



NEWS & Notes

PEACE LIBRARY SYSTEM'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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WINTER 2020

Season's Greetings

From Your PLS Headquarters Staff!

>> From the CEO



Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, Joyeux Noel, Happy Hannukah, Blessed Yule, Happy Diwali, and a Fröliche Krampusnacht! There's so much to celebrate through the darkest and coldest time of the year.

To start with, let's celebrate a successful experimental conference. Peace Library System along with Yellowhead, Parkland, and The Alberta Library

turned on a dime earlier this year and managed to come together to create the Stronger Together conference as a substitute for the in-person regional conferences that usually happen. (Thanks, COVID!) The committee took a stressful, uncertain situation and made it come together flawlessly in a very short amount of time.

Look for more such collaborations in the future, especially as congregating together is still not recommended. At a time when we can't be social and network, this is the way to keep up professional contacts and have discussions with others having the same problems we are.

COVID restrictions mean that a lot of other regular things aren't happening either, as I'm sure you're aware. But we are still getting things done while keeping safe distances and maintaining cleaning protocols. Please don't hesitate to call for consulting help; they may not be able to come to you physically but the online chats are a great way to brainstorm and problem-solve from a distance.

PLS's next Plan of Service is currently in the planning stages. Again, due to COVID restrictions, we won't be able to hold in person surveys or round-tables to discuss it with our member libraries so we will have to do all our consultations online this year. Please keep an eye out for our surveys coming early next year and please do fill them out so we can get our Plan of Service written. Remember, we're here for you, so even if we can't chat in person we still want to hear your opinions, comments and needs.

The Indigenous Grant continues to be of great benefit to libraries in their engagement with the Indigenous communities. This year it has helped fund a few different oral history projects, Indigenous outreach workers to actively collaborate in the communities, and various racism awareness sessions including ones by Inclusify and by Eleven Eleven Consulting.

Speaking of which, Eleven Eleven training will be offered in January in small group sessions, fourteen in total, across the TRAC libraries. Teneya Gwin will be presenting the sessions online. She was the Indigenous design lead for the Calgary Public Library and a presenter at the Edmonton Heritage Council symposium. Teneya is an engaging, pull-no-punches speaker and I'm very much looking forward to her sessions.

Since the last newsletter we have acquired some new staff. We have a new driver, Darla Dawn Lukac, whom I'm sure many of you have already met. Inside the building we have Linnea Fletcher, who has taken over from Wendy in the shipping/receiving area, and most recently, since Karen moved to Red Deer, Ken Sawdon, who is our new Cataloguing and Acquisitions Supervisor. Ken comes to us from stints at the Fort St. James library in BC and most recently at the Hinton Municipal Library, a TRAC library in the Yellowhead system. Welcome, all!

This year marked some notable staff anniversaries, and this month has some extremes. Alrene, our intrepid executive assistant and all around "ask Alrene, she knows everything" person, has been with PLS for 30 years, and Ryan, Desktop and Network Administrator, is celebrating his one-year anniversary. Katherine, Deputy CEO and Consulting Services Manager celebrated her 15th anniversary in August, and in January, Tora in our cataloguing department will be celebrating her 17th. So between the people who have spent their time here and the people who are new to the system (...hi!) we have an excellent mix of institutional knowledge and new ideas to bring us into the new year with a strong plan of service and a "we can do this, we've done it before" attitude to address whatever the new year brings.

So celebrate (safely), enjoy the weather, and I hope everyone has a lovely seasonally appropriate holiday of your choice.

Louisa Robison
CEO



What's trending in books

2020 GILLER PRIZE



These Canadian novels made the 2020 Scotiabank Giller Prize shortlist & contended for the \$100,000 prize:

Ridgerunner by Gil Adamson
Here the Dark by David Bergen
Polar Vortex by Shani Mootoo
The Glass Hotel by Emily St. John Mandel
How to Pronounce Knife by Souvankham Thammavongsa*

*Winner

The Booker Prize awards £50,000 to the best novel published in the UK. This year's shortlist featured:

Shuggie Bain by Douglas Stuart *
Burnt Sugar by Avni Doshi
Real Life by Brandon Taylor
The New Wilderness by Diane Cook
This Mournable Body by Tsitsi Dangarembga
The Shadow King by Maaaza Mengiste

