



# NEWS & Notes

PEACE LIBRARY SYSTEM'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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## #GetGoing!

We're excited about our new regional marketing campaign! For more, check out Linda's article on page 2.



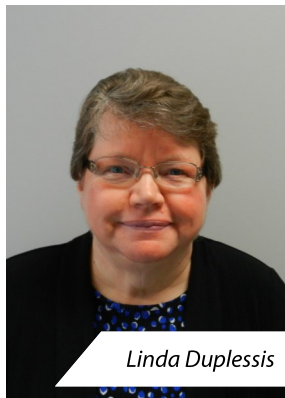
NEW SEASON, NEW MOTIVATION  
**GET GOING** AT YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY

A PEACEFUL PLACE TO STUDY

**#GetGoing**  
AT YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY



# >> From the Director



Linda Duplessis

It's back to school and back to routine for many of us who have been on holidays. As you start planning your fall programs and activities, don't forget to schedule in attendance at our annual Rural Libraries Conference on September 21 and 22. It's a great opportunity to network, learn something new, and check out new resources.

This fall we will launch a **new regional marketing effort** to attract new people to the library. We hope that you'll get excited by the campaign! It's being developed in partnership with nine10 Inc. here in Grande Prairie and we think it will reach a lot of people. More on this below, along with updates on the Indigenous Populations Grant and the Infrastructure Grant.

## Tagline: GET GOING at Your Local Library

That's the message that will be going out around the region beginning mid-August. Facebook ads will start first, followed by radio ads across the region. Printed bookmarks and rack cards will be distributed to member libraries. And there will be lots of options for libraries to implement locally by checking the toolkit on the PLS website. You will be able to print your own customized posters and rack cards, and select graphics for social media posts, website banners, e-newsletter graphics or e-mail signatures. Libraries will receive more information in the coming weeks, and you can check out a preview of the graphics on the cover page of the newsletter.

**Please don't ignore this opportunity. Use the printed materials we send, create your own, get the word out on social media, and let your community know that your library has lots to offer. In other words, GET GOING!**

## Indigenous Populations Grant Continues

PLS has received a new grant of \$215,445 to continue to expand services to Indigenous communities in our region. A number of regional initiatives are planned, including more cultural awareness training, marketing, collection development (print and digital), and other support to libraries. Member libraries are planning some exciting new programs and site improvements to attract Indigenous patrons. We want to use this grant to make a real difference in the understanding of Indigenous culture, and also open up library services to those who have never used it.

## LyndaLibrary is still in the works!

This summer we had plans to launch LyndaLibrary, an online learning tool that helps anyone learn business, software, technology and creative skills to achieve personal and professional goals. There's been a delay in vendor negotiations with TAL but I'm hopeful that we can implement the service by mid-September at the latest.

## PLS Building Improvements

PLS has received a \$1,010,000 provincial Infrastructure Grant, and we're thankful for the opportunity to do some improvements to our 27 year-old building. We are working with local experts to develop a plan for the upgrades between now and December 31, 2020. These will include improvements to our lighting and mechanical system, work on the roof, new flooring and paint, and improvements for barrier-free access. We will make sure that all PLS services are operational during the renovations.

Linda Duplessis  
Director



## Submit to News & Notes!

Submissions are welcome at any time and will be in the next newsletter. **Submissions from public and school libraries welcome!**

Please send photos and articles to Emma Stewart at [estewart@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca](mailto:estewart@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca).

Please note: PLS email inboxes can only receive emails less than 10 MB in size. If you do not receive an email acknowledging that your submission was received, delivery may have been prevented due to file size. Please contact Emma Stewart.



# What's trending in books

The RBC Taylor Prize celebrates the best of Canadian literary nonfiction. This year's finalists were:

## RBC TAYLOR PRIZE 2017

**By Chance Alone: A Remarkable True Story of Courage and Survival at Auschwitz**

by Max Eisen

**Pumpkinflowers: An Israeli Soldier's Story**

by Matti Friedman

**Mad Enchantment: Claude Monet and the Painting of the Water Lilies**

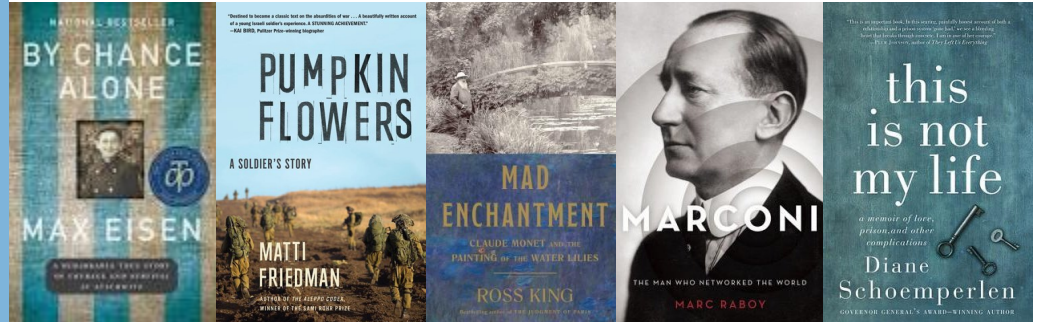
by Ross King

**Marconi: The Man Who Networked the World**

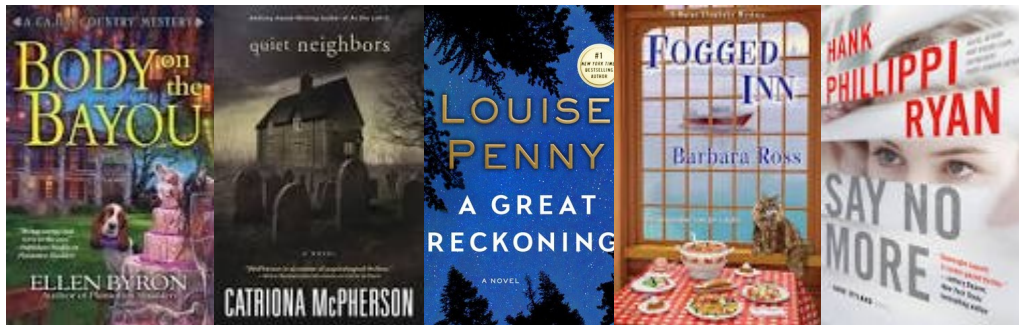
by Marc Raboy

**This Is Not My Life: A Memoir of Love, Prison, and Other Complications**

by Diane Schoemperlen



## AGATHA AWARDS 2017



The annual Agatha Awards honor the "traditional mystery"; ie, books best typified by the works of Agatha Christie. This year's finalists for **Best Contemporary Novel** were:

**Body on the Bayou** by Ellen Byron

**Quiet Neighbors** by Catriona McPherson

**A Great Reckoning** by Louise Penny

**Fogged Inn** by Barbara Ross

**Say No More** by Hank Phillippi Ryan

The Aurora Awards are presented annually by the Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy Association. This year's finalists for **Best English Novel** are:

## AURORA AWARDS 2017

**Children of Earth and Sky**

by Guy Gavriel Kay

**Company Town** by Madeline Ashby

**The Courier** by Gerald Brandt

**The Nature of a Pirate**

by A.M. Dellamonica

**Quantum Night** by Robert J. Sawyer

**Stars like Cold Fire** by Brent Nichols



# >> Consulting Corner



## News & Notes

News & Notes is your quarterly professional guide to news, services and connection with the staff at PLS.

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We trust you have had an excellent summer – here we are at the end of August already!

Libraries will be winding up their summer **reading clubs** now. If you participated in the TD-Summer Reading Club, remember to submit your completed Statistics and Evaluation form to Rae ([rweniger@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca](mailto:rweniger@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca)) by early September. We will provide the national club with a combined report of Peace libraries' input. For libraries that ran independent summer reading programs, please let Rae or Katherine know how many children attended, and how many books/minutes were read, if you tracked this information.

A hearty welcome to **new library managers** at Worsley and District Library, Rotary Club of Slave Lake Public Library, Tangent Community Library, and Bibliothèque de St. Isidore! Colleen Rook retired from the Worsley and District library the end of the school year after 21 years of service and Melissa Kamphuis has taken over at the helm. We wish Colleen all the best in her retirement. Lana Gutowski resigned from the Slave Lake Library the end of July to pursue other endeavours close to her heart and we welcome Kendra McRee as the new library manager. We thank Susan Podl, who resigned in early June, for her enthusiastic service as library manager at Tangent Community library - MacKenzie Laurin is filling in for the summer and will return to school in the fall, at which time a permanent library manager will be hired. Véronique Lavoie has trained Anick Dechene who is now the library manager at Bibliothèque de St. Isidore. Véronique is looking towards retirement in September. All the best!

Congratulations to **Grimshaw Municipal Library** on moving into its brand new space the end of August! We look forward to seeing pictures! **Spirit River Municipal Library** has temporarily moved into the Legion while library renovations take place over the next year.

