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*Connecting libraries, people and resources through teamwork, technology and training*

At the Annual General Meeting, the Board received the 2013 Annual Report and the 2013 Audited Financial Statements, copies of which will be distributed to councils, library boards, and contracting school divisions. The Executive, Plan of Service, and Personnel Committees were elected for the coming year. Veronica Bliska (MD of Peace) was elected Chair of the Board and Ray Skrepnek (MD of Fairview) as Vice-Chair for 2014-2015.

The Chair reported that a meeting on April 25 between Public Library Network representatives and the new Acting Minister of Municipal Affairs, Greg Weadick, was very positive. The Minister expressed his strong support for public libraries and received input on the funding challenges and other issues faced by public libraries.

Diana Davidson, Director of the Public Library Services Branch, provided an update on new provincial initiatives to support the Public Library Network. These include the implementation of Alberta-wide Borrowing (the ability to use your local library card across the province), more SuperNet broadband for libraries, new services for the print-disabled, and new digital services (Zinio and hoopla) for library users.

The Board approved the revised *Finance Policy* and the *2013-2017 Five Year Capital Plan.*

The Board reviewed its long-term sustainability plans from the previous meeting, and passed a motion to amend Schedule B of the *Peace Library System* *Master Agreement* to reflect an increase in municipal fees for 2016-2018. This amendment must be approved in writing by two-thirds of municipal members. Information concerning the amendment will be sent to municipal councils for discussion and decision.

The IT Services Manager presented the *2013-2018 Technology Plan* which outlines technology needs for the next five years and will guide capital expenditures in that area.

The Consulting Services Manager reported that plans are well underway for Rural Libraries Conference 2014 which will be held in Grande Prairie on September 25-26. She also reported that 40 member libraries will be participating in the annual Summer Reading Club. The theme for 2014 - *Eureka!* – emphasizes inventing, creating and innovating.

The Technical Services Manager reported that a letter had been sent to library boards encouraging them to use their allotment (book ordering) funds within the current fiscal year in order to keep their collections current. This should reduce the amount of allotment carry-over into 2014.

**Quick Facts 2014**

Population Served: 153,400

Members: 37 municipalities & 1 Metis Settlement

Member Public Libraries: 45

Contracting Schools: 51

Director: Linda Duplessis

**Present:**

Veronica Bliska, Chair MD of Peace

Jane Farney Town of Beaverlodge

## Ron Longtin Village of Berwyn

Lorrie Shelp MD of Big Lakes

Peter Frixel Clear Hills County

Ray Skrepnek MD of Fairview

Owen Stanford Town of Fairview

## Lynn Farrell Town of Falher

Brock Smith County of Grande Prairie

Lorne Radbourne City of Grande Prairie

Lynne Coulter Grande Prairie Public

Library

Roxie Rutt MD of Greenview

Dirk Thompson Town of Grimshaw

Brenda Kerr Town of Manning

Philippa O'Mahony Town of McLennan

Linda Halabisky County of Northern Lights

## Carolyn Kolebaba Northern Sunrise County

Dollie Anderson MD of Opportunity

Reta Nooskey Paddle Prairie Metis

Settlement

Elaine Manzer Town of Peace River

## Tom Villeneuve Village of Rycroft

Cindy Clarke Saddle Hills County

Claude Lagace Town of Sexsmith

Philip Lokken Town of Slave Lake

### Raoul Johnson MD of Smoky River

### Elaine Garrow MD of Spirit River

Warren Stewart Town of Valleyview

**Regrets:**

Terry Carbone Birch Hills County

Vacant Village of Donnelly

## Chris Stadnyk Town of Fox Creek

Michael Morgan Town of High Level

Cheryl Novak Village of Nampa

Brenda Stanich Town of Spirit River

Tara Jones Town of Wembley

**Absent:**

Carol Descoteaux Village of Hythe

Paul Smith Town of Rainbow Lake

###### Donna Deynaka Town of High Prairie

Sharilynn Dionne Village of Hines Creek

Murray Kerik MD of Lesser Slave River

**Board Meeting Highlights**

 **May 10, 2014**

*This summary is an awareness tool designed to keep you informed about Peace Library System activities and Board decisions. It is distributed to member councils, library boards and the Peace Library System Board of Directors after each Board meeting.*