



NEWS & Notes

PEACE LIBRARY SYSTEM'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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SPRING 2022

Multifactor Authentication

Adding an additional layer of security to protect your information



Ding...you're working away on a Tuesday afternoon when the routine sound of an incoming email catches your attention. You quickly check while refilling your coffee to notice it's from Amazon regarding a recent order. "Oh, it must be junk," you think to yourself, since you haven't made any purchases recently, but log into your account to be sure. That's when it hits you: I didn't order \$800 worth of gift cards, and I certainly didn't send them to notascammer@gotcha.com.

These kinds of stories are all too common nowadays. There is a high chance this has happened to you or someone you know, and the damage financially and emotionally that comes with them is real. Luckily it doesn't have to be this way. There is a major security feature that can help prevent the vast majority of these attacks, and it's called multifactor authentication.

To read the full story please flip to page 6.

>> From the CEO



Louisa Robison

"I'm so glad we're going to go back to normal!" I hear it all over, but really, what is 'normal' now? Will we ever go back to things like buffet restaurants and group birthday cakes, eating a slice of cake over which someone else has blown out candles, or being alright with flying for hours on a packed airplane or sitting in a sold-out movie theatre?

Or will the fact that everything has changed in the way we live our lives and do our business have lasting impacts for years and decades to come? I have no answers, of course. But the mental health professionals around the world are encountering what they're calling 'post-pandemic anxiety' or 're-entry anxiety', a fear of going back out into the world and trying to make it normal.

With the capacity restrictions lifted – for now – we can go back to having people in the libraries, browsing, using the computers, coming to programs. Given that it's the first time in two years that a full library will have happened, I think it's probably normal to feel anxious about it all. We've dealt with things like people refusing to wear masks, arguing over restrictions and even a complaint to the Human Rights Board. Expecting people to happily go back to what we used to do, like nothing ever happened, is unreasonable. There are bound to be reservations.

An article on Health.com last year likened the anxiety of going back into public spaces with other people to the "stranger-danger" warnings of our childhood. As kids we were told not to approach people in public places, don't talk to strangers. Today it's the same thing, not knowing if that person has been safe, has had their shots, or maybe should be isolating. Strangers are a possible source of danger, and the anxiety associated with being in public with other people after being in isolation for two years is a perfectly natural reaction.

The experts say that trying to just forget the last two years and move on is probably a mistake. We must confront that anxiety and work through the fear – graduated exposure, being sure of your own comfort level, even professional

therapy if needed. Eventually we will grow more comfortable being with un-masked strangers in the same space as us, in stores and concert halls and, yes, even in our libraries. We have to be patient, with ourselves and with each other, and be tolerant of other peoples' exposure comfort levels. Personally I expect to be wearing a mask in public spaces for a long while yet, and I don't know why we haven't embraced it here, as other countries have been doing for many years. I haven't had a cold in two years and I am loving that.

All of this to say, be kind to yourself. Masks and hand sanitizer aren't going away and you should feel free to continue to embrace them. But also know that there will be people – strangers, friends – who do not, and you'll likely have both in the library with you. So, for now, this is the new normal. Probably that will change again as new variants come and go, maybe restrictions come back, maybe they don't. Maybe something completely different comes along and we'll be right back to where we were in 2020.

But, and this is what I'm hoping for, maybe it'll all be alright. I hope the vaccines will continue to be effective and, just like in 1918, we can learn to live with Covid without having it disrupt everything.

I look forward to that normal, where everyone can gather, or not, according to their own comfort levels and not be mocked or shamed for it. I look forward to seeing you all at meetings and conferences, hopefully not in a box on a screen. I look forward to visiting your libraries and talking across a table. And most of all, today, I'm looking forward to spring, and not shoveling snow anymore. Although given that spring snow storms are another version of northern Alberta normal, I suppose I can look forward to that too.

