

# NEWS & Notes

PEACE LIBRARY SYSTEM'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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## Fall Marketing Campaign 2024



### The Library Effect Storytelling Contest

This fall, we're excited to launch The Library Effect—our regional marketing campaign. To celebrate Canadian Library Month, running from October 1 to 31, we are gathering inspiring stories from your communities about how library services have positively effected their lives.

Inspired by the Butterfly Effect, this campaign highlights how simple actions—like borrowing a book or attending a program—can lead to significant impacts and greater positive changes. It's a wonderful opportunity to connect with patrons, build advocacy, and showcase the transformative power of libraries.

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# Fall Marketing Campaign - Continued



## TELL YOUR STORY



WRITE



TYPE



RECORD



TEXT



MESSAGE



DRAW

The core of The Library Effect is a storytelling contest inviting patrons to share how their library has positively impacted their lives. We welcome stories in various formats—written, video, audio, or artwork—allowing everyone to express their experiences in the way that resonates most with them.

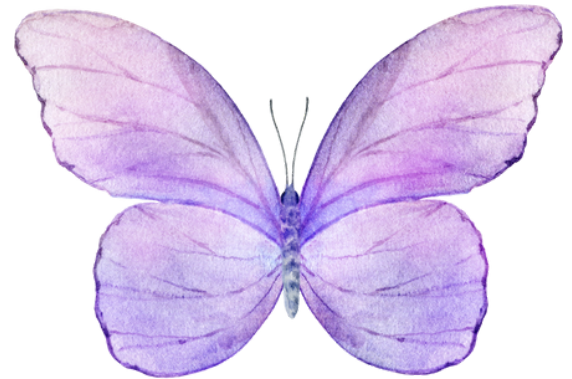
All participating libraries will receive copies of the stories collected during the campaign. This will give you a wonderful resource to celebrate and reflect on the impact your library has on your community, as well as to help demonstrate the impact of the library when you are advocating for funding.

Encourage your patrons to participate and share their stories. Use the promotional materials to generate buzz and make sure everyone knows how to submit their entries. Whether it's through a heartfelt written story, a compelling video, or creative artwork, every story contributes to highlighting how libraries truly change lives.

We're also hosting a special staff contest. Share your own inspiring library story or collaborate with a patron to help them share theirs. The most compelling entries will win \$100 gift cards.

Let's work together to make The Library Effect a success and demonstrate the incredible impact libraries have in our community.

Jill Kergan  
Consultant Librarian



Small actions, big impact;  
libraries change lives.

**SCAN  
ME!**

FOR DETAILS



[peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca/the-libraryeffect](http://peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca/the-libraryeffect)



# From the CEO



Louisa Robison, CEO

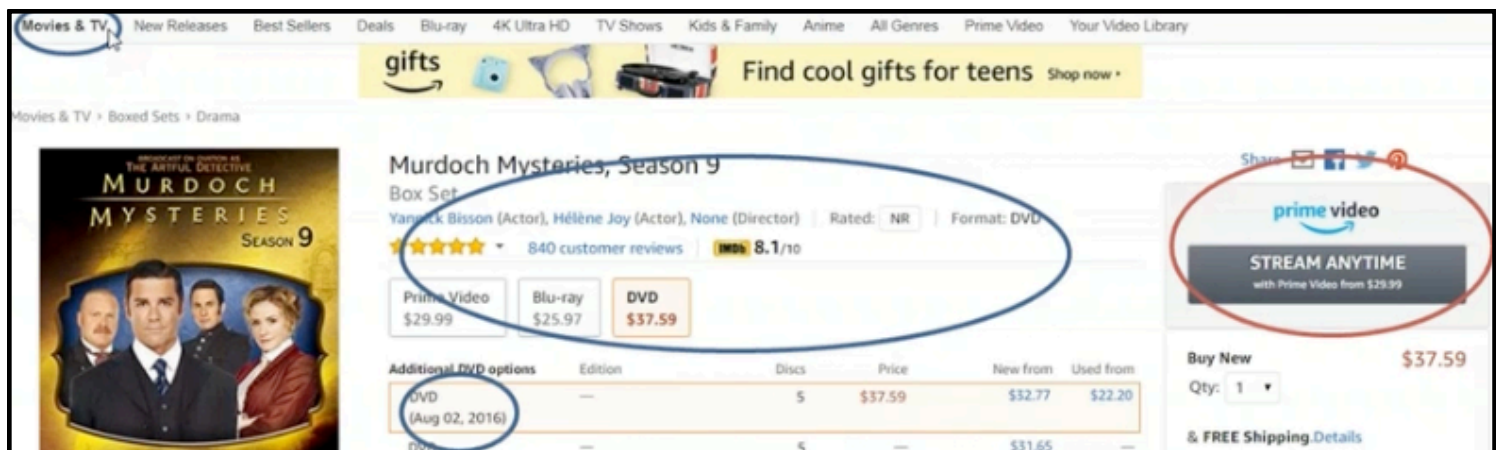
Isn't modern technology great? You can get copies of a bestseller book for way cheaper than buying it from a store if you just download it from a website!

No, unfortunately not. We need to talk about pirated materials and their increasing availability over what may look like legitimate websites and vendors. These materials, whether they come from the dark web or the legitimate public web, are illegal and violate copyright laws. Pirated materials, whether you did it yourself or bought it from someone else who did, cannot be a part of the TRAC library catalogue.

It can be difficult to tell whether you are looking at a legitimate, legally sellable item sometimes. They are on Amazon, but Amazon takes no responsibility for the items that its vendors choose to sell on the platform. You could end up with a proper, licensed, copyrighted set of DVDs, or you could, if one is not careful, end up spending the library's money on something that cannot be legally circulated.

