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MERRY CHRISTMAS!



Back row, left to right: Ryan Goff, Karen Van der Woerd, Dennis Sheppard, Janet Ayles, Dorothy Tay-Ellingboe, Jen Anderson, Carol Downing, Rae Weniger, Tora Volkers. Front row, left to right: Linda Duplessis, Alrene Dempster, Katherine Wiebe, Rose-Marie Finch, Sheri Leeson, Janet Schultz. Inset, top to bottom: Cliff Lesh, Wendy Hodges, Julia Little

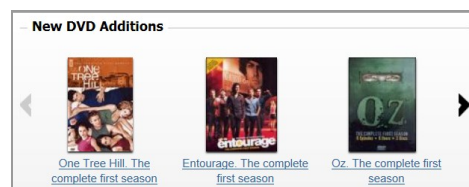
Big Changes for Member Library Websites!

By Janet Ayles, IT Services Manager, Peace Library System

Well, we've been dropping hints for months, but it is now official: When the noisemakers and streamers come down signalling the new year, Peace Library System and member libraries will have new websites.

After looking around to see our available options, PLS has decided on **Hybrid Forge** as our new website provider. Hybrid Forge is no stranger to the library world. Four other library systems in Alberta, including Yellowhead Regional Library and Marigold Library System, are part of the Hybrid Forge family. If you have a smartphone or tablet, you may have used the TRACpac app. This handy app is another one of Hybrid Forge's projects, as is the TRACpac portal page.

Hybrid Forge comes with lots of new widgets for your website like a Calendar of Events, Current News, and This Day in History. Patrons will also be able to log in to your website using their barcode and PIN in order to get recommended reads and request books. Libraries will also now be able to highlight items in their collection with book lists that link directly to the item in TRACpac.



From the Director



By Linda Duplessis, Director, Peace Library System



There are a lot of activities going on behind the scenes that will be of interest to libraries. Please take note of the following:

RISE Videoconference Network Comes to the Peace

The pilot project to extend the RISE videoconferencing network now has four participants from the Peace region: **Peace Library System, Grande Prairie Public Library, Falher Library - Bibliothèque Dentinger** and **Peace River Municipal Library**. The newly participating libraries have enjoyed a "Meet and Greet" time and Grande Prairie has already offered a program to some of the other RISE libraries. We are looking forward to finding out the potential of videoconferencing in libraries in our region.

Alberta Multilingual Book Consortium to Wind Down

The Alberta Multilingual Book Consortium (AMBC) will be discontinued in 2013. Through this provincial service, which is managed by Parkland Regional Library, Alberta libraries can request boxes of books in 30 different languages. The service has been under-utilized across the province and many consortium members have been concerned about the fees paid relative to the usage in their regions. Due to the number of members that would be withdrawing from the service, a decision was made to discontinue the AMBC and begin to wind it down. The materials in the collection will be distributed to consortium members on a pro-rated basis, based on population. PLS libraries may request blocks until December 14, 2012. Please keep the blocks you have right now and only send them back if Parkland requests them.

New Provincial Resource Sharing Policy

After consulting with stakeholders, the Public Library Services Branch (PLSB) has made substantial changes to the provincial Resource Sharing Policy. The concerns raised by PLS regarding the original draft Resource Sharing Policy have been addressed in the rewritten policy. The policy has been split into two policies – a Public Library Network Policy and a Resource Sharing Operational Policy. The Network Policy contains all the content relating to the public library network, written as government policy that focuses on government

objectives and actions. The Resource Sharing Operational Policy contains content related to resource sharing in particular. It lays the groundwork for Alberta -Wide Borrowing, which is the right of any resident in Alberta holding an eligible public library card to borrow on-site from any other network participant as if they were a local user, without using interlibrary loan mechanisms.

First Nations Library in Chinook Arch Regional Library System

The Minister of Municipal Affairs has approved the Kainai Board of Education as the newest member of the Chinook Arch Regional Library System. That means that library services will soon be available on the Blood Reserve, which is the largest reserve in Canada and is home to almost 10,000 people. The Kainai Public Library will be the first public library on a first nations reserve in Alberta and may serve as a model for the development of other public libraries on reserves in Alberta.

Bill C-321 (Library Book Rate) Almost a Reality

Following a vote in the House of Commons on October 3, Bill C-321 on the Library Book Rate again received unanimous support from Members of Parliament. Merv Tweed, MP for Brandon-Souris and sponsor of this private members bill, has confirmed that the bill is now off to the Senate; it is his hope that it will receive Royal Assent by the end of the year. This is a major step forward for this key piece of legislation for the library community.



Linda's grandson, Liam, dropped by in November and left behind this "ginormous!" snowman outside of Peace Library System headquarters.

System News Bits



- **Yvonne McIntyre** of **DeBolt Public Library** has taken a six month leave of absence, which began November 1st. **Rachel Stoesz** is taking care of the library while Yvonne's away.
- **Geraldine Kristensen** has resigned as library manager for **Dixonville Community Library**, effective the end of November. She is currently training **Cayley Cartwright** to take over the position.
- **Valhalla Community Library** celebrated its 25th anniversary on October 24, with cake and coffee for the community.
- **Shauna Kuhar** resigned as the library manager for **Woking Municipal Library**. Taking over from Shauna is **Paola Morejon**.
- **Christina Otterstrom-Cedar** has resigned from **Rycroft Municipal Library**. The new library manager is **Barb Greenough**.
- **Evelyn Siebert** will be off on medical leave until the beginning of January. **Lavonne Petkau** is filling in for Ev at **La Glace Community Library** until she returns.
- Peace Library System's **Julia Little** (née Dion) gave birth to son **Angus Andrew** on September 3. Congratulations!



Proud new mom **Julia Little** with baby **Angus** at her shower held at PLS HQ.

Remembering Patricia Jobb

Former Peace Library System (PLS) Director, **Patricia Jobb**, passed away on October 10, 2012 in Sechell, B.C. Pat was born in St. Catharines, Ontario. Her parents encouraged in her an early love of literature, music and movies that became lifelong interests. After a career in journalism and public relations, Pat made a career change and received her Master of Library Science degree in 1987. She joined PLS in 1987 as a Public Service Consultant and the System's first employee in Grande Prairie. In addition to providing consultative services, some of her early responsibilities included coordinating the 1987 version of the Rural Libraries Conference (which was held less than four weeks after she started with the System), and organizing the transfer of the University of Alberta Extension collection to the Peace Library System. She served as PLS Director from 1989 to 1995. During this very busy time, she oversaw the re-negotiation of all the contracts with member jurisdictions, the negotiation of an automation contract for the Dynix System, and construction of the new building.

After leaving PLS, Pat joined the staff of Edmonton Public Library, first as a special projects coordinator and later as Executive Director, Public Services, from 1998 until her retirement in 2008. She and her husband, Wayne, moved to Pender Harbour, BC in 2009, where they could fully pursue their love of sailing. Pat's love of the outdoors and nature manifested itself in her photos, paintings, sketches and fine art prints. She became quite an accomplished artist, receiving an Award of Excellence in the 2011 Federation of Canadian Artists exhibition along with other accolades.