*Winner

2020 BOOKER PRIZE



2020 HILARY WESTON WRITERS' TRUST PRIZE



The Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize awards \$60,000 for the best title in Canadian nonfiction. This year's finalists were:

Through the Garden by Lorna Crozier
Reaching Mithymna by Steven Heighton
Two Trees Make a Forest by Jessica J. Lee *
Shame on Me by Tessa McWatt
The Way Home by David A. Neel

*Winner

>> 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

Emma and Katherine are enjoying catching up with library managers in November and December through our one-to-one virtual consulting visits. If you would like to schedule a virtual visit please let us know.

Our group Coffee Chats with the libraries and PLS staff have been going well throughout 2020. We wound up our last two for the year on November 23 and 25.

We are delighted to celebrate Emma's achievement of five years completed with Peace Library System! We appreciate her dedication, inspiration, and professional contributions – she has enhanced our services and team. As Consultant Librarian, Emma is responsible for the annual conference, the quarterly newsletter, consulting with 23 libraries, websites, communications, and is a highly motivated independent and team player, not to mention a real pleasure to work with. Congratulations Emma!

The Consulting Department has been busy accomplishing our 2020 Plan of Service strategies, including creating tools to assist new library managers and board trustees. We have created a Glossary of Library Terms and Acronyms and a calendar of Dates to Remember. We have also completed and sent out a template to help create a job posting to recruit for a library manager. The template includes sample phrases to pick and choose from for each section of a job posting, including a General Summary of the position, Responsibilities, Description of Working Conditions, Qualifications and Application procedures. All of these documents are on our website's Training Toolkit at [Library Operations and Planning](#). A big thanks to Barb for compiling all the data sent her way!

We have also updated our Orientation Booklet for new library managers and as before, there is a very good checklist in Appendix 1 on page 12 to help with first priorities including What do I

have on hand that may help me? What relationships are new to me and how might they help me learn the job? What are the practical things I need to know now? The Orientation Booklet is found at [Information for New Library Managers](#).

Due to COVID-19, in-person traditional summer reading clubs were a challenge for libraries this summer and several found unique workarounds to provide service to the children in their communities. Some libraries offered curbside activities that were handed out in bags/kits for parents to pick up and children were given prizes when they brought in their reading logs; several libraries attempted virtual summer reading programs with varying degrees of success, depending on staff comfort with delivering online programs, patrons' home internet availability, and children's level of fatigue with online delivery. The TD-Summer Reading Club provided an enhanced Kids website to access, and the seven Alberta library systems augmented the TD offerings with an inaugural AB-Summer Reading Club, including video clips of celebrity guests reading to children and many programming craft instructions created by our libraries for families to try at home.

It is difficult to provide coordinated standardized statistics to measure this summer's outcomes. However, In-Library and In-Community attendance totaled 143 participants. Online programming included 165 virtual programs offered with 343 live online attendances and 5,328 online views of recorded programs. Way to go!

Just a reminder to Library Managers to gather your Typical Week sampling of user statistics in preparation for your 2020 LibPAS Annual Report. For new library managers, do not panic! I will be contacting you in January to set up some one-to-one virtual training regarding what LibPAS is, and how to access and complete it.

Best wishes from the Consulting Department for a safe and cozy winter.

Katherine Wiebe
Consulting Services Manager and Deputy CEO

>> A Deep Dive on Passwords



This article has been inspired by not one, but two separate people in my close family circle that have seen major ripple effects due to weak and reused passwords in the past six months. I hope that by highlighting the damage caused and the hoops each person had to jump through that it will help to motivate you to take control of your digital life so this doesn't happen to you.

Family member A's nightmare:

- Primary email account control lost. Spent almost half a day with the service provider to recover control.
- Their 10+ most important online accounts had login information changed, which required another full day to recover (these included PC Optimum, a secondary email account, and their telecom/Internet service provider accounts, among others). Luckily, no money or points were lost from any of these accounts.
- Forced to cancel their primary credit card, place a monitor on their credit reports going forward, and pay the monitoring fee themselves.
- Compiled a list of all online accounts and proactively changed the passwords for all uncompromised sites.