So how do libraries avoid the potential problems of circulating illegal content? For starters, always buy from a reputable source, a publisher or vendor that you know has the license to distribute. All vendors in the CCD purchasing tool are, of course, licensed to distribute what they sell. But even looking outside those vendors, be entirely certain that they are valid source for what they sell. Be very wary of sellers on Amazon and other websites that deal in third-party content.

And definitely, when in doubt, ask. Our Collection Services department has the knowledge and connections to be able to ascertain the veracity of many different vendors and products. The combined knowledge and experience of the entirety of the TRAC Bibliographic Services Group is at your disposal, for a very good reason: All of our reputations hang on the validity and the legality of what is circulated through the system.



## Resources

[TRAC's Guidelines for Pirated Materials](#)

Article: [How to Spot Fake Dvds](#)

Webinar: [Know Before You Buy](#)



# Consulting Corner



Hello and happy September from the Consulting Department!

Things have already been hopping for us here in September as we wrap up our consulting visits for the year. Many of you have already met Meagan, our new consultant librarian, who started with us this summer – we're so pleased to have her on board with us! She'll be in charge of our eResources as well as the blocks and kits, so give her an email or a call if you have any questions.

Now that summer is over, libraries that participated in the TD Summer Reading Club will soon receive a Statistics and Evaluation form. The reporting is all digital now, so please keep an eye on your email and get the stats in ASAP.

We are now offering a great suite of comics and graphics novels on Overdrive. The All Access Comics package offers some of your favourite titles from Disney, Marvel, IDW, Image Comics, Darkhorse, and more, so check it out today! These titles are available through simultaneous access – no waiting on long holds lists for your patrons, which is great.

Speaking of collections, if you are sitting on a large surplus of allotment, don't forget that you can contribute funds to building our collection on Overdrive. We'll happily buy some eBooks and eAudiobooks on your behalf and help get those holds lists shorter! Or, if you have a gap in your local collection and want a list of recommended titles for purchasing, the consulting team will help you with the research targeted to your library's needs.

Finally, I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at the Stronger Together conference on October 3 and 4 in Edmonton. The whole consulting department will be there, so say hi if you see us in the halls! We're looking forward to a great couple days of PD and networking.

Remember that the consulting department is here to help you with whatever questions and concerns you have, so reach out to myself, Jill, or Meagan by email or phone and we will be happy to assist.

Wishing you a pleasantly spooky autumn from the Consulting Department!

Emma Stewart  
Consulting Services Manager

## Welcome to the Team!



Peace Library System is excited to welcome Meagan McNaney to the PLS team as a new consultant librarian!

### About Meagan:

I grew up in Ottawa and have spent most of my library career in various Ontario towns, most recently Paris and London. This is my third time living in Alberta, but my first time in northern AB! Outside of work you can find me reading, knitting, or finding new parks to explore.

I've worked in both academic and public libraries, but I definitely prefer public librarianship. My role focuses on digital learning, but I'm also passionate about teen programming, library advocacy, and access for all.

Meagan McNaney  
Consultant Librarian



# Collaborating for Progress: Provincial Wage and Benefit Survey Now Complete



The salary committee reviewed the data in three population groups:

**Overall Aggregate** – includes all 156 municipalities

**Rural Aggregate** – includes 35 municipalities such as counties, municipal districts, and special areas

**Urban Aggregate** – includes 121 municipalities such as cities, large towns over 5000 population, small towns under 5000 population, villages and summer villages

We're excited to announce that the 2024 Provincial Wage and Benefit Survey, conducted in collaboration with all seven regional library systems in Alberta, is now complete! In March 2024, member public libraries were invited to participate in a confidential online compensation survey based on their 2023 fiscal year, resulting in a total of 269 responses.

Our goal, through the Salary Survey Committee and with input from staff representatives from each Regional Library System, was to gather data that would benefit libraries, librarians, and the communities they serve. The results are reported by service population, making them relevant and meaningful for libraries of all sizes.

We ensured the data was aggregated to protect the identities of individual respondents and libraries. The findings provide a snapshot of wages and other compensation forms, such as health and pension benefits and vacation allotments, for common positions across public libraries.

To enhance the report's value, we included comparison data from municipal compensation sources, which many member libraries requested. Each library system has access to the full municipal data, and member libraries can request further details from their system representatives.

The survey results will enable libraries to benchmark salaries and benefits against similar locations, aiding Library Boards and Managers in budget planning to ensure competitive wages that attract and retain talented staff.

Access to province-wide wage data will also empower library staff with crucial insights for salary negotiations, allowing them to advocate for fair and equitable compensation based on broader wage trends.

As you review wages and compensation at your own library, consider comparing them to local nonprofit organizations to see if your offerings align with community standards and the cost of living. Salary ranges for publicly funded organizations are typically available online or through a FOIP request, which can inform your future budget planning.

[Click here to access the survey](#), or scan the QR Code.



Jill Kergan  
Consultant Librarian





# From the IT Desk



## PLS Launches IT Advisory Committee

Peace Library System (PLS) is excited to announce the formation of an Information Technology Advisory Committee, a collaborative effort aimed at enhancing the digital services and technological infrastructure across our network of libraries.

This initiative underscores PLS's commitment to staying at the forefront of technological advancements, ensuring that all member libraries can offer state-of-the-art services to their communities.

### Why an IT Advisory Committee?

As technology continues to evolve at a rapid pace, libraries are increasingly becoming hubs for digital access, education, and innovation.

From offering high-speed internet and computer access to providing digital literacy programs, libraries play a crucial role in bridging the digital divide. However, keeping up with the latest technological trends and best practices can be challenging, especially for smaller libraries with limited resources.