Pat will be missed by the provincial and national library community. She was an active member of the Library Association of Alberta, serving as President for 1992-93. She was actively involved in the Canadian Library Association and served as an Executive member from 2003-2006. She received national recognition when she received the CAPL/Brodart Outstanding Public Library Service Award in 2008.

Linda Duplessis remembers Pat as a strong leader and a mentor who encouraged staff to excel in their given areas. She also remembers Pat's sense of humour which resulted in the Elvis awards and the Blue Chicken awards being presented at the Rural Libraries Conference (Some of you will remember those beautiful plaques of honour!). Pat made many lasting contributions to Peace Library System and will be sincerely missed.



Patricia Jobb
1951-2012



News 'N' Notes

Your quarterly professional guide to news, services and connection with the staff at PLS.

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Fall Author Tour Wrap up



Hythe's **Karen Bass**, pictured on the left at Rainbow Lake School, performed 11 readings for 340 participants from October 1st to 4th. Throughout her tour, she visited the communities of Dixonville, Eaglesham, Falher, High Level, Keg River, McLennan, Manning, Nampa, Paddle Prairie, Peace River, and Rainbow Lake.



Robert Feagan, pictured on the right at **La Glace Community Library**, visited the communities of Beaverlodge, DeBolt/Ridgevalley, Elmworth, Fox Creek, Grande Prairie, Hythe, La Glace, Sexsmith, Valhalla, Valleyview and Wembley. From October 21st to 25th, he performed 11 readings for 706 participants.

In total, 22 readings were presented to 1,046 participants, and over 2,300 km were travelled. These fall author tours were sponsored in part by **the Young Alberta Book Society**, the **Alberta Foundation for the Arts**, and **Peace Library System**.

Rural Libraries Conference Review

The 2012 Rural Libraries Conference was a big success! On September 21 and 22 at the Grande Prairie Inn, 20 speakers gave 23 presentations to over 165 delegates. We had representation from many different school and public libraries and library boards. People came from as far away as Hay River, NT in the north, Fort Nelson, BC to the west and Longview, AB to the south.



Fourteen exhibitors joined us, several of which were new and local. Also adding a new feel to the conference was the change in venue from the previous years' conferences. While there were a few growing pains with the Grande Prairie Inn, these have since been addressed with the hotel and should not be an issue come RLC 2013.

Congratulations to **Melanie DenOudsten** of **High Level** for winning the Early Bird Registration prize - a Pentax Optio RZ 10 digital camera & case from Watson's Foto Source, and to **Lisa Wardley** of **Zama City** for winning the Mystery Phrase game prize - a Blu-ray player courtesy of CVS Midwest Tape. Also, congratulations to **Joy Grant** of the **MD of Opportunity libraries** for receiving the delegate's choice award for best poster. Joy was presented with a piece of original art donated by internationally known Peace Country artist, Peter von Tiesenhausen.

A huge thank you to everyone who participated in the conference, as a delegate, speaker, sponsor, exhibitor or volunteer.

Please save the dates for RLC 2013: September 26 & 27!

Excellence in Library Service Awards

Four Peace area librarians were recognized for their outstanding work in school and public library service when they received the Excellence in Library Service awards for 2012. **Linda Prudholme-Warrior** of **Peace River Municipal Library**, and **Patricia McLeod** of the **Rotary Club of Slave Lake Public Library** were recipients in the public library category, while **Ann Marie Brezovski** of **St. Stephen's Catholic School** in Valleyview and **Mary Anne Matheson** of **Manning Elementary School** in Manning were recognized in the school library category. The recipients were presented with their awards at Peace Library System's 2012 Rural Libraries Conference held on September 20 and 21 in Grande Prairie.



Linda Prudholme-Warrior (left, with Peace Library Board Chair, **Veronica Bliska**) was recognized for her calm, quiet leadership during the chaos and upheaval of the **Peace River Municipal Library** renovation project. During this time, she volunteered many hours above and beyond the regular work day, immersed herself in library design and adapted significant changes in her role as library manager with grace. **Leslie Ayre-Jaschke**, Chair of the Peace River Municipal Library Board, who nominated Linda for the award, summarized Linda's impact, "We have seen a dramatic increase in memberships, expanded programming, the art gallery has frequently changed exhibits, meeting rooms are being used, and we have a full complement of committed and competent staff, much loved by patrons. Without Linda's calm leadership throughout three often-chaotic years, along with her ability to juggle so many responsibilities, her keen eye for detail and design, as well as her incredible perseverance, it is unlikely that the final result would have been so beautiful or functional."

Patricia "Pat" McLeod (right) of the **Rotary Club of Slave Lake Public Library** was recognized for her outstanding dedication and commitment to providing library service during the period of turmoil and transition following the tragic wildfires and destruction of Slave Lake's public library. It is her love for her community and its library that gave Pat the strength and determination to step outside of her comfort zone and take on the often overwhelming task of putting together a temporary library facility. Marilyn Cavanagh, then Chair of the Slave Lake Regional Library Board, explained in her nomination letter, "We had no books, no furnishings, no office supplies, no records of any kind, no library manager....but we did have Pat McLeod."



Ann Marie Brezovski (left) was recognized for her outstanding dedication to **St. Stephen's Catholic School**, its staff, but most of all its students. She has continually demonstrated her profound love for children, her drive and initiative to assist those less fortunate, and her unending dedication to serve. For the past 25 years, Ann Marie has been the school librarian at St. Stephen's Catholic School in Valleyview and for the past 24 years, she has also been the school's bus driver, picking up and dropping off students with a warm and friendly smile. Ann Marie has also served as a kindergarten assistant, speech language assistant and for the last six years she has been a classroom assistant for multiple grades, working with teachers to improve student learning.

Teacher **Angela Radzikowski**, who nominated Ann Marie, explained to students in grades two and six that she was nominating Ann Marie for a special librarian award. She asked them to write down what makes Ann Marie so special and here is just a sample of what the children wrote: "Ann Marie is special because ...she loves everybody that she reads to. She does almost everything." – Keleigh, grade 2. "She is the most lovely person I met and she was always there for us whenever we need help with something. Ann Marie has a golden heart that is filled with love, compassion, hope and forgiveness." – Clay, grade 6

Mary Anne Matheson (right) was recognized for effortlessly combining hard work, enthusiasm and dedication with kindness and an eagerness to help all those around her at **Manning Elementary School**. While known for her exemplary organizational skills and efficiency inside the library, this librarian just as naturally spends time on the playground and treats the students as if they were her own children. Assistant Principal **Melody McGrath Taylor** poignantly summarized the importance of librarians such as Mary Anne by concluding her nomination with the following statement: "We need that magic room, where dragons lurk behind shelves, and ghosts give you a thumbs-up from the desk. More than ever, with all of the distractions now available, students need time and motivation to read. At our school, our magnificent librarian provides both."