Family member B's nightmare:

- Multiple credit cards were comprised with foreign purchases from three separate international countries.
- Similar to family member A's disaster, they were also forced to close these cards and place a monitor on their credit report (once again paying out of pocket).
- Due to the number of automated bills on these cards, they had to update all payment info with at least a dozen services, some of which only do changes through secure phone lines (it's 2020 people, come on!).
- Also compiled a list of all online accounts and proactively changed the passwords for all uncompromised sites.

Each person easily lost two full days (if not more) cleaning up the mess in front of them. The exact cause of how these both started was never verified, but was likely due to reused and weak passwords (something I know both parties were guilty of). Large data breaches within governments and large corporations are nearly a weekly occurrence these days. This information is then used by hackers to log into other valuable sites, in particular email accounts, and once you lose control of your primary email account, the flood gates open.

With our increasing reliance on technology in our day to day lives, passwords are an unescapable reality. This doesn't mean that you can't do a number of things to protect yourself online (all of which I've gotten my family members to implement going forward):

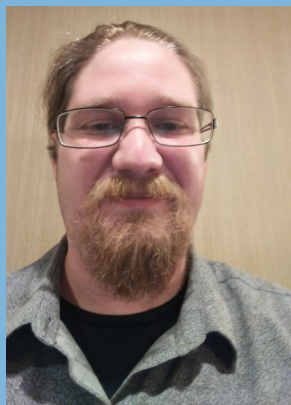
Use a password management system to ensure you are using unique and complex passwords across all online sites. I myself use LastPass, but there are a number of really good, free services available. This requires memorizing only a single very strong password and has actually made my life much easier.

Use two-factor authentication wherever possible. Yes, it can be annoying to get text codes/emails, but an extra few seconds here or there is much easier to deal with than days of lost time making calls and recovering accounts.

Just by implementing these two actions, you can exponentially cut down on your risk of compromised passwords and data loss. Hopefully this has opened your eyes to the dangers of weak and reused passwords and I encourage you to take the time to get your online affairs in order. Here's to hoping that you never have to deal with a situation like this.

>> Tech Services Tidbits

There are some more new faces at PLS these days! Linnea Fletcher started as our new Shipper/Courier on September 21st. Darla Dawn joined us on September 28th as our new Shipper/Courier/Driver. Ken Sawdon started on November 8th as our new Cataloguing and Acquisitions Supervisor.



So much has changed in the world of packaging and delivery in 2020, it can be hard to keep up. However, there are some key guidelines to remember:

- No tape on the items
- Do not bundle items with elastics
- Mark your ILL items with an in-transit slip or one of the designated flags
- Media gets packed at the top of the bin
- Do not fill the bin higher than the sticker indicates

These guidelines are in place to protect your items and help move them around TRAC more efficiently. Information on packing and shipping can be found on the PLS website at <https://peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca/Training-Toolkit/Interlibrary-Loan/Shipping-and-Packaging>

Orders and vouchers must be received at PLS no later than November 30th at 4pm to be processed in 2020. Any orders and vouchers received after this date will be processed when we reopen in January 2021.

Janet Ayles
IT and Technical Services Manager

>> Stronger Together 2020



Stronger Together, a joint virtual conference organized by Parkland Regional Library System, The Alberta Library, Peace Library System, and Yellowhead Regional Library, took

place on October 1st and 2nd, 2020. For the hosts, it was the first time we have collaborated on a conference as well as the first time any of us have pulled off a virtual conference, so the event truly exemplified the theme of Stronger Together and demonstrated the impact that libraries can have when they work together to serve their communities.

The two-day event featured twenty-four presentations, four key-note speakers and two vendor panels. It was hosted on a conference platform called HeySummit! with Zoom integration to allow for live streaming of presentations and presentation videos. Key-note sessions were held live, while the concurrent sessions featured a pre-recorded presentation and a live Q&A with the presenters.

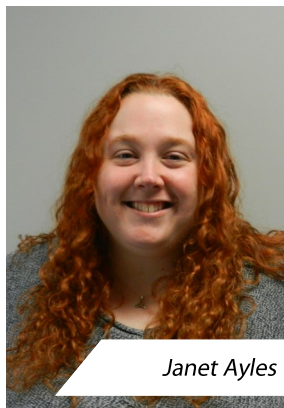
The Stronger Together conference had 1155 registrations, with well over a hundred signing up from the Peace region. We saw lots of library staff attend from throughout Alberta, but we also had registrations from all over Canada, and even a handful from the

United States, Europe, and Africa. The reach of the conference far exceeded the expectations of the planning committee, and it was a great opportunity for the library profession to come together in a time when so many of us are feeling isolated and missing our regular community connections.