The IT Advisory Committee is being established to address these challenges head-on. Comprising library staff from across the PLS network, the committee will serve as a think tank and support system for all things technology-related. Its primary goals include:

**Evaluating and recommending new technologies:** The committee will stay informed about the latest technological tools and platforms, assessing their potential impact on library services. This might include everything from integrated library systems (ILS) and online resources to digital devices and cybersecurity measures.

**Providing technical support and resources:** By pooling expertise from across the network, the committee will help ensure that all libraries, regardless of size, have access to the technical support they need. This could involve creating a shared repository of resources, offering training sessions, or providing one-on-one assistance.

**Facilitating collaboration and knowledge sharing:** The committee will foster a culture of collaboration among library staff, encouraging the sharing of best practices, experiences, and innovative ideas. This will help create a more cohesive and informed network, where every library can benefit from the collective knowledge of the group.

### Benefits for Member Libraries

The creation of the IT Advisory Committee is expected to bring numerous benefits to member libraries within the Peace Library System.

- Libraries will have a dedicated forum to voice their technological needs and challenges, ensuring that their concerns are addressed and their input is valued.
- Additionally, the committee will work to standardize certain technological practices and tools across the network, which can lead to cost savings, increased efficiency, and improved service delivery.
- Moreover, the committee's focus on professional development will empower library staff to grow their technological skills, making them more adept at serving their communities in the digital age.
- As libraries continue to evolve into multi-faceted community centers, the ability to leverage technology effectively will be crucial to their success.

### Join the Effort

The Peace Library System is looking for passionate and knowledgeable library staff members to join the IT Advisory Committee.

This is a unique opportunity to play a key role in shaping the future of technology in our libraries, ensuring that we can continue to meet the ever-changing needs of our patrons.

If you are interested in being a part of this exciting initiative, please contact me directly. Your expertise and enthusiasm could make a significant difference in the digital landscape of our libraries, helping us to create a more connected, informed, and empowered community.

Ryan Goff  
IT Services Manager

# Collection Services Stories



Around this time of year the Collection Services (formerly Technical Services) team starts to think about our year end fiscal rollover. This is a process that transitions the current fiscal year to the new fiscal year in Polaris. While we do try and make the process as smooth as possible, it does involve some disruption to normal acquisition workflows.

For you, this means that sometime near the end of the year we will stop all processes involving your funds. We will still take your orders and vouchers, but they will not be entered into Polaris and sent to vendors until the new year.

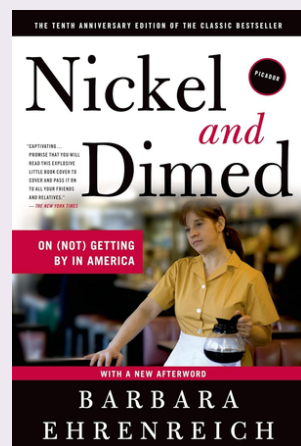
Similarly, any requests to add or transfer funds will be noted but cannot be performed until the new year. We try to make the cut-off date for orders, etc., as late as possible in the year, but do need some time between the cut-off and the rollover.

After the cut-off date we try and get as many materials as possible invoiced through Polaris. This means, for fund purposes, they have been completed in the current year and can be catalogued and processed as normal. Anything that arrives after a second internal deadline must wait to be invoiced in the new year. At that time we run a series of reports to ensure we know the status of all purchase orders and items prior to the rollover. We run the same reports after the rollover and compare so that nothing gets lost in the process.

The rollover itself is technically just pressing a few buttons and waiting a few minutes for Polaris to close the current funds and create new funds. In practice, from anecdotes told by other Polaris users and Polaris staff as well as personal experience, it's an anxiety inducing five minutes while funds are closed and reproduced for every library in the region. Polaris staff have stressed that they have never encountered a disaster during the process for any Polaris library, but how often does reality prevent feelings of dread? Because Polaris operates at a TRAC level, all of the regions do coordinate our fiscal year rollover plans. The funds are regionally based, but it makes things smoother to be on the same page.

In the last couple years PLS and the other regions have been investigating ways to further minimize the disruption caused by the yearly rollover. Because of the complicated nature of the rollover, though, we are wary of making drastic changes to a process that has functioned for many years. We will let you know about this year's cut-off for orders, vouchers, etc., as soon as we have firm dates.

Ken Sawdon  
Collection Services Manager



## What Did Barbara Ehrenreich Write?

I think that we would have a shorter answer if we asked what did she not write about. Barbara Ehrenreich lived from 1941-2022. She studied physics and chemistry at the bachelor's level then completed a Ph.D. in cellular immunology. I am not sure how you get from one to the other, but this indicates the range of topics that she was interested in. She was not only a writer but also a social activist who helped found organizations to support women and working-class people.

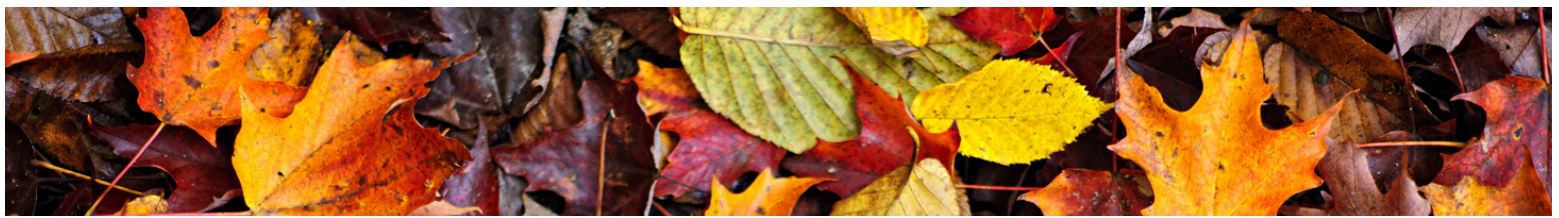
*Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America* became one of her most popular books. Since people seem to go from one extreme to another, she noted we need to be cautious in *Bright-Sided: How Positive Thinking is Undermining America*. While researching a book on war (*Blood Rites: Origins and History of the Passions of War*) she found out that there were rituals or festivities that promoted 'collective joy'. So in 2007 she published *Dancing in the Streets: A History of Collective Joy*.