By encouraging students to read and paying special attention to their individual interests, Mary Anne has instilled a deep love for learning and reading among the students at Manning Elementary School. So much so, that when asked what they love about Mary Anne, students responded with the following comments: "It feels like I can read 100 books when she is there." – Shane, grade 1. "Mrs. Matheson is kind of a brainiac when it comes to our SMART boards. Without Mrs. Matheson our library would be really lame!" – Cody, grade 6

Tech Services Tidbits



By Carol Downing, Assistant Director & Technical Services Manager, Peace Library System



Once again year end is creeping up on us and rollover time for Polaris is coming close. This means that our Acquisitions staff have deadlines to get orders and vouchers entered into Polaris. The last day for libraries to have orders into PLS headquarters was November 29th. The last day for libraries to have vouchers into PLS headquarters is December 11th. Orders and vouchers received after these dates will not be entered until 2013.

Turn-around time is always on the minds of library staff, who of course like to receive new items as quickly as possible to satisfy the demands of their eager patrons. Title Source 3 (TS3) has helped to make turn-around time a lot quicker, as ordering staff are saved the time of typing information for each title. Please send Karen an e-mail indicating the number of carts, the quantity in each cart, and the name of the library whenever you send in a TS3 cart, or she may never know that the cart has been sent.

There are some other details that come into play with turn-around time, as well. The programs that we send to the libraries, such as the Hotlist and Super Forthcoming, contain lists of pre-pub titles (titles that are not published yet). For example, titles in the Super Forthcoming lists may not be published for up to two months. Titles in the Hotlist may not be published as

far ahead as two years in some cases. In return, by ordering early the publishers provide us with large discounts. So, we all win. Please take note of the actual publication date listed beside each title. There is also the odd time that a publisher may delay publication, over which we have no control.

The ordering, receiving and cataloguing process has five basic steps:

1. Peace Library System sends the order to the vendor. The status shows in Polaris as *on order*.
2. The vendor boxes the order for shipment and sends it. Some items may be backordered due to vendor supply shortages.
3. Once the items arrive at PLS headquarters, they are unpacked and funds are taken from your allotment.
4. The cataloguers then catalogue the items. Once the items have been catalogued, the status changes to *In Processing*.
5. The items are then shipped to the library.

PLS Technical Services staff are very conscious of the fact that libraries need to receive their orders as quickly as possible to satisfy patron demands and work very hard to make this happen.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Tech Services staff.

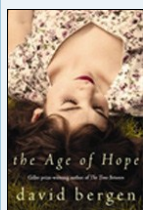


Canada Reads 2013: The Top 5s

CBC's Canada Reads 2013 just got regional. Instead of the usual format of choosing five books to be championed by panelists, CBC is trying something new. Canadians were asked to submit any title they'd like to see on the Canada Reads list. The results were then tallied and sorted into one of the five regions (British Columbia and Yukon, Prairies and North, Ontario, Quebec, and the Atlantic Provinces) the book represented. The top 10 titles for each region were presented to the Canadian public, and have since been whittled down to the top 5 titles for each region based on votes.

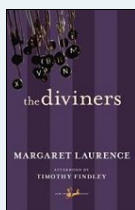
Now it's up to the panelists (who have yet to be announced at the time of publication). Each panelist, chosen to represent a region, will choose a book from their region's top five to champion. In February, the turf war begins - as the panelists go head to head with their region's book against the others - with only one winner standing!

Prairies and North top 5:



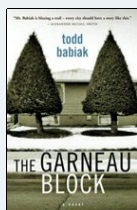
The Age of Hope

By David Bergen



The Diviners

By Margaret Laurence



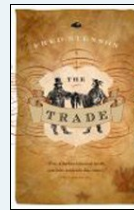
The Garneau Block

By Todd Babiak



Late Nights on Air

By Elizabeth Hay



The Trade

By Fred Stenson



***Finding Balance* campaign aims to prevent seniors' falls before it happens**

Get involved by ordering free resources for your community

What do the Queen Mother, Nancy Reagan, Ed McMahon, Pope Benedict XVI and Fidel Castro have in common?

They are all seniors who have suffered the serious consequences of a preventable fall.

Sadly, thousands of seniors fall every year in Alberta, often with devastating results

One in three persons over 65 will fall at least once a year. In 2010, fall-related injuries among seniors resulted in more than 7,700 hospital admissions and 20,000 emergency department visits. And 40 per cent of nursing home admissions are the result of falls.

Anyone can fall, of course, but as you get older your chances of falling and getting hurt increase. While falling may not seem serious, falls can disable, cause physical and mental distress, and seriously diminish the quality of life, especially for seniors.

The good news is falls are preventable.

The Alberta Centre for Injury Control & Research has partnered with a variety of organizations to develop an annual month-long information campaign called *Finding Balance* focused on reducing the number of falls among seniors in Alberta.

Finding Balance, now in its fifth year, was launched November 1 targeting independent, well seniors.

The campaign's themes were based on current research and evidence-based practice:

- Check Your Medications: Talk to your doctor or pharmacist
- Keep Active: Exercise for strength and balance
- Watch Your Step: Wherever you are
- Speak Up About Dizziness: Talk to your doctor and take action

Finding Balance posters, flyers, bookmarks and other materials are available free of charge to any groups in Alberta. Order free resources to distribute to seniors by visiting <http://findingbalancealberta.ca> or by calling 1-780-492-6019!

In November there was also an extensive media support campaign. It included commercial spots around newscasts on Global TV stations across the province, an website promotion and media interviews with health care professionals talking about steps that can be taken to prevent falls.

For more information, contact the **Alberta Centre for Injury Control & Research** by calling 1-780-492-6019, emailing acicr@ualberta.ca or visit www.findingbalancealberta.ca.



Don't want to think about winter? Start planning for the TD Summer Reading Club!

The theme for 2013 is Amazing Race/Travel

Great Program? Exciting News?

Share what you've been doing in your library!

Submit photos, news and events to Jen Anderson at janderson@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca

You can submit items for the newsletter at anytime, and they'll be published in the following issue of *News 'N' Notes*.

“To Use or Not to Use — the Volume Field — That is the Question!”

By Katherine Wiebe, Consulting Services Manager, Peace Library System

A serious issue is happening throughout TRAC libraries regarding the correct use of the **Volume Field** in Polaris **Item Records**. Because the incorrect use of it has such an impact on all members of TRAC, each System Headquarters has committed to train its libraries to use the Volume Field correctly.

Specific Volume Field training for PLS libraries will be coming soon, and all libraries adding holdings in Polaris will be required to demonstrate their ability to use the Volume Field correctly.