Many attendees commented on how much they appreciated the effort of coordinating a high-quality event like this during the uncertainties of COVID-19. The fact that there was no registration fee attached to attending the conference was also much appreciated—opportunities for meaningful professional development at no cost are rare, and this allowed the conference to be truly accessible for library staff throughout the region and beyond. While the videoconferencing technology may have been new to many of our attendees and presenters, everyone's willingness to innovate and try new things speaks well for the future of our profession!

Replays of the conference sessions will be available for a year after the conference for attendees who might not have been able to watch everything live. To view the replays, visit strongertogether.heysummit.com and find the "Replays" section in the website header.

>> From the IT Desk



Janet Ayles

Christmas Hour Changes

It's November and snow is falling. With about a month to go until Christmas, you have likely started thinking about possibly closing or changing up your library hours over the holidays. Once you have decided if you are making any changes, please email helpdesk@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca with the information.

Polaris Holds

There have been lots of weird things happening with holds in Polaris lately. We asked a lot of Polaris as we were trying to keep up with the constant changes to accommodate the closures and reopenings of our libraries. However, it can only do so much before it starts to freak out a bit.



The best way to keep on top of the broken holds is to run the Lost Holds reports. There are two reports which will identify holds that should be on your Request Manager but are not. These reports are both located in Polaris > Utilities > Reports and Notices > Custom folder:

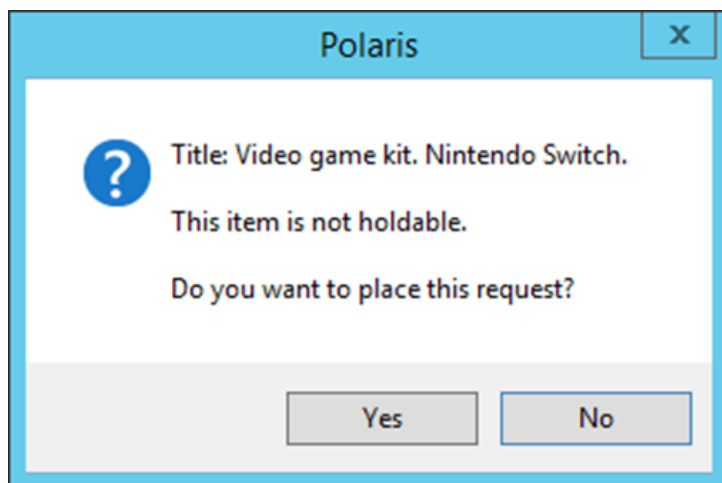
- Lost holds (Bib-level – 1 item) by Item assigned branch
- Lost holds (Item-specific requests) by library

If you are curious about any holds for your patrons that may be lost in the ether, you can run the Lost holds (Bib-level – 1 item) by Patron Branch.

Now, interestingly enough, there are a number of reasons why holds might be lost. If Polaris cannot fill a hold for whatever reason (there are no items available because they've been declared lost or missing, a hold has been denied, it is not holdable or is non-circulating, etc), the hold becomes lost.

The nice thing about Polaris is that if you try to place a hold on a title that can't be filled (On Order titles are an exception), it will tell

you. It doesn't tell you why, but it tells you that the hold can't be filled.



When you see a pop up like this, it's a good idea to take a moment. If you override this error, that hold will never be filled and in the end, your patron will be frustrated.

New Pecans

After twenty years, it's time to say goodbye to the original Pecans listserv. Yahoo has been phasing out features of its Groups platform over the last year. The final remaining features, the listserv and website, will be shut down on December 15, 2020.

I know, it does feel like the end of an era. Yahoo Groups was a great option for a lot of years. However, in the last few years, it has been a bit problematic and didn't handle file or photo attachments very well. So it's time to move on to a newer and better product.

We are now using Groups.io to host our new Pecans listserv. Invitations have gone out, so please check your email (possibly your Clutter or Junk folders as well) for your invite. If you can't find your invite, please let me know.