This book is informative and entertaining. She includes her own insights as well as a wide range of research. This book includes history from the ancient Romans and Greeks to today. She says that modern Western culture has lost the focus that earlier times had on developing collective joy and that there is more depression today. I realize that libraries need to promote new writers. However, I hope that there can also be space for interesting writers such as Barbara Ehrenreich even many years after they have finished writing so that their ideas can be introduced to new readers.

Dennis Sheppard  
Cataloguer

✧ Apparently the name Dennis is derived from the Greek god Dionysus who is mentioned in *Dancing in the Streets*





## Falling Leaves...

Fall is a time for the trees to change the color of their leaves, and the air has become crisp and the winds chilly.

Fall is also a time to bring in your garden produce to store for the winter. There are potatoes and carrots to be dug. The squash and pumpkins to be picked. You might even have your tomatoes to bring in. Even if they are green, don't fret, you can put them in a single layer in boxes to ripen or fry them for "fried green tomatoes". Personally, I was never a fan of them.

Now is the time to bring in your herbs to dry also. Parsley can be dried and stored in a glass jar to be enjoyed over the winter.

The tops of the root veggies can be composed or burned in the garden. The ashes are beneficial for the soil.

The root veggies should be stored in a cool dry place. The carrots can be washed and stored in the refrigerator, or you can not wash them and layer them in damp sand. Place a layer of newspaper over the top and put a lid on the container. An old metal wash tub works great.

Squash makes great soups and casseroles. The pumpkins are for pies. Nothing beats a fresh pumpkin pie.

May you have a bountiful harvest you are able to share with your family and friends.

Rose-Marie Finch  
Acquisitions Specialist

### Pumpkin Pie Recipe

2 eggs, slightly beaten  
1 3/4 cup pumpkin  
3/4 cup sugar  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1 tsp. cinnamon  
1/2 tsp. ginger  
1/4 tsp. cloves  
1 - 1 1/2 cups milk  
1 9" unbaked pastry shell

Mix all the ingredients together and pour into the unbaked pie shell.

Bake at 420 degrees F for 15 minutes and then reduce the heat to 350 degrees F for 45 minutes or until done.

Enjoy.



Orange Shirt Day  
September 30



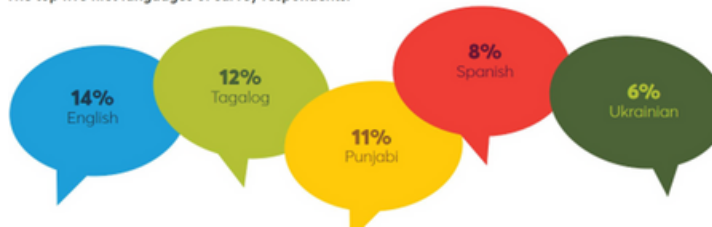
# From GPPL

## How Can the Library Support Newcomer Communities?



The City of Grande Prairie and the Grande Prairie Local Immigration Partnership recently released a report on a survey of immigrants to the Grande Prairie area. This survey reflects the diversity of Grande Prairie's newcomer population. The respondents come from approximately 85 countries and they speak 70 unique first languages. As well, the survey reveals the timeline of newcomers joining the community: 62% of respondents have lived here for less than 6 years, and 16% arrived in Canada in 2023 alone.

The top five first languages of survey respondents:



In addition to recording demographic markers, the respondents also had the opportunity to express what challenges they have encountered with integrating into the Grande Prairie community. This provides GPPL with the opportunity to enact our three service goals: GP Explores, GP Connects, and GPPL Cares.

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### **GP EXPLORES: GPPL IS A COMMUNITY HUB FOR LEARNING AND LITERACY.**

GPPL's Adult World Languages collection contains books from 19 languages. As we weed and expand that collection, this survey and other demographic data provides us with the opportunity to make decisions that are informed by more than our own circulation data.

We have information about people in our community who may not be library users yet, and we can use that information to cultivate a collection that invites our new neighbors into this space. If we only shelve one book in Turkish, we probably won't see much circulation in Turkish, because we may not have cultivated a space that encourages Turkish-reading members of the community to visit us.

As well, one of the main challenges reported by the survey respondents is language barriers. GPPL offers a variety of language-learning materials, including conversation clubs, the ESL collection, and two different language learning applications. However, we have to communicate those offerings in ways that are accessible to members of the community who may not be comfortable with their English Language skills.

While many newcomers are comfortable with English, 12.3% reported less than "good" English reading skills. To respond to this need, we have had brochures translated into 5 languages, selected based on the needs of the newcomer community.

### **GP CONNECTS: GPPL PROVIDES THE COMMUNITY WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONNECT WITH ONE ANOTHER, WITH INFORMATION, AND WITH THE WORLD.**

Providing materials in the languages with which newcomers are already comfortable is one way to help these patrons connect to information and the world, but there are other needs too. Another challenge reported by the survey respondents was the difficulty making friends and finding employment.

The library's resources can help with those challenges, whether it be through providing access to printers for resumes or creating a space for people to make friends at our programs. Once again, this requires that we communicate what we offer to people who may not be regular library users already.



We need to be creative in how we invite community members into our space, because there are portions of the newcomer population who do not realize everything that we offer.

As well, popular programs like our Spice of the Month Club provide us with opportunities to connect our patrons to the world. We can showcase different cuisines and cultures in a fun, accessible way.