Call number	
Scheme:	Dewey Decimal ▼
Prefix:	<input type="text"/>
Class:	<input type="text"/>
Cutter:	<input type="text"/>
Suffix:	<input type="text"/>
Vol:	<input type="text"/>
Copy:	<input type="text"/>

**** Here are a few very important things to know and do ****

- ✓ **ALWAYS** refer to the **TRAC Volume Control Guidelines** manual **BEFORE** entering anything in the Volume Field. The manual contains a 'one-page screen shot and short instruction' for **EACH** instance of **APPROPRIATE** use of the Volume Field.
- The manual is at www.peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca/document/show/3675.
- When cataloguing an item, please **DO NOT** use the Volume Field if you are unclear **when** to use it or **how** to properly format data that goes in that field. This is a CONTROLLED field and must be used precisely, in order to function properly. If in doubt, contact PLS for help with the item.
- If the Volume Field is used when it **shouldn't** be, OR when it is appropriately used but the data in it is **formatted incorrectly**, it jams ALL HOLD requests attached to the bibliographic record. **One incorrect item record** interferes with **ALL** the item records attached to that bibliographic record.
- ✗ **NEVER** use the Volume Field for a book title in a series (e.g. Harry Potter), even if the cover contains a volume (or series) number. Each book title in a series is given its own Bibliographic Record for you to attach that particular title in the series to, so **NO** Volume Field data is permitted. (Only books where a SINGLE Bibliographic Record is used to attach all ISSUES, EDITIONS, or VOLUMES require Volume Field information – for example an encyclopedia in several volumes, or *Fodor's Costa Rica* which publishes a new travel guide for Costa Rica each year.)
- ✓ **ALWAYS** use the Suffix Field if you wish to have the series number appear in the call number for your patrons.
- ✗ **NEVER** put copy information or any other type of non-volume information in the Volume Field.

To brush up on your general skills for adding item records, please refer to **How to Add Item Records in Polaris** at www.peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca/document/show/3352.

PLS will contact libraries on an individual basis when we see information in the Volume Field that must be corrected. If you are struggling with how to format the Volume Field for a particular item, please contact us, or send the item in and we'll add it for you!

Storytime Kits: A Grizzly Reminder!

By Rae Weniger, Receptionist & Consulting Assistant, Peace Library System

Those of you who attended Rural Libraries Conference saw our Storytime Kit display there, and the upsurge in borrowing post-conference was sure evidence! It is easy to forget about the kits, in the course of a busy week, so here's a reminder and a sneak peek at the contents of one of my favorite kits: Bears!

The books:

- *Backyard Bear*
- *Bad Bears go Visiting*
- *Bearcub and Mama*
- *The Bear on the Bed*
- *Bear Snores On*
- *Blueberries for Sal*
- *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do you see?*
- *Climb the Family Tree, Jesse Bear*
- *Dusty Locks and the Three Bears*
- *Goldilocks Returns*
- *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*
- *One Dark Night*
- *Panda Bear, Panda Bear, What do you see?*
- *Rainy Days with Bear*
- *The Three Bears Christmas*
- *Tom Goes to Kindergarten*
- *Victor Vito and Freddie Vasco*
- *The Wild Girl*

The puppets:

- Baby black bear
- Big grizzly
- Dog
- Goldilocks and three bears set
- Grizzly cub
- Mini baby emperor penguin (x2)
- Mini badger (x2)
- Mini black bear (x4)
- Mini eagle (x3)
- Mini field mice (x4)
- Mini grizzly (x3)
- Mini polar bear (x3)
- Mini turtle
- Mini white rabbit (x6)
- Mole (x2)
- Panda bear
- Polar bear cub
- Raven



Before I send the kits out, I personally test the puppets to make sure they are working all right! Here I am, hard at work! To request a kit phone Rae at PLS or email:

rweniger@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca



Congratulations to Grimshaw Municipal Library for being ranked #14 on Online Education Database's list of 25 Libraries We Most Love on Pinterest!

According the list, "Few libraries digitally merge crafts and books with the deft skill of this Alberta-based institution, whose boards mainly focus on projects to do at home and at Grimshaw itself. Parents with kids at home for the summer will especially appreciate the suggestions they so helpfully post."



The complete list is available here:

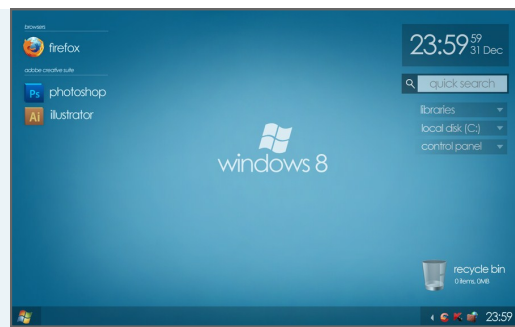
<http://oedb.org/library/beginning-online-learning/25-libraries-we-most-love-on-pinterest>



Windows 8: Coming to a Library Near You?

By Ryan Goff, Network Analyst, Peace Library System

In late October, Microsoft officially released its newest operating system, Windows 8. Having been out for less than a month, the jury is still out on whether it's a hit or miss. However, one thing that is easily noticed is the shift Microsoft is making in the technology market, targeting consumers rather than big business. The new interface is designed for touchscreen devices, such as tablets and newer laptops. Another standout is the introduction of an App Store, similar to what Apple and Google offer on their mobile devices. Add these to a number of other dramatic layout changes, and you might be surprised looking at it for the first time to find out this is another version of Windows.



So, the real question on everyone's mind: is Windows 8 library bound? I'm happy to say that you can rest easy as we will be sticking with the tried and true Windows 7 for quite some time. With Windows 7 being introduced only within the last few years, another operating system change is not needed for the foreseeable future, with support running until at least 2015, if not later. Windows 7 provides all of the necessary features, while presenting a stable and secure platform for our business applications.

At the end of the day, don't be afraid to give Windows 8 a spin, whether it's on a tablet, laptop, or mobile phone, as there may be a number of new features that you enjoy. You never know, it may end up in the library, albeit in the very distant future.



Members of the **Library Managers' Council** (LMC) met for their annual fall meeting on October 15th, *pictured above*, from left to right: Leslie Ann Sharkey, Janet Ayles, Carol Downing, Jen Anderson, Rae Weniger, Jenny Boire, Linda Prudholme-Warrior, Janet Lemay, Katherine Wiebe, Pam Chislett, Linda Duplessis, Linda Chmilar, Chris Burkholder, Sheryl Pelletier.

The Library Managers' Council was established to gather input from member public libraries on regional library matters. The Council advises PLS on Polaris issues, TRAC issues, and other service areas as needed. The LMC meets two times per year and ensures communication among member libraries and with Peace Library System; represents libraries of different sizes; is advisory in nature; and can make recommendations to Peace Library System about services and policies. The LMC reports back to member libraries at the annual Public Library Meeting and will consider TRAC services and make recommendations to the TRAC Advisory Council. If you are interested in joining the LMC be sure to attend the Public Library Meeting in May!