Janet Ayles
IT and Technical Services Manager

>> From Grande Prairie Public Library

My Evolving Weeding Efforts

by Jacob Fehr, Head of Children's & Teen Services, Grande Prairie Public Library

I'm weeding the GPPL children's collections again, and I've been thinking about how much my approach to weeding has changed. When I started in this position in 2016, I followed the weeding instructions my predecessor outlined: use SimplyReports to list items in a collection that have not been used in two years for fiction, or three years for non-fiction, and pull them.

These days I use an extensive spreadsheet that merely uses the item list from SimplyReports as a starting point. There's one reason for my decision: SimplyReports is lousy for producing useful weeding lists due to its limitations.

Among other issues, SimplyReports...

- Doesn't give you useful averages for collections.
- Applies filters on an AND basis. If you use multiple date and circulation filters, it will leave you with a tiny list of extremely poorly used materials.
- Requires you to guess and test when setting weeding criteria, meaning that you have to run and re-run reports multiple times before producing a weeding list of a desired size.

As a result, I do most of my work in Excel. First, I create a basic item list report in SimplyReports that includes all the data I need to make weeding decisions, but does not use any filters:

Item Data	
Mandatory	Optional
Shelf location	MARC Author
Call number	MARC Pub year
MARC Title	
Barcode	

Usage Data	
Mandatory	Optional
First available date	Lifetime in-house count
Last circ activity date	Prev year in-house
Lifetime circ count	
Prev year circ count	

Once I've created the report, I open the resulting spreadsheet in Excel and start manipulating the data.

I add a section to the spreadsheet for producing useful versions of the existing data. I add the circulation and in-house figures to create a total use column, calculate the item's library age (based on its first available date), and calculate its average yearly use.

I also include error-checking in my formulas to account for missing information and edge cases. For example, my average yearly use calculation divides the item's lifetime usage by its age, except in cases where its age is less than a year. In those cases, the formula returns the lifetime usage instead (to avoid skewed usage figures for newer items).

Next, I create a set of weeding thresholds off to the side, calculate collection averages for each, and then set my own value for each threshold:

- First available prior to
- Last used prior to
- Average use less than
- Previous year use less than
- Publication date prior to [for non-fiction only]

Then, I create a series of columns to answer whether I should consider weeding an item based on each of those criteria.

So, in my weeding spreadsheets, I have columns labelled “Weed First Available?” “Weed Last Use?” “Weed Average Use?” “Weed Previous Year Use?” and “Weed Publication Date?” (again, for non-fiction only). I use a formula that compares the value for that item to the threshold value, and produces a number 1 for yes, and 0 for no.

Finally, I create one more column, usually titled “WEED?” that combines the different weeding criteria according to my own formula. I mostly use this formula:

=if(WeedFirstAvailable*(WeedLastUse+WeedAvgUse+WeedPrevUse)>=1,1,0)

This formula makes it so that items are only flagged if they have been available prior to the date I set AND they meet at least one of my other weeding criteria, as follows:

Was it first available prior to the threshold date?	Was it last used prior to the threshold date?	Has it been used less annually than the threshold?	Was it used less last year than the threshold?	Should I consider weeding it?
Yes	No	No	No	No
Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
No	Doesn't matter	Doesn't matter	Doesn't matter	No

The end result is that I’m guaranteed I won’t pull new-ish items that haven’t established themselves quite yet, but that I will pull things that haven’t circulated in a while OR are used less on average OR circulated poorly the previous year.

To me, this method of setting criteria for weeding seems to adequately reflect the actual use of GPPL’s children’s collections, and it prevents many of the problems associated with other approaches (notably requiring too much professional staff time and single timely circulations preventing an item from being weeded).

My approach is not perfect. It involves spreadsheet work (which I don’t mind, but your mileage may vary), and making a template to paste reports into can be tedious.

Finally, there’s always a degree of professional judgement involved at the end, regardless of what the pull list says. However, when I look at the freshly-weeded shelves, I’m confident that there isn’t much deadwood left behind.

Now, I have talked with Emma, and she has kindly agreed to post two of my complete weeding spreadsheets as examples on the PLS website. That way anyone interested in the specifics can look at the actual spreadsheets and formulas I use as a guide to craft their own.