### **GPPL CARES: GPPL BUILDS BRIDGES TO SUPPORTIVE AGENCIES, REMOVES BARRIERS, AND NURTURES AN ATMOSPHERE OF SOCIAL INCLUSION.**

Over the summer, GPPL collaborated with the Grande Prairie Centre for Newcomers to run a series of tours through the library. Each tour brought together community members who spoke the same language. With the assistance of an interpreter provided by the GPCN, we had the opportunity to introduce these community members to our library, provide them with our translated brochures, and gain feedback about the languages that they would like to see in our world languages collection.

Leveraging relationships like these with other community organizations allows the library to reach community members who we might not be able to reach otherwise.

In conclusion, as the Grande Prairie community grows, it is essential that we cultivate relationships with all members of the community in order to enact our service goals.

Kyle de Waal  
Community Outreach Librarian, GPPL

## **News & Tips**

From Alberta  
Law Libraries

Do you have patrons with family law questions? Two new comprehensive websites, both focusing on Alberta law and procedure, can help you and your patrons:

- CPLEA [Family Law in Alberta](#) is a comprehensive look at all aspects of the law as it relates to family. A very good place to start for anyone looking for factual, plain language information.
- The [Alberta Family Resolution Hub](#) explores different avenues to resolve family law disputes, and guides users through the legal process. After following the path of questions, the Hub produces a tailored checklist of steps to take and documents to prepare.

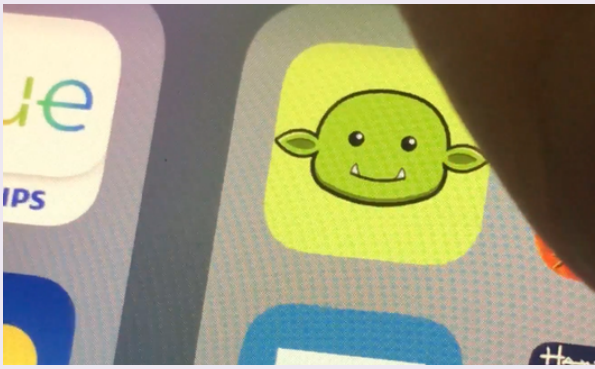
alberta  
law  
libraries

Don't hesitate to contact [Alberta Law Libraries](#) with other legal questions or to access our [resources](#)!

**[Click here to read the full Building Belonging report, or scan the QR code.](#)**



# Boost Productivity



For those eager to integrate more AI into their workflow, <https://goblin.tools> is a digital Swiss Army knife for daily tasks.

Beyond core productivity features, Goblin Tools includes fun modules like the Formalizer, which turns casual or blunt communications into polished, professional correspondence with just a few clicks. It's ideal for drafting tricky emails or official documents, ensuring the right tone and formality.

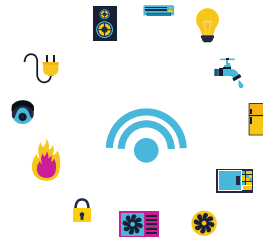
Users can input drafts into the Formalizer to transform messages into elegantly composed communications suitable for any business setting. This playful yet practical feature adds enjoyment to work and helps maintain high standards in communications.

With its blend of efficiency and flair, Goblin.tools not only streamlines your workflow but also elevates the quality of your professional interactions, making it a valuable asset for anyone seeking to enhance their communication skills and productivity.

Alycia Vickrey  
Executive Assistant



# Automation Makes Life Fun



*Welcome to the age of the Jetsons!*

Okay, maybe we don't have flying cars (yet), but we're certainly living in an era where our homes are getting smarter by the day.

Picture this: you're comfortably nestled on your couch, popcorn in hand, ready to watch your favorite movie. But wait, you forgot to dim the lights! No need to panic. With a simple voice command or a tap on your smartphone, you can transform your living room into a cozy cinematic haven. Home automation systems like smart lighting allow you to adjust brightness, color, and ambiance with effortless precision.

But why stop there? Let's talk about the kitchen, the heart of every home. Gone are the days of burnt dinners and overcooked pasta. With smart kitchen appliances, you can whip up culinary masterpieces like a seasoned chef. Imagine a fridge that tells you when you're running low on milk or a coffee maker that brews your perfect cup the moment your alarm goes off. It's like having your own personal kitchen assistant!

But why stop there? Let's talk about the kitchen, the heart of every home. Gone are the days of burnt dinners and overcooked pasta. With smart kitchen appliances, you can whip up culinary masterpieces like a seasoned chef. Imagine a fridge that tells you when you're running low on milk or a coffee maker that brews your perfect cup the moment your alarm goes off. It's like having your own personal kitchen assistant!

Don't forget about security! With smart locks, cameras, and motion sensors, you can keep tabs on your home from anywhere in the world. Whether you're at work or on vacation, peace of mind is just a tap away.

Home automation isn't just about convenience; it's about enhancing every aspect of our lives. So go ahead, embrace the future, and turn your home into a playground of possibilities!

Wondering where to start? I'd recommend the following:

1. Get a Google home or an Alexa Home. This will allow you to add calendar items or shopping items to your lists.
2. Set up a smart home security system. There are many options from telus or eastlink that allow connecting your home to your life so you can always know whats going on.
3. Set up smart lightbulbs and motion sensors to turn the lights on when you get home or to turn them off when you are not around.

Jayne Mueller  
IT Specialist





## PLS TAB LABs

Over the past couple of years, PLS has been establishing a library presence on reserve and on settlement by introducing Take A Book, Leave A Book shelves in a number of our Indigenous communities, such as Gift Lake Métis Settlement, Horse Lake First Nation, and Sucker Creek First Nation. We provide the bookcases, where needed, as well as the materials to fill the shelves – a good mix of popular interest titles and books by Indigenous voices. So far we've seen lots of interest in keeping this going, so we are happy that the books are filling a need in these communities!