Consulting visits will resume in the fall, and Emma and Katherine look forward to getting out to the libraries we did not see in the spring. We are always happy to assist libraries whenever needed, so please contact us by phone and email, as well.

**Emma Stewart** is busy preparing the Rural Libraries Conference – check out her article in this newsletter and visit the website at [www.rurallibrariesconference.com](http://www.rurallibrariesconference.com).

We're very pleased to announce that **Samm (Samantha) Mercer's** position as Digital Training & Outreach Librarian has been made permanent. She will continue to offer distant tech support and training for eResources. Her position also included making consulting visits to our 45 public libraries this past summer. Please check out the training manuals, PowerPoint presentations and video recordings that are up on the PLS website under the Training Toolkit. You can catch her at the upcoming Rural Libraries Conference or contact her by email and phone.

**Elizabeth Bertozzi**, our summer student, is putting the finishing touches on the Storytime Kits ages 2-3, and we are very excited to be rolling them out to public libraries in the fall. Stay tuned for more about them as we approach their completion. Member public libraries will be able to borrow them to assist with and supplement early childhood programming. Borrowing information will be put up on the Peace website at [www.peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca/storytimekits](http://www.peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca/storytimekits) once the new kits are available. Elizabeth's last day at Peace will be Friday, August 25, after which she is returning to university. It has been a great delight to have her with us!

Katherine Wiebe, Emma Stewart, and  
Samantha Mercer  
Consulting Services Department

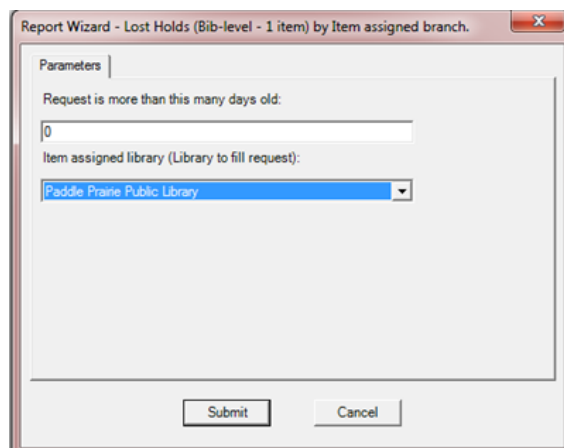
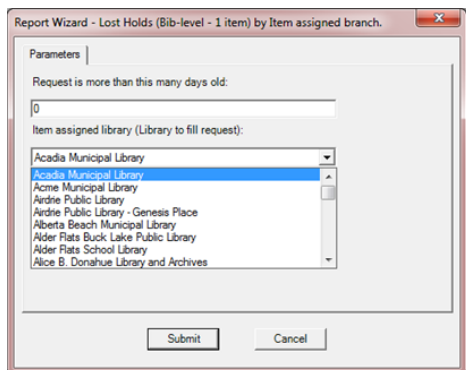


# Rae's Tips



Rae Weniger

Is that long and tedious drop down list of every TRAC library getting you down?



Five quick Ps in a row is the trick to get me to Peace Library System!  
Five quick Ps followed by the enter key or a left click.

At the top of the list, start by typing the first letter of your library name. For Peace Library System, that's a 'P'! Immediately the scroll bar jumps to the first of the Ps.

This is super-fast for Paddle Prairie, but what about me? Go back to the mouse and continue through the drop down list? No!



What about Fox Creek library? What's fast about 19 Fs? Nothing! Right? How about 'G' (Gibbons is two below Fox Creek) up arrow, up arrow, enter? Very fast!

Transfer this new skill to other dropdown lists:

- Shelf Location....type 'Y' to zoom to Young Adult; type 'W' to leap to Westerns!
- Collection Codes...type 'V' to skip to vinyl; type 'R' to rapidly chose reference!

Summer has gone by that fast too!

## >> Rural Libraries Conference

Here at headquarters we're getting excited for this year's conference! The theme for 2017 is **Celebrating the Canadian Spirit: Diversity in Our Libraries**. We have a fantastic lineup of speakers this year and we can't wait to see you there.

Don't forget that the deadline to register is coming up quickly! Please get your registration forms and payment in by **Friday, September 1**. You can register online or through the print forms.

We look forward to seeing you all at the 2017 Rural Libraries Conference on September 21 and 22 at the Pomeroy Hotel & Conference Centre! If you have any questions about the conference, email Emma at [estewart@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca](mailto:estewart@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca).



