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**Present:**

Veronica Bliska, Chair MD of Peace

Wendy Olson-Lepchuk Town of Beaverlodge

## Terry Carbone Birch Hills County

Ray Skrepnek MD of Fairview

## Lindsay Brown Town of Falher

Brock Smith County of Grande Prairie

Maura Good Grande Prairie Public Library

Dirk Thompson Town of Grimshaw

Jacy Rapke Town of High Level

Brad Pearson MD of Lesser Slave River

Brenda Kerr Town of Manning

Philippa O'Mahony Town of McLennan

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 Metis Settlement

Elaine Manzer Town of Peace River

Cindy Clarke Saddle Hills County

Clinton Froehlick Town of Sexsmith

### Raoul Johnson MD of Smoky River

### Elaine Garrow MD of Spirit River

Tanya Boman Town of Valleyview

Tara Jones Town of Wembley

**Regrets:**

Lorrie Shelp Big Lakes County

Vacant Village of Donnelly

Vacant Village of Girouxville

Chris Thiessen City of Grande Prairie

Vacant Village of Hythe

## Manon Joice Village of Rycroft

Brenda Stanich Town of Spirit River

## Absent:

## Ron Longtin Village of Berwyn

Peter Frixel Clear Hills County

Owen Stanford Town of Fairview

Donna Deynaka Town of High Prairie

## Brenda Burridge Town of Fox Creek

Roxie Rutt MD of Greenview

###### Sharilynn Dionne Village of Hines Creek

Michelle Farris Town of Rainbow Lake

Julie Brandle Town of Slave Lake

**AGM/Board Meeting Highlights**

**May 14, 2016**

**Quick Facts 2016**

Population Served: 167,804

Members: 38 municipalities & 1 Métis Settlement

Member Public Libraries: 45

Contracting Schools: 50

Director: Linda Duplessis

*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.*

At the Annual General Meeting, the Board received the 2015 Annual Report and the 2015 Audited Financial Statements, copies of which will be distributed to councils, library boards, and contracting school divisions. The Executive, Personnel, and Plan of Service 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 2016-2017.

The Chair reported that she and the Director met with Municipal Affairs Minister Larivee on April 29 during the Alberta Library Conference. They thanked the Minister for recent funding announcements, reviewed the regional library services provided to member libraries, and touched on the challenges of offering services over a large geographic area. The meeting was positive and encouraging.

The Director reported that the provincial budget included additional funding for public library services. Operating grants will be calculated at 2015 population levels, which will benefit growth areas. As well, over $600,000 has been set aside to increase access to existing public library services by on-reserve and on-settlement First Nations and Métis people. Peace Library System is eligible for a $208,034 grant and will work with library managers in the region and provincial colleagues to determine the most effective use of the funds.

In response to input from its members in 2015, Peace Library System has hired two term employees. A Marketing Associate will be in place for the summer to develop a regional marketing plan and help libraries promote their services within their communities. Over the next year, a Digital Trainer & IT Assistant will train member libraries to help patrons with digital and downloadable resources. She will also trouble-shoot questions about devices and software, and offer basic IT support as needed. Both positions start May, 2016.

Revisions to the *Selection, Purchase & Disposition of Library Resources Policy for Library Service Points* were approved.

The IT Services Manager reported that she is gathering quotations for an e-mail migration and for increased Internet bandwidth. These network changes and improvements will benefit member libraries on the PLS network.

The Consulting Services Manager reported that 30 libraries are participating in this year’s *Wild!* TD Summer Reading Club. She also promoted this year’s Rural Libraries Conference, to be held September 22-23 in Grande Prairie.

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