If you know of local interest in a Take A Book, Leave A Book program in a nearby Indigenous community, reach out to our new Indigenous Services Coordinator, who will be starting at PLS this fall.

Emma Stewart  
Consulting Services Manager



## New TAB LAB Titles



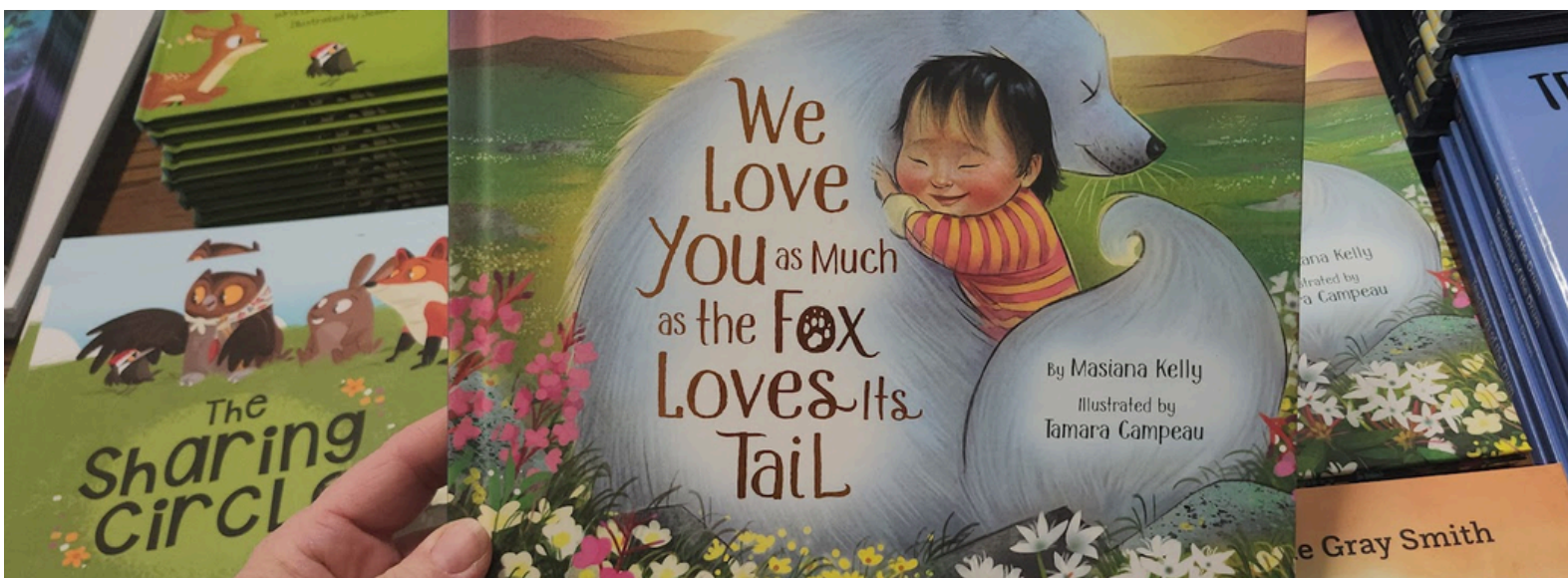
Rose-Marie has been busy ordering titles for the TAB labs, and this month, we've received a plethora of gorgeous new books to process. We have a lot of work ahead, but we can't wait to get them into the hands of readers!

Curious about how the books are chosen? I asked Rose-Marie to explain her selection process, which includes staff recommendations, patron requests, classic titles, reader's advisory publications, and publisher websites.

Here are a few recommended sources for selecting Indigenous resources:

- [Strong Nations](#)
- [Good Minds](#)
- [Birchbark Books](#)
- [Kinder Books](#)
- [Indigenous Voices Awards](#)
- [CBC Books](#)
- [Quill & Quire](#)





# Rose-Marie's Picks

**Secret Path by Gord Downie & Jeff Lemire**

**I Hope by Monique Gray Smith**

**Buffalo Wild! by Deidre Havrelock**

**Awasis and the World Famous Bannock by Dallas Hunt & Amanda Strong**

**Nimoshom and His Bus by Penny Thomas**

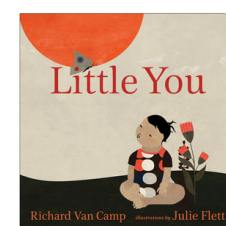
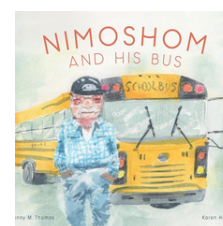
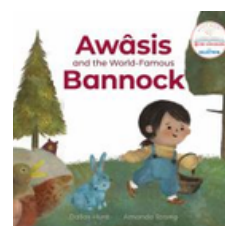
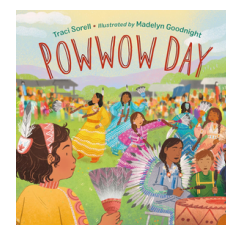
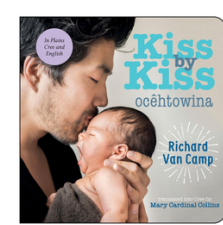
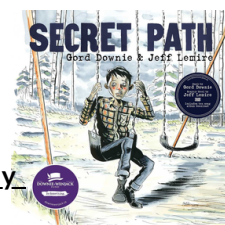
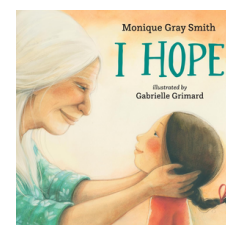
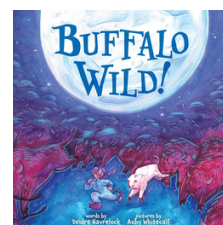
**We Love You As Much As The Fox Loves Its Tail by Masiana Kelly**

