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**Quick Facts 2016**

Population Served: 167,804

Members: 38 municipalities & 1 Métis Settlement

Member Public Libraries: 45

Contracting Schools: 51

Director: Linda Duplessis

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

The Board reviewed the 2016 financial forecast. An unexpected surplus of about $150,000 is anticipated, largely due to an increase in the provincial system operating grant, receipt of a grant to serve Indigenous people, and temporary staff vacancies throughout the year. Surplus funds will be transferred to capital reserves.

The Board approved the 2017 Operating Budget, which supports the 2016-2018 *Plan of Service*. The budget includes an emphasis on technology training for member library staff, early literacy support, assistance with marketing, new eResources, and a number of strategies to extend library services to Indigenous communities.

The 2017 Capital Budget was approved. It includes purchase of an inventory laptop, an IT laptop, HVAC upgrades, a new postage machine, a freight cart, and staff workstation chairs.

The Director reported that the Public Library Services Branch has resubmitted a request to Alberta Infrastructure for $10.6 million to replace, renovate or improve six library system headquarters buildings. This request, which is the only source of funding for large capital infrastructure projects at library systems, is strongly supported by Alberta Municipal Affairs.

Revisions to the following policies were approved: Purchasing; Provision of Library Materials to Persons Unable to Use Conventional Print; TAL Card; Allotment Funds; Staff Travel; and Workplace Health and Safety. The Provision of Multilingual Materials Policy was rescinded.

Long service awards were presented to Dollie Anderson (MD of Opportunity) and Brenda Kerr (Town of Manning) for 5 years of service.

The Consulting Services Manager reported that the fall Rural Libraries Conference was very successful and attracted 55 brand new attendees. Thirty-three libraries offered a Summer Reading program, with 1,178 children reading a total of 15,099 books over the summer.

The Technical Services Manager reported the staff work area will be enlarged and reconfigured now that the PLS collection has been weeded and more space is available.

The IT Services Manager reported that new Internet service with five times more bandwidth went live on November 10. A cloud back-up solution was implemented in November to provide an added layer of security and redundancy.

## Present:

## Veronica Bliska, Chair MD of Peace

## Wendy Olson-Lepchuk Town of Beaverlodge

## Cindy Hockley Village of Berwyn

## Lorrie Shelp Big Lakes County

## Kathrin Langlois Birch Hills County

## Peter Frixel Clear Hills County

Ray Skrepnek MD of Fairview

Owen Stanford Town of Fairview

Lindsay Brown Town of Falher

Roxie Rutt MD of Greenview

Dirk Thompson Town of Grimshaw

Brad Pearson MD of Lesser Slave River

Brenda Kerr Town of Manning

Belinda Halabisky County of Northern Lights

## Carolyn Kolebaba Northern Sunrise County

Dollie Anderson MD of Opportunity

Reta Nooskey Paddle Prairie Métis Settlement

Elaine Manzer Town of Peace River

Patricia Sydoruk Village of Rycroft

### Elaine Garrow MD of Spirit River

### Raoul Johnson MD of Smoky River

Tanya Boman Town of Valleyview

**Regrets:**

Brenda Burridge Town of Fox Creek

Maura Good Grande Prairie Public Library

Brock Smith County of Grande Prairie

## Jacy Rapke Town of High Level

Philippa O'Mahony Town of McLennan

Cheryl Novak Village of Nampa

Michelle Farris Town of Rainbow Lake

Clinton Froehlick Town of Sexsmith

Colleen Holler Town of Wembley

## Vacant Village of Donnelly

## Vacant Village of Girouxville

## Absent:

## Chris Thiessen City of Grande Prairie

###### Donna Deynaka Town of High Prairie

Sharilynn Dionne Village of Hines Creek

## Carol Frost Village of Hythe

### Cindy Clarke Saddle Hills County

Joy McGregor Town of Slave Lake

Brenda Stanich Town of Spirit River

**Board Meeting Highlights**

**November 26, 2016**

*This summary is designed to keep you informed about Peace Library System (PLS) activities and Board decisions. It is distributed to member councils, library boards and the PLS Board of Directors after each Board meeting.*