hide and seek, where one person goes and hides and everyone else has to find them. When you find the person hiding, you have to hide with them, and the last person to find the group loses. It is an incredibly fun game, and it's how I ended up finding five teenagers crammed together under the Children's Reference Desk.



Recently I ran a new after-hours program, that was different than anything I had run before. On February 12, the Grande Prairie Public Library had its very first Zombie Prom. This after-hours

program was set up like a regular Lock-In, mixed with a dance, and it was incredibly successful. Aside from the Nerf wars, Zombie Prom saw more teens registered than any other after-hours program previously run. Teens came dressed in their prom bests, and had an absolute blast. There was a prom photo wall, a dance floor, and even voting for Zombae Queen. Staff built up the excitement for this program by staging a 'get ready with me' zombie photo shoot, from which we released a picture a day on our social media pages, leading up to the event.

All after-hours programs require registration. I set the permission slip deadline a few days before the program, so I know how many people to plan for. These programs are very easy on the budget, and the only things I have to buy for them are drinks and snacks for however many teens are signed up, and occasionally prizes for Lock-Ins. Generally 1-2 staff members are required to run after-hours programs, depending on how many registrants there are. It could be argued that the one downside to after-hours programs is having to work late, but I personally don't mind working the occasional night if I can offer teens a program that they will really get excited about.



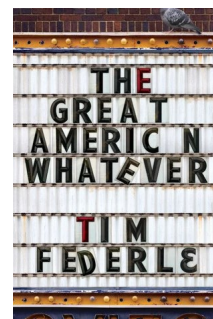
>> Hot Spring YA Fiction



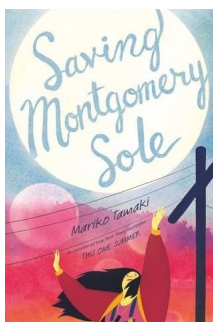
Lady Midnight (The Dark Artifices #1)
by Cassandra Clare
Releases March 8



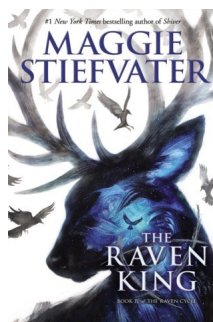
The Winner's Kiss (The Winner's Trilogy #3) by Marie Rutkoski
Releases March 29



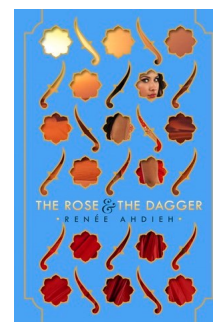
The Great American Whatever
by Tim Federle
Releases March 29



Saving Montgomery Sole
by Mariko Tamaki
Releases April 19



The Raven King (The Raven Cycle, #4)
by Maggie Stiefvater
Releases April 26



The Rose and the Dagger (The Wrath and the Dawn #2) by Renee Ahdieh
Releases May 3

Around the System...

Here's what's been going on around Peace Library System this winter! Remember, you can send your own photos and articles at any time to estewart@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca and they will be included in the next newsletter. We'd love to hear from you!

McLennan Municipal Library

The Tuesday morning craft club made used book angels. On another day, the ladies also made hearts from used hardcover books.

Many moms and babies stopped by McLennan Library to celebrate Family Literacy Day on January 27, 2016. We partnered with Prairie Parent Link for an afternoon of reading, literacy centres, snacks, and visiting.

A huge THANK YOU to patrons Chris and Jen Futter for volunteering to make our new table - oh, the things you can fashion from old encyclopedias! Especially note the wooden table top and bottom: the wood slices came from a tree which grew in the yard of Mrs. Mariette Limoges. Mrs. Limoges was the face of McLennan Library for over 40 years, all of them as a volunteer. We owe her a huge debt of gratitude for her decades of volunteer service to the library and to PLS.

—Maureen Fisher, McLennan Municipal Library





Peace River Municipal Library

Our 5th Annual Trim the Tree Event was held Dec. 5, 2015. Kids were invited to listen to a story, make ornaments to decorate the tree in the Children's Area, and then head downstairs for a movie and a snack. It was a full afternoon. Even Leif, our Elf on the Library Shelf, joined in the fun. On Dec. 19th, Santa came to take Leif back to the North Pole so we had a Pancake Breakfast to see him off.

—Submitted by Beverly Shewchuk, Peace River Municipal Library



High Prairie Municipal Library

High Prairie held our Blind Date With a Book again this year. Everyone had so much fun. A dinner for two was the prize given in a draw for the participants. We also had a children's craft in which they enjoyed making candy bouquets.

—Submitted by Tracy Roberts, High Prairie Municipal Library



More from around the *System*...

Fox Creek Municipal Library

We have been having a blast at our "Blast From the Past" here in Fox Creek. Picture this: you enter the library to the tunes of Johnny Horton or the Beatles playing on the record player, past the Reliance treadle sewing machine from the early 1900s and the Hopscotch layout. From there the choices are varied, LiteBrite, manual and electric typewriters, an older adding machine, a rotary dial telephone, Spirograph, hoola hoop rug making, yoyos, spool knitting, plastic lacing (zipper pulls), potholder looms, jacks, pickup sticks, spinning top, kaleidoscopes, jack-in-the-box, Etch-a-Sketch, View Master, Chinese Checkers, Cat's Cradle, Slinkies and juggling balls etc. You get the picture. And speaking of pictures, we have also dredged up several photo albums and scrap books of past school and town events.

During February, we have invited the public and our classes into the library for a glance back and have photographed as many as we can and made customized buttons with their photo on it doing something from the past. During classes it is a whirlwind in the library as our students are so excited about everything. Many teachers have booked a second and third visit.