Veronica Bliska, Peace Library Board Chair (left), and **Carolyn Kalebaba** of Northern Sunrise County (right), presented **Shelley Grimm** of **St. Isidore** with a Sony 6" Touchscreen eReader with Wi-Fi on October 27th. Shelley's name was randomly drawn from the participants who filled out the library survey for residents of Northern Sunrise County.

From the Information Desk

By Pam Chislett, Deputy Director, Grande Prairie Public Library



Linda Duplessis, Director of Peace Library System, asked that I write this column about the relationship that Grande Prairie has with Peace Library System Headquarters and also with member libraries. The relationship has developed since the inception of PLS and involves primarily resource sharing and collections.

Resource Sharing

In resource sharing, Grande Prairie has been the facilitator for Interlibrary Loans for members since the start of Peace Library System. There have been several procedures and methods for member libraries to request items for their patrons. The Interlibrary Loan system has evolved from a manual/telephone process to an internet-based process. Through all of the variety of systems, the Grande Prairie Public Library has assisted member libraries through verifying, identifying, requesting, processing and sending items to the libraries. With the imminent implementation of a new VDX upgrade, the role will be adjusted yet again. Grande Prairie staff will be taking a stronger role in training member libraries on the new VDX and will also continue to serve as a resource for questions about library's requests. Training on the new system is taking place on November 23rd, so until then, it is difficult to really know how the new VDX will affect day to day operations in Interlibrary Loan for member libraries. But that is fodder for another day!

Virtual Reference Service

Related somewhat to resource sharing is Grande Prairie's role in the Peace Library System's *Ask Us* service. Over 20 libraries have requested that their patron questions via *Ask Us* be directed to Grande Prairie instead of to the individual library. What this means is that when a patron in, for example, Grimshaw, enters a question via the *Ask Us* icon on the Grimshaw webpage, Grande Prairie will receive an email with a subject line indicating that it is a question from Grimshaw. The email arrives at our reference desk computer and the reference staff work on answering the question. If the variety of questions is like the former provincial service, *Ask a Question*, the subject areas could be local information, genealogy, library hours - the whole range. It is possible that Grande Prairie staff will re-direct the question back to the home library, as local knowledge would be needed to answer the question. The bottom line is that Grande Prairie staff will do their best to provide an answer to the question. The reference desk is staffed during our open hours (63 hours per week).

Collection Development

In the area of collections, Grande Prairie participates in the PLS collection development project. Some of the subject areas where items are purchased are International law, ophthalmology, dentistry plus many more. For some areas it is difficult to find books that are written at a level that a public library audience would be able to understand and often the items are quite expensive. They are also usually very low circulating items. However, it is felt that as the largest library in PLS, that Grande Prairie should have these items, which are then available to all member libraries.

To clearly define our role in PLS, we have a contract that specifies our responsibilities and we are supported financially in the delivery of these responsibilities. The arrangement ensures that the Interlibrary Loan network is supported in terms of training, functionality and execution for members of PLS. It ensures that PLS has a solid resource collection in a variety of topics whether they are esoteric or not. It ensures that the expertise of the Grande Prairie staff is utilized in the delivery of conferences, information sources, special projects, training and training materials, etc.

Grande Prairie learns much from the member PLS libraries as well. It never fails to amaze me at the energy, creativity and originality that is evident in the delivery of public library service in the Peace. Smaller libraries can be more nimble in responding to their public demands and as a result program ideas can be implemented at more opportune timeframe than a larger library can realize. This quick reaction time often results in resounding successful programs.

The relationship between PLS Headquarters, member libraries and the Grande Prairie Public Library has been a long, mutually beneficial one. Through the sharing of resources, knowledge and expertise, the Peace area communities and their populations are receiving quality library service. We are truly stronger working together.



From the IT Desk



By Janet Ayles, IT Services Manager, Peace Library System

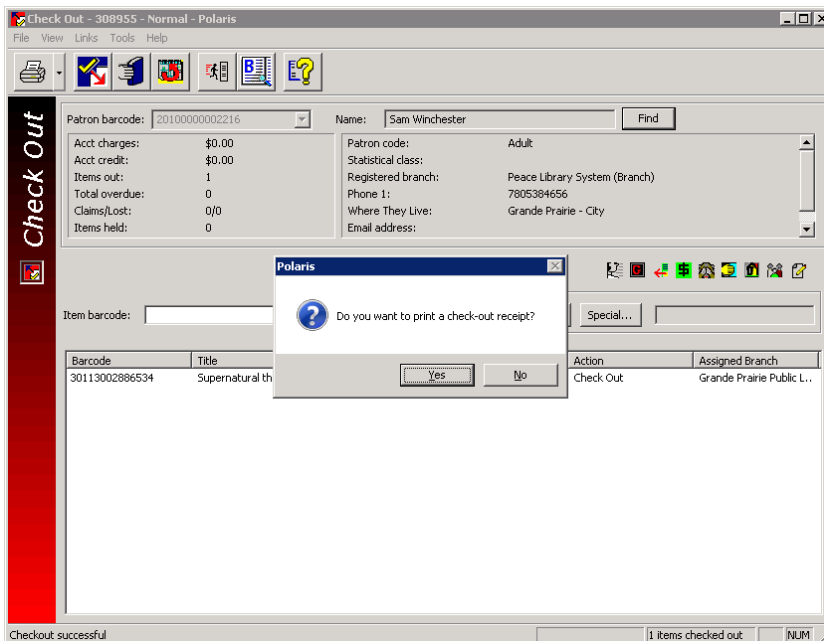


Christmas Hours

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas. If you're anything like me, the season has completely snuck up on you. With decorating, shopping, and all the other fun stuff on the horizon, it's important not to forget some of the smaller details. **If the hours for your library are changing or you will be closed for all or part of the holidays, please let me know.** In order for Polaris to calculate due dates and fines properly, the dates and hours need to be accurate.

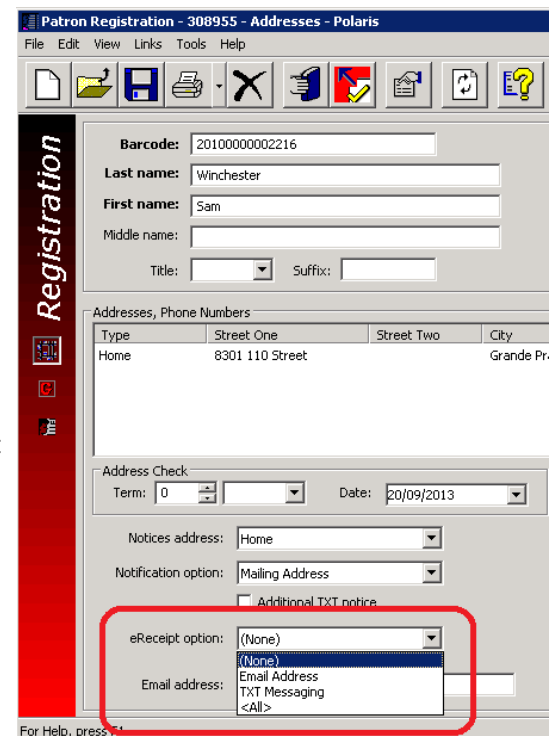
Polaris 4.1

We've been hearing about it for so long, but Polaris 4.1 is finally here. There's been a lot of talk about the changes to the Patron Registration layout and the Associated Patron Blocking, but there's even more new stuff coming.