On the PLS website, under the Training Toolkit, find the Collection Management and Weeding page and scroll down to the Weeding Resources section to find the links; or, [click here for a direct link to the example fiction weeding list](#) and [click here for a direct link to the example nonfiction weeding list](#).

So, the next time you’re weeding your own shelves, why not take a step beyond SimplyReports as I have? I think you’ll be amazed at the weeding you can accomplish!

Around the System...

Winter is making its presence known... so here's your update on what happened around Peace Library System over the fall! 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

McLennan Library offered free takehome Hallowe'en craft bags for patrons at the end of October!

—Submitted by Maureen Fisher, McLennan Municipal Library



Fox Creek Municipal Library

The Fox Creek Library has had a lot of BIG changes this year! Since 1974 the Fox Creek Library had been in a joint partnership with the Fox Creek School; in August the public library moved out of the Fox Creek School and into a new and modern space in the Fox Creek Greenview Multiplex. We also had a new logo designed!



Leslie Ann Sharkey has been with the Fox Creek Library since 1998 and retired from Head Librarian in April 2020. Mandy Miskelly was hired as the new Head Librarian, and the library board hired their first student, Hailey Marinus. Lots of changes and lots of learning for us this year!

The Fox Creek Library had been closed to the public since March 16 due to the Covid-19 shutdown and finally opened back up to the public on September 23. During our opening, we had drawstring book bags filled with information and goodies for our patrons. We have also noticed an increase in public use now that we are in our new space.

During October 13-17, the library held a "Star Wars Reads" week and offered free activity kits, posters, and bookmarks to patrons. The library held an "I Spy with my Jedi Eye" scavenger hunt game, it was really fun listening to the preschool kids searching for letters of the alphabet. Everyone who played could enter to win from two different prize packs.

—Submitted by Mandy Miskelly, Fox Creek Municipal Library



More from Around the System!

Elmworth Community Library

Elmworth Community Library reopened in September boasting a brand new look. With the support of Peace Wapiti School District and advocacy of the local library society, the school-housed public library used their COVID closure time to coordinate a TOTAL renovation. The space now boasts all new carpet and shelving, dramatically increased seating, build-in computer stations, and more defined sections.

In addition to the great first impression provided by the bright and airy space, our library staff and partners within the school and community are thoroughly enjoying the increased functionality of the new layout, featuring tall perimeter shelving and a central pinwheel dividing the room into quadrants.

—Submitted by Michelle Gillis, Elmworth Community Library



High Prairie Municipal Library

Junior shelving got a refresh in High Prairie this fall, as well as the kids DVD section!

—Submitted by Tracy Ireland, High Prairie Municipal Library



>> Staff Service Awards



Alrene Dempster—30 Years



Katherine Wiebe—15 Years

>> Board Service Awards

At our September board meeting, Peace Library System was pleased to recognize via Zoom five board members for five years of service on the Peace Library Board. They have received a folder with a certificate of appreciation.

Congratulations to Tanya Boman from the Town of Valleyview, Lindsay Brown from the Town of Falher, Clinton Froehlich from the Town of Sexsmith, Brad Pearson from the MD of Lesser Slave River, and Chris Thiessen from the City of Grande Prairie.

At the same meeting, Peace Library System was also pleased to recognize three board members for 10 years of service on the Peace Library Board. Each person received an updated certificate of appreciation to put in their folder.

Congratulations to Belinda Halabisky from the County of Northern Lights, Raoul Johnson from the MD of Smoky River, and Cheryl Novak from the Village of Nampa.

We thank each of them for their many contributions to the Peace Library System over the years.



Thank you for your service!

>> New TRACpac App!

We are very pleased to announce that the TRACpac App is now available for download and use for Android and iOS using the app stores on your devices! Simply search for "TRACpac" in your app store and it should come up.