—Submitted by Leslie Ann Sharkey, Fox Creek Municipal Library



Dixonville Community Library

Dixonville Community Library has been busy! Our photos with Santa in December were fantastic once again. Adults and children alike were able to share their Christmas list with Santa, have a photo taken, and do an edible Christmas craft. We had a Stuffed Animal Sleepover, which was a lot of fun. Children brought their stuffed animals to the library for stories, crafts, games, and snacks, then left them to spend the night at the library. The next day when they picked them up, they received photos of all the adventures their stuffed animal had at their sleepover. We had a full library for our Fancy Nancy Tea Party. All our little ladies and gentlemen participated in stories, games, a photo booth, and some fun with tea party etiquette. Then they sat down for tea time, with real china cups! Sharon Doucet from Berywn 50th Ave Workshop came out again for two more Glass Fusion workshops, one for glass plates, and another for glass panels for bird feeders. They are very popular with our patrons. We are celebrating Love Your Library Month throughout February with a chance to win dinner and a movie each time you use your library card! Our upcoming events include a Dinosaur Day, with dinosaur themed activities; a Mad Scientist Day, with different science experiments set up for patrons to try, and Easter activities.

—Submitted by Cayley Russell, Dixonville Community Library



>> 2015 eResource Checkouts

Overdrive

Total checkouts: 58,601

(GPPL 28,494)

eBooks:: 46,255

eAudiobooks:12,346



Hoopla!

Total checkouts: 6,506

eAudiobooks: 2127

eBooks: 437

Comics: 212

Movies: 1881

Music: 1467

TV episodes: 382

Zinio eMagazines

Total checkouts: 7,232

(GPPL 3575)



3M Cloud Library

Total checkouts: 5,246

(GPPL 1833)

TumbleBooks

Total checkouts: 984

***New since November 2015!**



>> Spotlight on: Grant Connect



In this issue we are highlighting one of our newest eResources for patrons and library staff: Grant Connect!

Hunting down additional source of funds for library projects and programs can be hard work. That's why we wanted to find a funder database that takes the guesswork and legwork out of the process for you. To get a sense of the volume of funders that Grant Connect has information on, there are 10,000 Canadian foundations, 550 corporate giving programs, more than 175 government grantors, and 120 American foundations that make grants to Canadian organizations that can be found in Grant Connect's database.

For each funder or grant program, Grant Connect has a profile which provides information on its financial and giving history, detailed guidelines for applying, biographies for the people who make the decisions about funding, and much more. These details are constantly updated by Grant Connect's research team to make sure you aren't relying on outdated information.



The sheer volume of information available might be overwhelming. However, Grant Connect has a great system of searching and filtering that lets you narrow all those funders down to the ones that are the perfect fit for your needs. Here are some functions that Grant Connect provides which will help you in your search for funding:

- Quick Look-up: Search by name or charitable business number to find a specific funder you already know about and view their profile, giving history and application information.
- Funder Search: Figure out which funders are most likely to support your project by filtering according to what causes they support, where they are located, and what kind of support they offer.
- Gift Explorer: Check out who has awarded grants to organisations like yours and who has received funding similar to what you're looking for.
- People Seeker: Leverage your connections and community knowledge and look for a particular individual associated with a funder like a board member or a staff person.

To access Grant Connect today, visit <http://www.peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca/e-Resources#Grants>. Remember, this particular eResource is for in-library use only; you won't be able to access it remotely from your home computer. If you or your patrons have any questions about using Grant Connect, contact Katherine or Emma.



CLA Update

As many of you have already heard, in January 27, 2016, at a special meeting of their Executive Committee, the Canadian Library Association voted to dissolve the existing association. How did this come about, and what will the future of the CLA look like?



The CLA was originally formed in 1946 as a national voice for libraries. Over the past decades, the CLA has done excellent and hugely important work in advocating for

Canadian libraries and library workers at a national level as well as internationally. Some of the topics they have advocated for over the years include copyright, intellectual freedom, net neutrality, and accessibility and equity of information.

However, the CLA has long been aware that its relevance and the strength of its voice has been diminishing and fragmenting due to declining membership. They were also concerned that they were duplicating the efforts of other regional and national associations. Therefore, in 2015, they opened up the public conversation on the future of the CLA and began meeting with and talking to stakeholders to discuss how to achieve their goal.

What has been proposed to replace the CLA as a united national voice for libraries in Canada is a federation of the already-existing organisations and library associations. The Future Federation Working Group, which is made up of representatives from provincial, territorial and national associations, is working on developing this idea. In October 2015, this group released their proposal for the future federation in a report called *Toward a Federation of Library Associations in Canada: Strengthening the National Voice for Canadian libraries*.

Whatever happens moving forward, we will continue to have a strong voice advocating for libraries in Canada, which is good news. For more details on what the new collaborative federation might look like, visit the CLA's website at cla.ca.

Peace Library System's events calendar

peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca/calendar

PLS Board Meeting

PLS Headquarters
March 19, 2016, 10:30 am

Library Managers' Council Meeting

PLS Headquarters
April 11, 2016; 10:30 am

PLS Executive Committee Meeting

Location TBA
April 16, 2016, 10:30 am

Alberta Library Conference

Jasper Park Lodge
April 28-May 1, 2016

MD of Greenview Advisory Committee Meeting

Grande Prairie Public Library
May 5, 2016, 6:30 pm

Public Library Meeting

PLS Headquarters
May 9, 2016, 10:00 am

PLS AGM and Board Meeting

PLS Headquarters
May 14, 2016, 10:30 am

County of Northern Lights Advisory Committee Meeting

Peace River Municipal Library
May 16, 2016, 11:00 am