Polaris is going green! **In an effort to reduce the amount of paper used on Check Out Receipts, it is possible to make receipts available by patron request only.** The only change to the Check Out process is a small pop up box at the end which asks if you would like to print a receipt (see the screen shot on the left). If the patron doesn't need a receipt, just click no and there's no wasted paper. **Optional Check Out receipts will be by library request only**, so if you would like this available at your library, please let me know by emailing the helpdesk at helpdesk@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca.

Continuing our theme of greener options, don't forget that eReceipts are now available. **eReceipts are available for Check Out, item renewal, and fine receipts.** Unlike the existing Polaris notifications, eReceipts do not have to go into queue to be sent, so the patron receives their receipts within a few moments of the transaction. **eReceipts are enabled for all member libraries, but patron accounts will have to be changed manually.** eReceipts don't affect a patron's existing notification option and those notifications will still be sent for hold requests and overdue notices (see the screen shot on the right). eReceipts are intended to supplement (or perhaps even replace) the paper receipts patrons receive from the Circulation Desk.





Jesse Jensen, Site Manager

When library staff run into problems with Polaris, they call me. If I'm lost, I call on the System Admins in the other regions. When we're all lost (it does happen, but not often), we call on our Site Manager at Polaris. Our current Site Manager is **Jesse Jensen**. He has been with Polaris for just under a year, but has years of experience working with Polaris in a library setting. We all had the opportunity to meet Jesse at the Polaris Users Group conference in Syracuse during October. Jesse is a great resource and has been a terrific addition to our team.

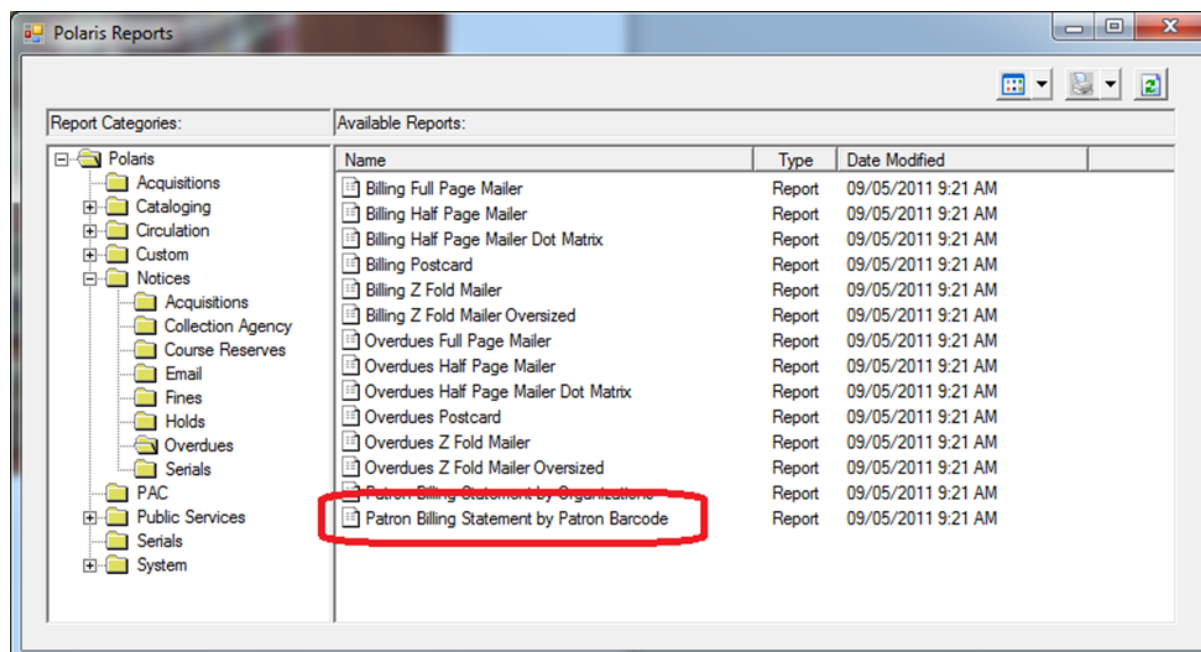
Alex von Tiesenhausen

We couldn't be happier to announce (and I'm pretty sure there was at least one sigh of relief from somewhere in the IT Department) that **Alex von Tiesenhausen** has returned to Peace Library System. Alex is working on a part-time basis from his student digs in Edmonton. He'll be helping us out with the website changeover and making sure that you can keep the content you'd like from your old site. Alex will play an important part in the training on the new system. Now that you'll have shiny new websites, you need to know how to create and edit them!

Did you know?

I'll be the first to admit that although I've been in my job for over a year, I am still learning so much about Polaris. In fact, I just learned of a very cool report that might be very useful to you all. I know you've all heard about posting to the database and sending out the overdue and billing notifications to patrons. But what do you do with charges that don't fall under overdues or lost items? It does happen. If a damaged book is returned to the library, it's only natural that you would like to bill them for it. Do you wait for the patron to come back in to the library before you tell them about the new charges on their account? Or do you want to be able to mail them a notice letting them know about the charge?

If you are one who likes to take a proactive approach when it comes to account charges, there is a report for you. The **Patron Billing Statement by Patron Barcode** is the report you need. Available through Reports and Notices in Polaris, this report can be found under Notices > Overdues. **This report will list all charges on a patron's account, including charges for damaged items, overdue fines, and fees for lost items.** The report even prints ready for the mail, with your library's information as well as the patron's mailing address.



Around the System....

McLennan library manager **Maureen Fisher** is pictured on the right, reading stories to little ghouls and goblins at the community Pumpkin Carving Party held Sunday, October 28, 2012. Summer librarian **Kate Fisher** spearheaded the wildly successful event which included gruesome "feel boxes", pumpkin carving, crafts, stories, snacks, and goody bags. Many thanks to the McLennan Recreation Board for the goody bags, Lakeview Bigway Foods for the pumpkins, and the Royal Purple for the hot dogs, cupcakes, and hot chocolate. Approximately 75 youngsters enjoyed the festivities.

Submitted by Maureen Fisher, McLennan Municipal Library



Left: Manning Municipal Library upgraded their front step and sidewalk in October with money received from the Community Spirit Grant. It was a little inconvenient for library patrons during the process, as they had to walk across the lawn to the back door, but it was well worth it in the end! **Bottom left:** Manning's Parade float for the July 2012 Board of Trade Parade, which took place the Saturday morning of the Battle River Ag Society Rodeo. **Bottom right:** Manning's Library themed pumpkins for the pumpkin carving contest put on by the Manning Board of Trade.

