



Board Meeting Highlights 24 February 2024

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 held a full Board meeting on 24 February 2024.

Revisions or reaffirmations were approved for the following policies: *Environmental Practices Policy, Health and Safety Policy for Library Service Points, Conflict of Interest Policy, Outside Employment and Other Activities Policy* and the *Service Point Legislative Bylaws*. In addition, the 2023 accomplishments for the Peace Library Board Annual Report were approved.

Other items for decision included the 2024 Operating Budget and the 2023 LibPas annual report submission to the Public Library Services Branch of Municipal Affairs.

The CEO the processing time for grant applications to the Government of Alberta is now up to about six months. She reported that the Paddle Prairie Métis Settlement library is still waiting on furniture and shelving, but the books and IT equipment are ready for deployment. She reported that the age of the building is starting to result in the need to repair some high use areas such as doors and bathrooms. She reported that she presented to the MD of Greenview council and that a new IT manager was hired, Ryan Goff.

Staff reported that the Windows 11 pilot was rolled out at the headquarters building, with the plan to have the office fully upgraded in March and then rolled out to libraries by the end of 2024. The Brownvale SuperNet rollout has been completed, and an IT Specialist is currently being recruited. The number of items ordered by libraries in 2023 increased by 2,500, with a concomitant increase in items catalogued and processed. Interlibrary loans within the system doubled in 2023, while outside circulation and interlibrary loan remained steady. Annual Report submissions are underway. Plan of Service planning is underway. E-resource usage increased substantially in 2023. The TD Summer Reading Program is ramping up. PLS is hosting a one-day symposium on 31 May, and the Stronger Together conference will be a two-day in-person conference in October.

Minutes from the Executive, Personnel and Plan of Service committees were approved. Year-end allotment fund balances were presented.

A representative from ALTA – the Alberta Library Trustees Association – will be invited to present at the next Board meeting.

Present:

- Agnes Roshuk Village of Nampa
- Alain Blanchette (zoom) MD of Smoky River
- Alison Bjornson Village of Hines Creek
- Amber Bean Clear Hills County
- Ann Stewart (zoom) Big Lakes County
- Anna Underwood Town of Wembley
- Brad Pearson MD of Lesser Slave River
- Cal Mosher Town of Beaverlodge
- Carolyn Kolebaba, Chair (zoom) Northern Sunrise County
- Dalen Richardson MD of Fairview
- Denise Joudrey Birch Hills County
- Elaine Manzer Town of Peace River
- Harry Ezio (zoom) Town of Spirit River
- Jacqueline Maisonneuve (zoom) Town of McLennan
- James Waikle Town of High Prairie
- Lindsay Brown Town of Falher
- Mark Liboiron (zoom) Town of High Level
- Meesha Bainton Town of Fox Creek
- Michelle Farris (zoom) Town of Rainbow Lake
- Roxann Dreger (zoom) Village of Rycroft
- Stan Golob Town of Fairview
- Tahirih Wiebe MD of Opportunity
- Tanya Boman Town of Valleyview
- Terry Ungarian (Alt) County of Northern Lights
- Theresa Johnson MD of Peace
- Tom Burton MD of Greenview

Regrets:

- Vacant Village of Donnelly
- Vacant Village of Girouxville

Absent:

- Carmen Johnson Town of Grimshaw
- Dennis Stredulinsky Town of Sexsmith
- Grant Berg City of Grande Prairie
- Greg Pasichnuk Town of Manning
- Jane Weber Village of Berwyn
- Kirsten Smith Saddle Hills County
- Leanne Beaupre County of Grande Prairie
- Nick Van Rootselaar MD of Spirit River
- Reta Nooskey Paddle Prairie Métis Settlement
- Steve Adams Town of Slave Lake

Quick Facts 2024

Population Served: 178,009
 Members: 37 municipalities & 1 Métis Settlement
 Member Public Libraries: 46
 Contracting Schools: 34
 Chair: Carolyn Kolebaba (Northern Sunrise County)
 CEO: Louisa Robison

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

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.