**Powwow Day by Tracy Sorell & Madelyn Goodnight**

**Spirit Rangers by Karissa Valencia and Chris Aguire**

**Kiss Kiss/Ocehtowina by Richard Van Camp**

**Little You by Richard Van Camp and Julie Flett**

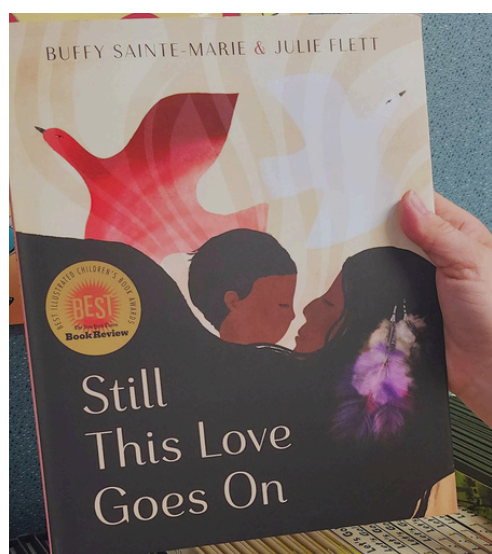


## **Still This Love Goes On by Buffy Sainte-Marie**

"A love letter to Indigenous communities everywhere, this picture book gorgeously illustrated by Julie Flett celebrates seasons, nature, and community."

Based on Academy Award-winning Cree icon Buffy Sainte-Marie's song of the same name, *Still This Love Goes On* is a stunning celebration of Indigenous experience. Breathtaking illustrations from celebrated Cree-Metis artist Julie Flett combine with Sainte-Marie's vivid lyrics to craft a remarkable piece of art.

Destined to be read and sung for generations, this gem of a picture book is accompanied by Sheet music so that readers can play along and a note from Sainte-Marie about her much-admired song; 'Sat beside a beaver dam and watched the winter grow. Ice was hard with little tracks appearing in the snow. Fog is in the valley now and all the geese are gone. Cross the moon I saw them go and Still this love goes on and on.'" Provided by publisher.





# What's Trending

## NYT Bestselling Fiction



1. The Games Gods Play by Abigail Owen
2. Vince Flynn: Capture or Kill by Don Bentley
3. The Cursed by Harper L. Woods
4. Passions in Death by J.D. Robb
5. The Women by Kristin Hannah
6. The Life Impossible by Matt Haig
7. By Any Other Name by Jodi Picoult
8. Blue Sisters by Coco Mellors
9. Iron Flame by Rebecca Yarros
10. Creation Lake by Rachel Kushner
11. Fourth Wing by Rebecca Yarros
12. The God of the Woods by Liz Moore
13. All the Colors of the Dark by Chris Whitaker
14. Clive Cussler: Ghost Soldier by Mike Maden

## NYT Bestselling Non-Fiction



1. Lovely One by Ketanji Brown Jackson
2. The Anxious Generation by Jonathan Haidt
3. Imminent: Inside the Pentagon's Hunt for UFOs by Luis Elizondo
4. The Demon of Unrest by Erik Larson
5. The Art of Power by Nancy Pelosi
6. Outlive by Peter Attia, MD with Bill Gifford
7. Upworthy: Good People by Gabriel Reilich and Lucia Knell
8. America's Deadliest Election by Dana Bash with David Fisher
9. What's Next by Melissa Fitzgerald and Mary McCormack
10. At War With Ourselves by H.R. McMaster
11. Save America by Donald J. Trump
12. The Comfort of Crows: A Backyard Year by Margaret Renkl
13. All in the Family by Fred Trump
14. Nuclear War: A Scenario by Annie Jacobsen

## Books to Film



1. Bad Monkey by Carl Hiaasen
2. It Ends with Us by Colleen Hoover
3. A Good Girl's Guide to Murder by Holly Jackson
4. Harold and the Purple Crayon by Crockett Johnson
5. The Supremes at Earl's All-You-Can-Eat by Edward Kelsey Moore
6. The Perfect Couple by Elin Hilderbrand
7. Uglies by Scott Westerfeld
8. Moonflower Murders by Anthony Horowitz
9. The Wild Robot by Peter Brown
10. Wicked by Gregory Maguire
11. Nightbitch by Rachel Yoder
12. The Sympathizer by Viet Thanh Nguyen
13. Apples Never Fall by Liane Moriarty
14. The Tattooist of Auschwitz by Heather Morris

# Around the System

## Grande Cache Municipal Library

*Goodbye summer, hello fall!* The theme of the Summer Reading Program, To the Stars, left a lot to the imagination, thank goodness! We did Star fruit tasting and art, alien friends, origami rockets, stellar salt painting, pipe cleaner constellations, space random storytelling game, rock stars (we had karaoke), and a rocket shapes scavenger hunt.

We wound up the program with a Blast Off to School event that we invited other students to as well as all our SRP kids. We wished them all well in the new year of school and sighed a sigh of relief! We made it through another Summer Reading Program! We held some fun pop-up events like Read To A Dog, and National Lizard Day. Both days we had special guests visit!



*Hello fall*, time for new and old programs to start. With some new staff members come fresh ideas. I love that! This fall we will be offering Beginner Spanish! One of our new staff members speaks Spanish and will start with 5-8-years old 😊 Another new program will be Alligator Club, which will focus on learning about all types of animals and incorporate visits with some animals. This program will start with ages 8 - 11, and then rotate to a younger group after six weeks.

Animation Club is a new program and will be about creating moving pictures. They will be creating their own animations using techniques such as thaumatrope, flipbook, zoetrope and more! We will have Spool Kids and Teen Lego Challenge every week as well. Spool Kids is a sewing program for 8 years old and up.