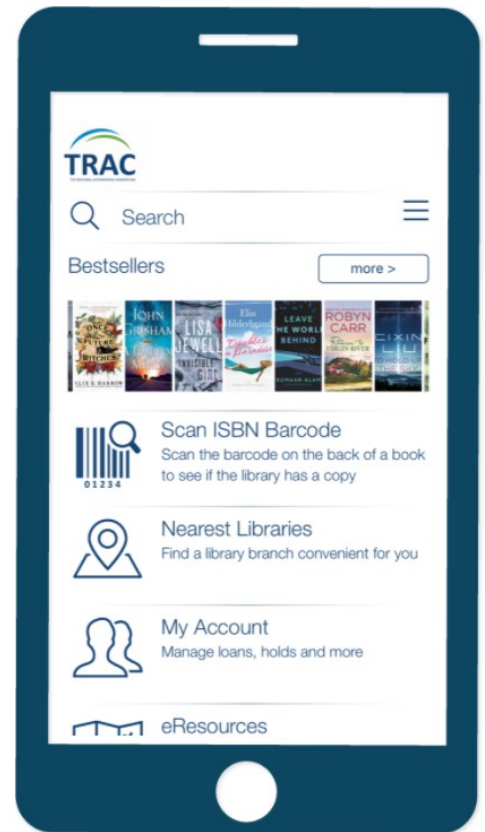
Users can search the catalogue, scan ISBNs to check if their library has a copy of a book they want, manage their account and renew items, and much more.

Self-service checkout is turned on for all our libraries, so patrons who are in the library will be able to check out their items without having to come to the desk. The potential "click and collect" feature we discussed back in the summer will not be available at this time, as the app developers discovered this functionality is not compatible with our ILS.

If you see any bugs or errors particularly related to your library information, or if you have any questions about app functionality, please let Janet know. The app committee will continue to work with the developers to improve the app and perhaps offer new features in the future.

We've emailed out bookmarks and flyers for libraries to print and share with their patrons to promote the app. Make sure to keep an eye out for posts on PLS social media that you can share on your on Facebook pages.

This app has been a long time in development, so we're very glad to finally be able to offer it to PLS patrons!



>> Lynda.com Tutorials

The courses that are available on Lynda.com are great for developing professional skills, and one key skill you might find useful to hone that Lynda can help you with is **communication**.

Even experienced managers will find a lot of helpful tips and tricks in **Communicating with Diplomacy and Tact** by Tatiana Kolovou. She walks viewers through real-world scenarios and emphasizes authenticity, empathy, and listening as tools to help you manage difficult interactions.

The course **Giving and Receiving Feedback** by Gemma Leigh Roberts dives into the specifics of how you can get comfortable asking for feedback and then apply the same principles to giving effective and unbiased feedback.

No one wants to be the bearer of bad news. But sometimes, especially when you're in a leadership position, it has to be done. Gemma Leigh Roberts has a course on **Delivering Bad News Effectively** to help you get the best possible result out of a tricky situation.

Check out these tutorials and more on Lynda.com today!



Peace Library System acknowledges Treaty 8 territory as well as the Métis Nation of Alberta. Peace Library System libraries are located on territory that provided a travelling route and home to many Indigenous peoples.

Instant Access Audiobooks on OverDrive!

by Samantha Mercer

At the start of 2020, OverDrive's parent company purchased RBDigital, so we have begun to see the merging of the RBDigital collection onto the OverDrive website! You can now access thousands of instant access eAudiobooks on the OverDrive website and Libby app. This is a great feature to promote to your patrons as the holidays approach and many may be interested in reading something right away. These titles are labeled "Always Available" in the OverDrive collection now. Some of the titles include:

- Outlander by Diana Gabaldon
- Kindred by Octavia Butler
- All Systems Red by Martha Wells
- Awakening by Brandon Sanderson
- Anne of Green Gables by L.M. Montgomery
- The Cater Street Hangman by Anne Perry
- Chocolate Chip Cookie Murder by Joanne Fluke

We are expecting the transition of the eMagazine collection in 2021 but until then, patrons can still get instant access to thousands of issues from a wide variety of publications on the RBDigital website and app.

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.

Peace Library System's events calendar

Headquarters Closed for Holidays

December 24, 2020 (noon) -January 1, 2021

PLS Executive Committee Meeting

January 23, 2021, 10:30 am

Family Literacy Day

January 27, 2021

I Read Canadian Day

February 17, 2021

Freedom to Read Week

February 21 – 27 , 2021

PLS Board Meeting

February 27, 2021, 10:30 am

LibPAS Deadline

February 28, 2021