# >> Tech Services Tidbits



Janet Ayles

Kim Byard, formerly of Berwyn Municipal Library and Grimshaw Municipal Library, has joined the PLS Cataloguing Department. Kim works two days a week cataloguing items for your libraries.

Speaking of ordering, it's been great for you all to have the Indigenous funds to build your collection, but don't forget to spend your own allotment money. Our Acquisitions staff are more than willing to help you spend your money.

If you need any help or have any questions, we are more than willing to help.

Many libraries have been able to use the Indigenous Services Grant to help build their collection. So many new items have come through our building. Our Acquisitions and Cataloguing staff have

Janet Ayles  
Acting Technical Services Manager

been kept busy ordering and cataloguing your new items.



## >> Granting Wishes



Fred Richard

Many libraries out there have older computers and printers—some dating back 10 years—for both public and staff. It is hard to stay up-to-date or to have fast internet when the machine has seen a good life already. This not only affects patrons using the public machines, this also affects staff when they are trying to use Polaris, Office or many other programs. With new machines comes more memory and updated technology, allowing for increased productivity.

Many of our member libraries have been making use of grant opportunities to bring in new computers which will be a great improvement for all. Patrons are able to access things more easily on these machines and use the up-to-date software that they need. Some libraries have been also donating the older machines, which are still working, back to members of the community or other community organizations. With the Internet upgrade last year and new machines, everyone will see improved performance overall, especially when trying to stream things or access sites which use Java and Adobe.

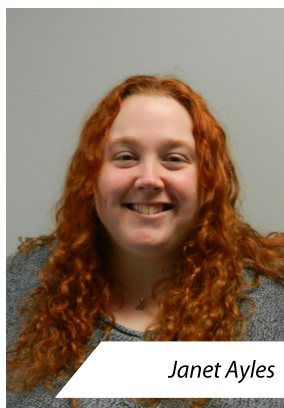
I have been to several libraries setting up new computers, and it is always great to see the smiling faces when you bring new machines. I have completed about half of my site visits and have been trying to tie in my visits with equipment orders so that I can be there to answer questions as well as swap out and remove old computers. I have also begun compiling an inventory of what is currently in your libraries so that I can make recommendations on what machines need to be replaced when funding is available. This way we can continue removing the older machines so that many of the libraries can stay updated with their technology by having the newest computers for use.

I look forward to seeing more of you with more equipment orders coming in each week. I am always available if there are questions on equipment, how to order, what to order and what should be replaced. I don't like to push things on others, but don't mind recommending things to help speed things up!

Fred Richard  
Desktop & Network Administrator



# >> From the IT Desk



Janet Ayles

## ME Libraries

After the last Polaris upgrade to 5.2, there have been some glitches with ME Libraries. For non-TRAC patrons trying to register for TRAC, they will get an error message: **The guest library system is having problems and cannot update your request.**



### Joining & Updating

The guest library system is having problems and cannot complete your request. Admin, please refer to configuration documentation.

If you have a ME Library patron come in to your library, but aren't in Polaris, please manually create them a membership. Set their **registered branch** to **MeLibrary** and the **patron code** to **Reciprocal**. Use the barcode on the patron's library code from their home branch in their record.

Any patrons registered with TRAC prior to June 26, 2017 will be able to continue with no problems. However, any patrons needing to update information, like their address or expiration date, will encounter problems. If you have patrons coming in with expired memberships, please extend their due date for a short term.

We are working to fix the technical problems and appreciate your patience in the meantime.

## Inventory at RLC

Have you thought about inventorying your collection? Do you have questions about the work involved or why inventory is something you would even consider? I will be covering inventory during the Polaris session at RLC. If you have any questions, come and ask! I hope to see you there.

## HelpDesk

Please submit any non-critical problems to the helpdesk. The helpdesk can be reached by email at [helpdesk@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca](mailto:helpdesk@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca) or via the website at [help.peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca](http://help.peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca).



If you are experiencing a critical problem, please call us directly (afterhours, please reach out to the Afterhours support at YRL – 1-877-452-8722). Critical problems are errors when searching TRACpac, if you can't login to Polaris, if you experience errors when checking items out to a patron, or if you can't connect to the internet (YRL staff might not be able to help with the internet and you may have to wait for PLS staff).

## Did You Know?

When a patron checks out an item from your library, they get a checkout receipt itemizing their items and when they're due. The checkout receipt is a great opportunity for you to add customized text promoting your library, services, or programs to your patrons.