Then of course we will still have Stay & Play, Sensory Time, Mother Load Class, After School Lego, Tween Crafternoon, Teen Crafternoon, Adult Craft Corner, and Saturday Matinees. We will continue to do outreach for Whispering Pines Lodge, and Susa Creek School. Whispering Pines will visit the Library once a month and we will visit the Lodge for the rest of the month, each week, Susa Creek is a one visit to them, one visit to the Library, per month. Will we be busy? Heck ya, that's the way we like it 😊

Jump into fall with both feet, fellow library people! 😊 We have a long winter ahead of us, so keeping busy makes it bearable! Have a wonderful fall!

Cheers,  
Samantha



# Peace River Municipal Library

## TD Summer Reading Club

This summer, we took a bold step by establishing a separate Summer Reading Club for 10-13 year olds, apart from the 7-9 year olds and 4-6 year olds. This decision proved to be highly successful, with the older group exceeding our expectations and attracting 14 preteens and teens—an age group that is often difficult to engage.

In total, we had 86 registered participants across all age groups, which allowed us to customize book selections and activities to better suit each group. The program ran 24 times and drew 526 participants overall.



Summer Reading Club 10-13 year olds  
Extracting DNA from strawberries



Summer Reading Club 4-6 year olds  
Crafting their own helmets



Summer Reading Club 7-9 year olds:  
Rock, Paper Scissors Tournament

## Farm to Home Series, Workshops and Talks

This summer, we were thrilled to introduce new Farm to Home Talks and Workshops, aimed at deepening our community's understanding of agriculture. These initiatives focused on bringing food-growing practices and food security into our homes, enriching our relationship with food, and supporting local farmers.

Our Farm to Home Talks explored topics such as cultivating a healthy relationship with food through home gardening and provided insights into Luna Sky Farm's history and the development of their Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program.

In addition, our Farm to Home Workshops offered hands-on instruction in traditional skills, including cheesemaking, jam preservation, foraging, and wild tea making. These workshops were met with great enthusiasm and quickly filled up throughout the summer.



Cheesemaking



Boreal Forest Tea supplies



# Grande Prairie Public Library



Erica's Book Club was delighted to welcome Jonathan Whitelaw, author of *The Concert Hall Killer*, for a special discussion at our latest meeting. Jonathan is known not only for his captivating writing but also for his cheerful and pleasant demeanor. Despite his busy schedule—having recently welcomed his second child—Jonathan generously made time to join our club and engage with our readers.

Our members were thrilled to discuss not only *The Concert Hall Killer*, but also his previous two books, gaining deeper insights into his creative process. His ongoing volunteer work at the Grande Prairie Public Library is a testament to his commitment to the literary community, and we are grateful for his continued support. It was a wonderful event, and we are thankful for the enriching experience Jonathan provided.



## Rycroft Community Library



Kids had an amazing time with our daily scavenger hunt, Tuesday's Slumberkins space camp and Wellness explorers by PW Capacity Building Team, Wednesday's bouncy castle with free ice creams, Friday's summer reading program with story time, themed craft and a snack. We also had 15-minute summer reading challenge and story walk in the Provincial parks of Moonshine and Dreamer's Lake. Teens enjoyed the youth pizza night. They had fun with board games and PLS button maker kit.



We did a school supply drive on behalf of Rycroft Victory church and received a good amount of donated binders, color pencils and notebooks.

We are so excited to make our "Library of Things" accessible to everyone. Starting September, the library will have two new corners – Wellness and Technology. Ladies Night, Kids Create, Youth Time and Community Café will be held on specific dates. For more details follow us on facebook and Instagram pages.





## Rotary Club of Slave Lake Municipal Library

We jumped into summer by joining the Children's Resource Centre for a trade fair letting the community know what the library has to offer. Just in time for us to introduce our Outdoor Summer programming, our Summer Kick Off Party and Beach Fest 2024 at Devonshire Beach. It was a lot of fun and we met other community groups and seen what they had to offer while we worked on building partnerships.



Our Book Bike was Set up at a local park where we had weekly themes, crafts and other outdoor activities. We kicked it off with a safety on the playground theme. For Father's Day we read a book and made Dad a card that was totally out of this world!

We teamed up with the Town of Slave Lake to have a Summer Kick off Party on Canada Day! It was a huge success and spread the news about our Summer Reading Program and outdoor programming. We teamed up with the Town of Slave Lake to bring in their Summer Splash kids into the library. The theme was 80's and 90's, and I think we nailed it...



We joined the Slave Lake Tourism Committee and other local community groups/vendors to bring in Beach Fest 2024. It is an annual Party out on the beach. It was a great success, we read books, made crafts, cooled down with a freezie and of course built sandcastles!

Last but not least, we wrapped up Summer with 3 new children who have read 1000 Books before Kindergarten!

Way to go kiddos! What an amazing accomplishment!



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

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# Upcoming Events

## Meetings

Board: September 21

Executive: October 26 (Fairview)

Board: November 30 (Grande Prairie)

## Dates to Remember

Alberta Culture Days: September 1 to 30

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation: September 30

Canadian Library Month: October 1 to 31

First Nation Public Library Week: October 1 - 4

Canadian Library Workers Day: October 18

National Coming Out Day: October 11

Canadian School Libraries Day: October 21

Media Literacy Week: October 21-25

National Novel Writing Month: November 1 to 30

I Read Canadian Day: November 6

## In-Person PD Opportunities

Stronger Together - October 3 & 4

PLS Symposium - May 30



## Submit to News & Notes

Share what you've been up to with other libraries and we'll feature it in the next issue of News & Notes.

Show off your library and get inspired by others. Let's see all the amazing things going on in our system! The spring issue comes out on November 29.

Please send submissions to Jill by November 12. Email [jkergan@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca](mailto:jkergan@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca)!

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