Submitted by Lori Jackson, Manning Municipal Library



The **Hythe Municipal Library** is looking very bright and cheerful these days thanks to a new coat of paint, new carpets and some rearranging of book shelves & furniture.

There's still some work left to do, but even right now the difference is amazing!





Beaverlodge Public Library has been in their new building for 5 years now and they would like to celebrate with an afternoon of refreshments, snacks and to acknowledge the people that helped them get here.

Please join Beaverlodge Public Library board & staff on Friday, Dec. 7/12 from 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm.

Other News:

- We have completed our staff; **Samantha Robar** has joined our team. Samantha comes from Nova Scotia.

- **Christmas Hours:** Beaverlodge Public Library will be closed Dec. 22 – 26/12, we will be open for regular hours Dec. 27 & 28, we will be closed Dec. 29 – Jan. 2/13 and reopen on Jan. 3/13 for regular business hours.

- **Halloween fun at Beaverlodge!** *Top left photo:* fantastic pumpkin carvings! *Middle left:* **Tracy DuBois** (left) and **Tracy Deets** (right) as Thing 1 & 2 - So awesome! *Bottom left:* **Suzanna** (left) dressed as a Spanish Dancer and **Samantha** (right) in the purple witch costume.



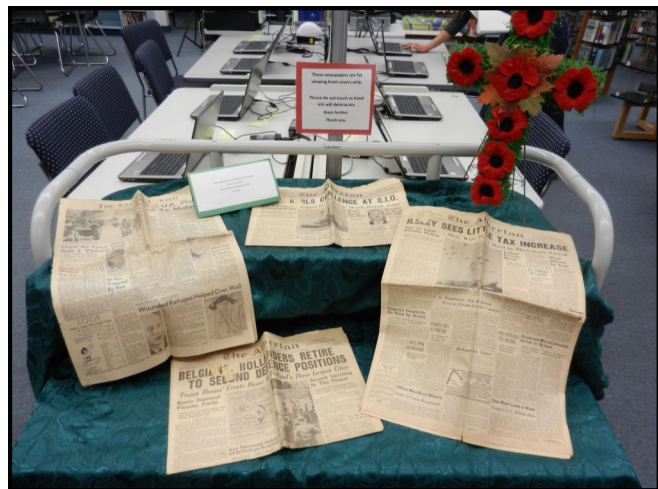
- Pictured on the right is the Halloween Haunted House the girls created for our Halloween party for youths on Oct. 31/12. They had to stick their hands in the flaps to see what kind of goo we had put in there!

Submitted by Scheli Longson, Beaverlodge Public Library



The **Fox Creek Municipal Library** is very fortunate to have the Lisa and Kurt Peterson family who share their collection of memorabilia from the Armed Forces with us each year prior to Veterans' Week and Remembrance Day. Ammunition cases and belts, foot lockers, telephones, uniforms, helmets, a stretcher, ration boxes, photos, a gas mask, and even including a replica tank are some of the items that we have on display. Our patrons, and especially our students, are quite taken with this display. We have added our own touches with posters, quilts (made by Leslie Ann), wreaths and crosses to fill it out. We do several displays each year and this is one of my favorites.

Submitted by Leslie Ann Sharkey, Fox Creek Municipal Library



Lots Going on at the Rotary Club of Slave Lake Public Library!

Submitted by Robin-Lee Vance, Programming Coordinator, Rotary Club of Slave Lake Public Library



We had an inaugural **Afternoon Movie Time** on Wednesday, November 14th at 4:30 pm. Seventeen children and youth, plus some of their parents had a great time viewing *The Lorax*. Further movies will be screened on Wednesdays at 4:30 pm in the Town of Slave Lake Council Chambers. The next movie is "Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs" on November 21st. The library wishes to thank the Town of Slave Lake for the use of the Council Chambers as a movie theatre, and the RBC Foundation for sponsorship.

We are thrilled to announce that we are establishing an entirely new collection in our library. We have been busy purchasing Xbox 360, PlayStation and Wii video games for our patrons to borrow. At this point there are 481 video games. The first items are just beginning to arrive on our shelves.



Children entertain themselves and learn at the new activity centre in the **Kids Zone** at the **Rotary Club of Slave Lake Public Library**.

On October 23rd, we had our very first **LEGO @ the Library** program. Seventeen children and youth joined our staff and volunteers at the library to build and play with LEGO blocks, MEGABLOKS and wooden blocks. They built cool boats, spacecrafts, robots, castles and assembled knights and their horses. The children provided the imagination and the library provided the space and blocks. The library will continue to hold **LEGO @ the Library** every Tuesday at 3:30 pm.



Ivy Gaskell showing off the display of books by Alberta writers,

On a very snowy October 30th, the library took part in **Library Snapshot Day** to show what typically happens at the library on a typical day. We had "Story & Rhyme Time" with the preschool children and "LEGO @ the Library" with older children after school. Pictured, from left to right: Haakon delivering the daily courier; Shane & Ivy setting up for Story & Rhyme Time; Connie searching for DVDs for interlibrary loan; LEGO @ the Library.





Staff at the **Slave Lake Koinonia Christian School** dancing at the Rock & Roll Literacy Show in their school.

lost in his stories and music. To finish the day, **Sigmund** and Nashville recording artist **Cindy Morgan** gave inspiration, stories and songs to more than 60 adults and children at the **Rotary Club of Slave Lake Public Library**. Everyone clapped, sang along, laughed and left energized about reading.

Then Edmonton crime novelist **Wayne Arthurson** visited our library on September 27th and entertained us with the humorous story of his long journey to become a published author. He read the opening chapters of ***Fall from Grace*** and ***Final Season***. Wayne is the 2012 Alberta Reader's Choice award winner for *Fall from Grace*, the first book in the Leo Desroches mystery series. When he is not writing Edmonton-based mysteries, Wayne is a freelance writer and musician.



From left to right: Slave Lake staff members **Shelby Anderson**, **Robin-Lee Vance**, and **Shane Parmar** with author **Wayne Arthurson**.

At the Rotary Club of Slave Lake Public Library we would be lost without interlibrary loans from TRAC. They are a great resource. These loans provide books and audio-visual materials for our patrons. But interlibrary loans also help in our children's programming. Recently interlibrary loans have provided the story and music for our Teddy Bear's Picnic, and the stories for our summer themed Arabian Nights (*Tales from Arabian Nights* by James Riordan) as well as the music (Rimsky-Korsakov's Scherzade). Then there are the Peace Library System storytime kits that form the basis our fall storytimes. These kits have the best puppets, and great crafts, rhymes and songs, to go with the stories.

And before our author visits, many books were borrowed from TRAC to complete the book displays. When you discover that you are having a visit from the 2012 Alberta Reader's Choice award winner only two weeks in advance, there is no time to purchase and process titles! Currently our library has a display of First Nations authors, and some titles are from the Slave Lake collection, while others came from the First Nations Blocks held by PLS. Over time we also borrow blocks of Large Print, Christmas titles, and audiobooks from PLS to extend our collections.