You can customize your checkout receipt message text at Circulation > Options and under the Receipt Printer Options tab.

Janet Ayles  
IT Services Manager



# >> From Grande Prairie Public Library

*by Hailey McCullough, Head of Adult Services, Grande Prairie Public Library*

## Library Space is Community Based

Recently, libraries have been striving to create spaces that are more modern and speak to what the library can offer beyond its collection of books and audio/visual materials. We want to have spaces that encourage learning and collaboration, creativity and innovation, and personal enrichment through the pursuit of leisure activities.

Some libraries are achieving these goals by incorporating funky furniture and shelving, designating rooms for specific purposes, such as technology training or gaming, and adding colourful design elements to bring some vitality to the library. Grande Prairie Public Library has made its own strides in library space being community based, beginning with GPPL relocating to its current home in the Montrose Cultural Centre in 2009.

## Background

Grande Prairie Public Library has moved several times since its inception in 1939. Originally housed in Grande Prairie's town hall, GPPL has been located in the Grande Prairie Courthouse, the old Merit Hardware building, and a converted liquor store.

To combat a rapidly growing population and an aging infrastructure, the library board requested funding from the city and the province to build a new library and art gallery facility. The request was approved in 2002 and in 2003, the location of the old Montrose Junior High School was selected as the new site. Construction on the new facility began in 2007 and was completed in 2009.



## The Facility

Although the Grande Prairie Public Library has a rich history dating back to 1939, it is GPPL's move into the 105,000 square foot Montrose Cultural Centre that has made it a library space worth taking note of. Sharing the space with the Prairie Art Gallery and Esquires Coffee House, the Grande Prairie Public Library occupies 37,000 square feet and spans two stories.

The outside is beautifully crafted with a combination of brick and slanted glass, an effect rendered all the more aesthetically pleasing by the natural light that streams in through the windows.

Designed by an architecture firm based in Toronto, the Montrose Cultural Centre's design is actually award winning; it received the 2010 Prairie Design Award of Excellence at the annual Festival of Architecture. The facility continues to impress Grande Prairie residents and visitors alike.



## Something For Everyone

Grande Prairie Public Library is full of little gems that make it a municipal treasure. A large lounge area allows for patrons to pick up a book or magazine and unwind; in the winter, they can cozy up next to the lounge's fireplace with a good book and a chai tea from the nearby Esquires coffee house.



If visitors are looking for something a little more lively, they can check out our nearby teen area, which features a dedicated Young Adult book collection, computers specifically for teens, and chalk boards for the teens to interact with.



Or for those with a younger crowd, the Children's area on the second floor may be a good place to check out! Loaded with fun green shelving and adorable little critters who have a job as book holders, the second floor is a haven for children.



## New and Upcoming Library Space

Grande Prairie Public Library works hard to keep up with new trends and address needs in the community. Recently, the Emerging Technologies Librarian added a Device Bar to the library to give patrons a place to interact with various eReaders and tablets in order to better understand how they function with library apps and resources.



Also, the City of Grande Prairie recently finished construction of the Mamawe Concourse, an active pedestrian link designed to host year-round programming, cultural celebrations, and public events.

In Cree, the word 'Mamawe' means Gathering Place, making it an appropriate name for the new concourse where we hope to see many different cultures coming together to celebrate their diversity and explore all that Grande Prairie Public Library has to offer.





# Around the System...

Here's what's been going on around Peace Library System this summer! Remember, you can send your own photos and articles at any time to [estewart@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca](mailto:estewart@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca) and they will be included in the next newsletter. We'd love to hear from you!

## High Prairie Municipal Library

High Prairie Municipal Library held its 24th Annual Penny Carnival on August 10th! We were excited to use our new tents this year. Everyone had a great time—we had 318 people in attendance! Thank you to all our hard-working volunteers who braved the heat to help make this Carnival fun for our community.

—Submitted by Tracy Roberts, High Prairie Municipal Library





## Hines Creek Municipal Library

It's been busier than ever at Hines Creek Municipal Library! We kicked off the summer with the TD Summer Reading Club sign up on June 17. We have 30 children participating in total this year, and as a group, we have reached our goal of reading 100 books so far this summer! I also changed the After School Club to Kid's Summer Science Club and have the kids come in and do a different group science experiment each Wednesday. I have partnered with Peace Parent Link, who come the last Thursday of every month and host our Words With Wiggles program, which they will continue to do throughout the fall. I have recently been in contact with North Peace Adult Learning, so there will be more programs coming this fall for adults. We have been featured for both our Summer Science Program and Wiggles with Words program in the local paper and more kids have been using the library because of the free publicity. Happy reading, everyone!

