



# Board Meeting Highlights September 18, 2021 (via Zoom)

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 18 September over Zoom.

There were no policy revisions approved at this meeting.

The CEO reported that some pandemic restrictions in libraries have resumed with restrictions to programming and entrance requirements. Municipal Affairs and the PLSB are conducting virtual engagement sessions with stakeholders such as libraries, board members, associations and node representatives. Sessions continue through September on four separate topics and all are invited to attend and give feedback. The Plan of Service draft is ready for the Committee to review and approve for referring to the Executive Committee. Two staff members are leaving and advertising has begun to fill those openings.

The Consulting Services Manager reported that 21 PLS libraries participated in the TD Summer Reading Program, with an additional 13 libraries running independent programs. The 2021 Stronger Together conference will again be held online this year, 22-24 September. Consulting visits for the fall are being planned now for Fall. With usage of eBooks and eAudiobooks continuing to increase and other digital resource use declining, decisions were made to re-allocate resources and cancel some low usage databases. Digital learning modules on how to use e-resources are available on Niche Academy. Indigenous services continue with Candace Cardinal coming on staff full time.

The IT Services Manager reported that the Polaris upgrade to version 7.0 has been completed and it has addressed the issues with the previous version. The transition to SuperNet 2.0 has been completed with the exception of four libraries who need some infrastructure upgrade, they will be completed in 2022. The internet bandwidth at PLS Headquarters has also been increased from 200 to 500 Mbps, which increases the speed in the libraries as well. Overdue fines have now been reinstated for those libraries who charge them.

The Technical Services Manager reported that the backlog in both Acquisitions and Cataloguing have been addressed and the department is now functioning within acceptable time parameters. One cataloguer who has been off on leave has resigned that position. The courier stop in Clairmont for the new book lockers at the Wellington Resource Centre has been implemented.

Ken Allan from the PLSB presented on the virtual engagement sessions and five-year long service awards were presented to Joy McGregor and Anna Underwood.

**Quick Facts 2021**

Population Served: 175,246  
 Members: 38 municipalities & 1 Métis Settlement  
 Member Public Libraries: 46  
 Contracting Schools: 50  
 Chair: Carolyn Kolebaba (Northern Sunrise County)  
 CEO: Louisa Robison

**Present:**

- Carolyn Kolebaba, Chair
- Gena Jones
- Cindy Hockley
- Lorrie Shelp
- Albert Poetker
- Peter Frixel
- Ray Skrepnek
- Stan Golob
- Lindsay Brown
- Meesha Bainton
- Chris Thiessen
- Linda Waddy
- Roxie Chapman
- Dennis Sukeroff
- Brian Gilroy
- Camille Zavisha
- Brad Pearson
- Sunni-Jeanne Walker
- Marie-Anne Jones
- Cheryl Novak
- Belinda Halabisky
- Brendan Powell
- Sandra Eastman
- Elaine Manzer
- Roxann Dreger
- John Moen
- Isak Skjaveland
- Harry Ezio
- Joy McGregor
- Elaine Garrow
- Raoul Johnson
- Tanya Boman
- Anna Underwood

- Northern Sunrise County
- Town of Beaverlodge
- Village of Berwyn
- Big Lakes County
- Birch Hills County
- Clear Hills County
- MD of Fairview
- Town of Fairview
- Town of Falher
- Town of Fox Creek
- City of Grande Prairie
- County of Grande Prairie
- MD of Greenview
- Town of Grimshaw
- Town of High Prairie
- Village of Hines Creek
- MD of Lesser Slave River
- Town of Manning
- Town of McLennan
- Village of Nampa
- County of Northern Lights
- MD of Opportunity
- MD of Peace
- Town of Peace River
- Village of Rycroft
- Saddle Hills County
- Town of Sexsmith
- Town of Spirit River
- Town of Slave Lake
- MD of Spirit River
- MD of Smoky River
- Town of Valleyview
- Town of Wembley

**Regrets:**

- Vacant
- Vacant
- Village of Donnelly
- Village of Girouxville

**Absent:**

- Brent Anderson
- Reta Nooskey
- Michelle Farris
- Town of High Level
- Paddle Prairie Métis Settlement
- Town of Rainbow Lake

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.*