Thanks PLS and TRAC for being such a great resource!



We hosted **The Fun, Fantastical, Fantasy Magic Show** on August 8. We had over 75 children and adults, including 9 seniors from the local home, in attendance and eventually had to turn people away because there was simply no more room. Everyone was very excited about the show. **Brian Lehr** did an amazing job entertaining the crowd of all ages, and we would be lucky to have him back again, as well as recommend him to anyone that is in need of a good children's entertainer.



On July 18, 2012, we held a **Teddy Bears Picnic**. The children went for a Bear Hunt, marched to the Teddy Bears Picnic song through the book stacks, listened to stories and had a picnic with their bears, parents or grandparents. It was a great success.

The Most Circulated Items in TRACpac for 2012



Books	Year to date circulation*	Number of items available
1. <i>Guinness world records</i>	2,275	894
2. <i>The hunger games</i> (Suzanne Collins)	1,696	239
3. <i>Catching fire</i> (Suzanne Collins)	1,639	214
4. <i>Mockingjay</i> (Suzanne Collins)	1,633	218
5. <i>The help</i> (Kathryn Stockett)	1,421	206
6. <i>Cabin fever</i> (Jeff Kinney)	982	118
7. <i>Lone Wolf: a novel</i> (Jodi Picoult)	964	124
8. <i>Dog Days</i> (Jeff Kinney)	944	137
9. <i>The litigators</i> (John Grisham)	868	111
10. <i>Diary of a wimpy kid. Greg Heffley's journal</i> (Jeff Kinney)	866	163
11. <i>The Ugly Truth</i> (Jeff Kinney)	850	137
12. <i>Fifty shades of Grey</i> (E. L. James)	849	174
13. <i>Explosive eighteen</i> (Janet Evanovich)	845	112
14. <i>The best of me</i> (Nicholas Sparks)	812	106
15. <i>The girl who kicked the hornet's nest</i> (Stieg Larsson)	738	171
16. <i>V is for vengeance</i> (Sue Grafton)	732	87
17. <i>Diary of a wimpy kid: the last straw</i> (Jeff Kinney)	723	125
18. <i>The innocent</i> (David Baldacci)	708	96
19. <i>The next always</i> (Nora Roberts)	701	91
20. <i>The drop: a novel</i> (Michael Connelly)	695	79
21. <i>The witness</i> (Nora Roberts)	665	91
22. <i>Archie digest magazine.</i>	656	119
23. <i>Sing you home: a novel</i> (Jodi Picoult)	646	124
24. <i>Red Mist</i> (Patricia Cornwell)	644	78
25. <i>11/22/63: a novel</i> (Stephen King)	640	80

DVDs & Blu-rays

1. <i>The help</i>	1,475	84
2. <i>Tangled</i>	1,193	74
3. <i>Alice in wonderland</i>	1,098	107
4. <i>The girl with the dragon tattoo</i>	929	79
5. <i>Rio</i>	879	48
6. <i>Despicable me</i>	842	49
7. <i>Up</i>	826	61
8. <i>The king's speech</i>	800	62
9. <i>Happy feet</i>	797	95
10. <i>Toy story 3</i>	788	71
11. <i>Rango</i>	750	51
12. <i>Bridesmaids</i>	739	45
13. <i>Avatar</i>	723	61
14. <i>Gnomeo & Juliet</i>	704	42
15. <i>Water for elephants</i>	682	44
16. <i>The princess and the frog</i>	650	57
17. <i>War Horse</i>	644	60
18. <i>How to train your dragon</i>	643	58
19. <i>Eat pray love</i>	640	46
20. <i>Cars 2</i>	631	44
21. <i>Soul surfer</i>	629	42
22. <i>Ratatouille</i>	616	54
23. <i>Cloudy with a chance of meatballs</i>	603	47
24. <i>Finding Nemo</i>	602	50
25. <i>Moneyball</i>	601	36

* as of November 20, 2012



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- Disabilities
- Education
- Families
- Food Security
- Health
- Homelessness
- Housing
- Immigration
- Indigenous Peoples
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- Poverty
- Racism
- Social Services
- Transportation
- Urban Issues
- Women
- And many more!

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What can threeSOURCE do for you?

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For more information, contact our Resource Coordinator Stephen MacDonald by email at library@edmontonsocialplanning.ca or by phone at (780) 423-2031 (ext. 354).



In front of the Supreme Court of Canada

What a privilege it was for me, in October, to visit the nation's capital: Ottawa, Ontario. The leaves were red and gold and orange and burgundy and the sky was blue – the perfect backdrop for the stunning architecture of the centuries old buildings. I saw iconic places that I know of only from photographs – the Rideau Canal, the Supreme Court, the Parliament Buildings (and it's stunning library), the gates of 24 Sussex Drive, and the grounds of Rideau Hall. I visited the National

War Museum, the Museum of Civilization (soon to be renamed The Museum of Canadian History), the Royal Mint and the National Art Gallery (twice). I attended mass at the Notre-Dame Cathedral, had High Tea at the Chateau Laurier, sat in on an appeal hearing at the Supreme Court of Canada, sang "Oh Canada" to the Carillon Bells in the Peace Tower, and shopped at Byward market and on Sparks Street. Oh what a great country is Canada – in a burst of patriotic fervour let me urge everyone to visit this historic place!

Submitted By Rae Weniger, Receptionist & Consulting Assistant, Peace Library System



View of the Parliamentary Library from the walking trail beside the Ottawa River

Connect with Peace Library System online:



Upcoming Events



Peace Library System closed for Christmas Holidays

PLS Headquarters will be closed December 24 to January 1 and will reopen at 8:00 am on January 2.

Family Literacy Day

January 27, 2013

PLS Executive Committee Meeting

Grande Prairie, AB
February 23, 2013

Freedom to Read Week

February 24 - March 2, 2013

MD of Spirit River Advisory Committee Meeting

Rycroft, AB
March 6, 2013; 6:15 pm

PLS Board Meeting

Location to be announced
March 16, 2013

Library Managers' Council Meeting

PLS Headquarters
April 8, 2013; 10:30 am

Central Spring Author Tour (Lee Edward Födi)

April 15 - 18, 2013

PLS Executive Committee Meeting

Location to be announced
April 20, 2013

Public Library Meeting

PLS Headquarters
May 6, 2013; 10:00 am

PLS Board Meeting/Annual General Meeting

PLS Headquarters
May 11, 2013

County of Northern Lights Advisory Committee Meeting

Grimshaw Municipal Library
May 13, 2013; 11:00 am

Clear Hills County Advisory Committee Meeting

Worsley & District Library
May 15, 2013; 5:30 pm

Eastern Spring Author Tour (Cyndi Sand-Eveland)

May 21 - 24, 2013

MD of Greenview Advisory Committee Meeting

Grande Prairie Public Library
May 22, 2013; 6:00 pm