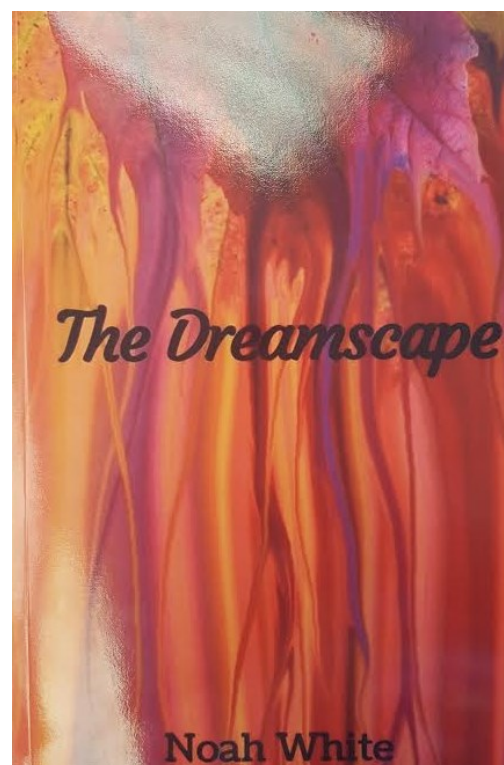
—Submitted by Myah Adams, Hines Creek Municipal Library



## McLennan Municipal Library

We have had a busy summer at the McLennan Municipal Library. Our days are spent running programs for patrons. Our favourite are the Board Game Café and the Summer Reading Club. The children love reading a story and making crafts! The newest addition to our library is *The Dreamscape*, a book written by local author Noah White.

—Submitted by Jesse Benoit, McLennan Municipal Library





# More from around the *System*...

## Smith Community Library

The Smith Community Library has been so busy this summer. We have our reading program going on and it is very successful! We have also been hosting story time this summer and it has really taken off. Today we had 20 kids attend.... The library has been getting used a lot!

—Submitted by Ruth Reay, Smith Community Library



## Peace River Municipal Library

Peace River Municipal Library's Makerspace is up and running! Patrons can come in to use hand tools, a sewing machine, a button maker, and a retro gaming system. They can even learn to play the ukulele or how to do linocut printing. We even have a set of Nordic Walking Poles that can be signed out to try! Let us know if you can think of things to add to our Makerspace.

—Submitted by Beverley Shewchuck, Municipal Library



## Valleyview Municipal Library

Valleyview Municipal Library has had a busy summer!

To celebrate Canada 150, Leslie, Jaycee and Rachel painted the largest Canada flag in Valleyview on the Library front window.

This summer we tried our hand at raising praying mantises. The ootheca (egg sac) arrived at the end of May. We attached it to a branch in a mesh cage. The ootheca requires a lot of humidity to hatch, so we had to spray it regularly. It took about 6 weeks and over 100 hatchlings came out on May 14. The hatchlings had to be fed live wingless fruit flies (which we also raised from eggs) and in two weeks had to be transferred to individual containers to avoid cannibalism. We had hoped to release them into local gardens when they had matured, but in the end, there was a very high mortality rate. Only three survived to the end of July.

SRC has been making a virtual voyage across Canada. We read books and then have activities and crafts for each region of the country!

