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**Present:**

## Veronica Bliska, Chair MD of Peace

## Wendy Olson-Lepchuk Town of Beaverlodge

## Ann Stewart MD of Big Lakes

## 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

Kevin O’Toole City of Grande Prairie

Maura Good Grande Prairie Public Library

Brock Smith County of Grande Prairie

Roxie Rutt MD of Greenview

Philippa O'Mahony Town of McLennan

Linda Halabisky County of Northern Lights

## Carolyn Kolebaba Northern Sunrise County

Reta Nooskey Paddle Prairie Métis Settlement

Elaine Manzer Town of Peace River

Pat Sydoruk Village of Rycroft

### Willis Fitzsimmons Saddle Hills County

Stefan Plouffe Town of Slave Lake

### Elaine Garrow MD of Spirit River

### Raoul Johnson MD of Smoky River

**Regrets:**

Vacant Village of Donnelly

Dirk Thompson Town of Grimshaw

###### Vacant Town of High Prairie

## Vacant Village of Hythe

Murray Kerik MD of Lesser Slave River

Claude Lagace Town of Sexsmith

Brenda Stanich Town of Spirit River

## Absent:

## Ron Longtin Village of Berwyn

## Terry Carbone Birch Hills County

Michael Morgan Town of High Level

Sharilynn Dionne Village of Hines Creek

Brenda Kerr Town of Manning

Cheryl Novak Village of Nampa

Dollie Anderson MD of Opportunity

Michelle Farris Town of Rainbow Lake

Jim Joelson Town of Valleyview

Tara Jones Town of Wembley

*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.*

**Quick Facts 2015**

Population Served: 153,400

Members: 37 municipalities & 1 Metis Settlement

Member Public Libraries: 45

Contracting Schools: 50

Director: Linda Duplessis

The Board reviewed Peace Library System’s strategic planning progress. A comprehensive community engagement and consultation process gathered input from member library boards, library managers, councils and PLS staff. The results have been reviewed by the Plan of Service Committee and will form the basis for the new *2016-2018 Plan of Service* which will be tabled at the November meeting.

An update on the 2015-2016 provincial operating grants for libraries was provided. With the Minister of Municipal Affair’s approval, library and library system grants have been calculated using 2014 population figures and the 1.8 – 2.2 per cent increase set out in the former Conservative government’s budget. Libraries received 75 per cent of their grant funds in June and will receive the final installment in September.

The Board discussed the best timing for the Chair and Director to meet with the Minister of Municipal Affairs. We will wait until after a Public Library Services Branch meeting on October 22, which should provide valuable updates, and help develop our message to the Minister.

The Board reviewed a letter from the Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs concerning population counts for Métis settlements. Métis settlement populations have been calculated in different ways over the years and a longer-term solution is being sought to stabilize grants.

Revisions to the following policies were approved: *Allotment Fund Policy* and *Records Management Policy for Library Service Points*.

Long service awards were presented to Belinda Halabisky (County of Northern Lights) and Raoul Johnson (MD of Smoky River) for five years of service, and to Brock Smith (County of Grande Prairie) for 20 years of service.

The Technical Services Manager reported that the cataloguing of library materials is completely up to date.

The Consulting Services Manager reported that 35 member libraries participated in the TD Summer Reading Club and are currently submitting usage statistics. She also provided a chart to show the increased usage of eBooks and eResources across the region for the first six months of 2015.

The IT Services report indicated that a new Desktop and Network Administrator will soon be hired, and the installation of new servers will be complete by the end of September.

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

**Board Meeting Highlights**

**September 19, 2015**