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**Quick Facts 2015**

Population Served: 153,400

Members: 37 municipalities & 1 Metis Settlement

Member Public Libraries: 45

Contracting Schools: 50

Director: Linda Duplessis

## Present:

## Veronica Bliska, Chair MD of Peace

## Wendy Olson-Lepchuk Town of Beaverlodge

## Ann Stewart MD of Big Lakes

Terry Carbone Birch Hills County

## Peter Frixel Clear Hills County

Ray Skrepnek MD of Fairview

Owen Stanford Town of Fairview

Jackie Hockey Town of Falher

## Chris Stadnyk Town of Fox Creek

Chris Thiessen City of Grande Prairie

Brock Smith County of Grande Prairie

Lynne Coulter Grande Prairie Public Library

Roxie Rutt MD of Greenview

Dirk Thompson Town of Grimshaw

Brad Pearson MD of Lesser Slave River

Brenda Kerr Town of Manning

Philippa O'Mahony Town of McLennan (via Teleconference)

Cheryl Novak Village of Nampa

Linda Halabisky County of Northern Lights

## Carolyn Kolebaba Northern Sunrise County

Dollie Anderson MD of Opportunity

Reta Nooskey Paddle Prairie Métis Settlement

Elaine Manzer Town of Peace River

Manon Joice Village of Rycroft

Clinton Froehlick Town of Sexsmith

### Raoul Johnson MD of Smoky River

### Elaine Garrow MD of Spirit River

Tanya Boman Town of Valleyview

**Regrets:**

Vacant Village of Donnelly

## Vacant Village of Hythe

### Cindy Clarke Saddle Hills County

Stefan Plouffe Town of Slave Lake

Brenda Stanich Town of Spirit River

Tara Jones Town of Wembley

## Absent:

## Ron Longtin Village of Berwyn

Jacy Rapke Town of High Level

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

## Sharilynn Dionne Village of Hines Creek

Michelle Farris Town of Rainbow Lake

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

The Board reviewed the 2015 financial forecast. An unexpected surplus of about $65,000 is anticipated, largely due to an increase in the provincial system operating grant and temporary staff vacancies throughout the year. Any surplus funds will be transferred to capital reserves.

The Board approved the 2016 Operating Budget, which supports the new 2016-2018 *Plan of Service*. The budget includes a commitment to offer more technology training for member library staff, increased support for early literacy, assistance with marketing, new eResources, and board orientations for member library boards.

The 2016 Capital Budget was approved. It includes purchase of a laptop and projectors, server room A/C upgrades and staff workstation chairs.

The Director reported that a letter had been sent to Minister Larivee on behalf of all seven library systems. The letter asked for a meeting to discuss system operating grants, infrastructure needs, and services to First Nations.

Revisions to the *Confidentiality Policy, Materials Selection & Acquisition Policy,* and *Banked Time Policy* were approved, along with a new *Resources Lent to Libraries Policy*.

Long service awards were presented to Lynne Coulter (Grande Prairie Public Library) and Cheryl Novak (Village of Nampa) for 5 years of service.

The Consulting Services Coordinator reported that the fall Rural Libraries Conference was very successful and attracted 46 brand new attendees. Thirty-four libraries participated in the annual TD-Summer Reading Club, with 1,565 children reading a total of 11,761 books over the summer.

The Technical Services Manager reported that a new delivery van had been purchased and that the cost would be offset by a matching Community Initiatives Program (CIP) grant.

The IT Services Manager reported that Fred Richard has joined PLS as the new Desktop and Network Administrator. The server replacement project was successfully completed in September, prior to the Polaris upgrade on October 5.

The Director provided an orientation to the System for new board members. Ken Allan, Library Consultant with the Public Library Services Branch, provided an orientation to provincial legislation and board responsibilities.

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

**Board Meeting Highlights**

**November 28, 2015**