**—Submitted by Kerri Danner, Valleyview Municipal Library**





# >> eResource Updates

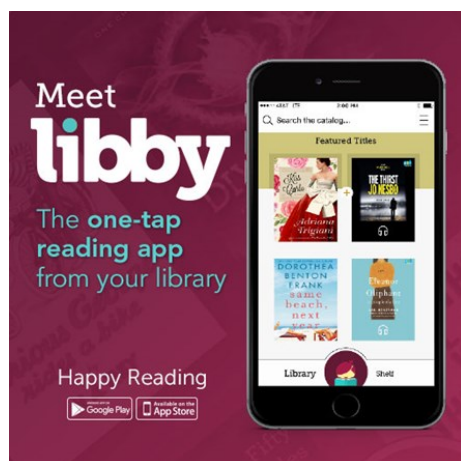


Samantha Mercer

## The New Libby

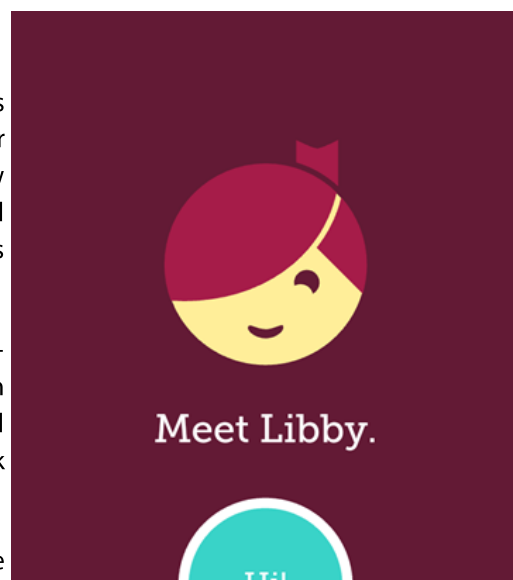
With the main focus of improving ease of use, OverDrive has launched a brand new app called Libby. While the older OverDrive app is still available within app stores, Libby is now the recommended app for patrons reading eBooks and listening to eAudiobooks on their mobile devices. The app is free to download from the Google Play and Apple App store.

The new app is bright and colourful and much more user-friendly. Get nearly anywhere in the app with a single tap on your Android or Apple smartphone or tablet. And the greatest part: there's no more need to set up an Adobe ID! Simply login, find your book, select "Borrow" and open the book from your shelf.



You can add multiple libraries and multiple cards for each library on a single device. This is a handy feature if you have patrons that share devices between family members or if you have patrons that vacation or go to school in Edmonton during the fall and winter but travel north during the summer months.

Take a look at the webinar recording of the "Meet Libby – The New OverDrive App" or contact Samm Mercer if you have any questions.



Meet Libby.

Hi!

Enjoy ebooks and audiobooks  
from your local library.

libby

## Goodbye Zinio for Libraries, Hello RBdigital Magazines

RBdigital has finally launched their new app and rebranded their eMagazine platform. Formerly known as Zinio, patrons used to get confused between downloading the Zinio app and the Zinio for Libraries app—but no more!

**rb digital magazines**



In an attempt to battle that confusion and app fatigue, RBdigital has rebranded Zinio as RBdigital Magazines and replaced the Zinio for Libraries app with the RBdigital app. The Zinio for Libraries app will be discontinued at the end of September to ensure your patrons have time to transition into the new app. If you have issues with the new app, feel free to contact Samm Mercer.

RBdigital Magazines will continue to offer the same eMagazine publications with no change to the website design or layout. Patrons can continue to enjoy instant access to new and back issues along with no late fees and the ability to read issues without the pressure of a return date.

# >> Podcasts in the Library World

Have you hopped on the podcast train yet?

If you don't already listen to them, podcasts are audio shows you can download from the internet and listen to on your computer, your phone, your tablet, or whatever device you use to listen to music. They're a lot like radio talk shows, except they can be listened to on-demand and you can subscribe to them to have new episodes downloaded to your device whenever they are posted online. Podcasts have been around for awhile, but they have really been gaining steam over the past couple of years. The library world has taken advantage of this format to create fun and insightful shows that discuss library and literary topics and serve as a great source of professional development while also keeping you entertained on those long road trips.

Below, you'll find a selection of library-related podcasts that we think are worth a listen!

## The Librarian Is In

Run by New York Public Library and hosted by Gwen Glazer and Frank Collierius, this podcast talks about books, pop culture and the literary zeitgeist, and the world of libraries. Episodes of interest include episode **38: Serving the Least Served**, about libraries and activism and social justice, and episode **50: Books That Talk and Books You Touch**, about working with patrons with print disabilities.

[www.nypl.org/voices/blogs/blog-channels/librarian-is-in](http://www.nypl.org/voices/blogs/blog-channels/librarian-is-in)

## T is for Training

T is for Training is one of the earliest library podcasts, having been started by Maurice Coleman aka baldgeek-inmd back in 2008. Their topics generally cover training and learning in libraries. Episodes of interest include episode **119: Keynotes: Why so Pale and Male?** on why it is important to have more speakers who are female and people of colour, and episode **190: Howler or Hunter: Fostering Safe Environments**, about workplace violence from a library perspective.

[tisfortraining.wordpress.com](http://tisfortraining.wordpress.com)



## Discover Library and Archives Canada

If you're looking for some CanCon, Library and Archives Canada has a podcast that showcases treasures from their collection and introduces listeners to the people who acquire, safeguard and make known Canada's documentary heritage. Episodes of interest include episode **14: Sign Me**

**Up: CEF Files, 1914-1918**, exploring the service files of those who served in World War 1, and episode **27: Hiding in Plain Sight: The Métis Nation**, discussing the roles of Métis researchers.

[www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/news/podcasts/Pages/podcasts.aspx](http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/news/podcasts/Pages/podcasts.aspx)

## Reading Envy

On this podcast, Jenny Colvin talks about what she's been reading and brings on guests to talk about their favourites--a great source for readers advisory! Episodes of interest include episode **65: Creeping Through the Uncanny Valley**, where Jenny and guest Bryan Alexander talk about horror stories, and episode **74: The Books We Didn't Love in High School**, about what Jenny and guest did and didn't read as a teenager.

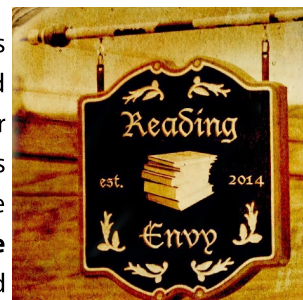
[readingenvy.blogspot.ca](http://readingenvy.blogspot.ca)

## Circulating Ideas

Circulating Ideas is a podcast that facilitates conversations about ideas and innovation in the library world. Episodes of interest include episode **94: Megan Emery Schadlich**, a conversation with the author of *Cooking Up Library Programs Teens and Tweens Will Love: Recipes for Success*, and episode **103: Michael Stephens**, a chat with the author of *The Heart of Librarianship* and the column "Office Hours" in *Library Journal*.

[circulatingideas.com](http://circulatingideas.com)

Happy listening!





## Hoopla Update

Our libraries are already familiar with Hoopla, a digital content platform that offers thousands of eBooks, audiobooks, comics, albums, TV shows and movies to our library patrons. Users can stream content on their computers or take it on the go by downloading items onto their devices using the Hoopla app.

Since its introduction, there have been questions about the long-term sustainability of Hoopla as a service we can offer our patrons. Hoopla is structured around a pay-per-use model—ie, the titles on Hoopla are not owned by the system, but we pay a fee each time an item is borrowed. The platform, and some funding for patron use, was initially provided by the Public Library Services Branch. However, usage has significantly exceeded that initial outlay, leaving library systems and urban libraries to find funding from elsewhere or to pare down lending limits to ensure patrons aren't turned away from the service due to budget restrictions.

To that end, we have **reduced patron borrowing limits from 5 titles per month to 4**. This will help us better manage our available funds until the end of the year, at which point the PLSB should have a new contract in place that will offer more predictability about provincial government support for Hoopla, or indeed may switch to a new product entirely.

In the meantime, we have been working to develop our permanent eLibrary collections by purchasing titles on platforms like Overdrive to fill the gap for those patrons who make heavy use of Hoopla's collections, especially eAudiobooks. Patrons may encounter a waiting list for particularly high-demand items on Overdrive, something Hoopla circumvents as they provide instant access to all titles in their collection. However, if you have patrons who are merely browsing for interesting titles, why not have them look at the Overdrive collection and filter the titles by Available Now? That way, they can find books that are instantly available for their enjoyment.

At PLS, we will continue to monitor Hoopla usage closely and will let you know if any changes are forthcoming.

# Peace Library System's events calendar

[peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca/calendar](http://peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca/calendar)

## *PLS Board Meeting*

Chateau Nova, Peace River

September 16, 2017; 10:30 am

## *PLS Plan of Service Committee Meeting*

Chateau Nova, Peace River

September 16, 2017; following board meeting

## *Rural Libraries Conference*

Pomeroy Hotel & Conference Centre, Grande Prairie

September 21 and 22, 2017

## *County of Northern Lights Advisory Committee Meeting*

Grimshaw Municipal Library

September 25 2017; 11:00 am

## *PLS Executive Committee Meeting*

Location TBA

September 30, 2017; 10:30 am

## *MD of Spirit River Advisory Committee Meeting*

Spirit River Legion

October 2, 2017; 6:15 pm

## *Netspeed Conference*

Edmonton, AB

October 3 and 4, 2017

## *Clear Hills County Advisory Committee Meeting*

Bear Point Community Library

October 11, 2017; 5:30 pm

## *MD of Greenview Advisory Committee Meeting*

Grande Prairie Public Library

October 12, 2017; 6:30 pm

## *Northern Sunrise County Advisory Committee Meeting*

Bibliothèque de St. Isidore

October 30, 2017; 10:30 am