Louisa Robison
CEO



What's trending in books

This year's Canadian Battle of the Books is taking place between these five novels:

Five Little Indians
by Michelle Good
Scarborough
by Catherine Hernandez
What Strange Paradise
by Omar El Akkad
Life in the City of Dirty Water
by Clayton Thomas-Muller
Washington Black
by Esi Edugyan



CBC CANADA READS FINALISTS 2022

EDGAR AWARD FINALISTS 2022



The Edgar Awards celebrate the best works of mystery and suspense fiction. This year's nominees for best novel are:

The Venice Sketchbook
by Rhys Bowen
Razorblade Tears
by S. A. Cosby
Five Decembers
by James Kestrel
How Lucky
by Will Leitch
No One Will Miss Her
by Kat Rosenfield

The Romance Novelists' Association honours the best of romance with their annual awards. This year's nominees for best fantasy romantic novel are:

Space Hopper
by Helen Fisher
Daughter of the Sea
by Elisabeth J. Hobbes
A Marvellous Light
by Freya Marske
Beneath Cornish Skies
by Kate Ryder
Children of Shadows
by N. J. Simmonds

RNA FANTASY ROMANTIC NOVEL AWARD 2022



>> 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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Emma Stewart

Updates from the PLSB and the Government of Alberta

The public libraries' 2021 LibPAS Annual Report is due to the Public Library Services Branch on February 28, 2022. If you have any last-minute questions with your LibPAS, I will be happy to assist.

Updates about provincial library funding can be expected on Budget Day, February 24th, when the provincial budget will be tabled. The 2022 Application for Financial Assistance will be made available on the PLSB website when the government enters their new fiscal year as of April 1st, signaling that you can submit your application package for the 2022 Library Operating Grant. Watch your email for more, and **please direct any grant questions to the PLSB at libgrants@gov.ab.ca.**

COVID Restrictions

As of earlier this February, public libraries are no longer subject to capacity restrictions. Mandatory masking for children under 12 is no longer required as of February 14th under the provincial mandate, while other measures, including the provincial masking requirement for adults, remain in place and are targeted to be lifted March 1st if current trends continue.



What a yo-yo of a winter we've had so far! Fingers crossed for a mild spring to come soon, despite what the groundhogs predicted.

It seems that many people out there are "jumping the gun" and are no longer wearing masks in public; however, we encourage libraries to follow all public health restrictions until they are officially lifted.

TD Summer Reading Club

The Alberta Library will be the provincial coordinator for the 2022 TD-Summer Reading Club, and I am taking over from Katherine in coordinating everything for PLS libraries – luckily for me, with lots assistance of Barb!

We have 26 libraries that registered for the TD-Summer Reading Club this year; delivery of the promotional materials is anticipated in May for the activity notebooks, sticker sheets, recommended reads brochures, bookmarks, and Kids' website access code stickers. We're also currently getting the prize order forms from Hannah Promotions ready to go out – expect them soon!



We're excited about this year's theme for TD-Summer Reading Club: Once Upon a Time. Kids will have fun with this classic theme!

Stronger Together Conference

Mallory and myself are already getting ready with the planning committee for the 2022 Stronger Together Virtual Conference, which will be held online sometime this fall (probably October). A call for session proposals will be issued shortly, with conference registration to open this summer. Updates will appear on the conference website and over Pecans, so stay tuned!

Consulting Department Contacts

We know there have been a lot of changes in the consulting department over the last couple months, so here's a recap if you're still puzzled over who to contact!

Contact Emma (extension 103, estewart@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca) about general consulting inquiries and Summer Reading Club. Assigned libraries: Bear Point, Berwyn, Brownvale, Eaglesham, Fairview, Falher, Grimshaw, Hines Creek, McLennan, Menno-Simons, Nampa, Peace River, St. Isidore, Tangent, and Worsley.

Contact Duncan (extension 125, dotoski@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca) about eContent, devices, and STEAM kits. Assigned libraries: Bonanza, Dixonville, Elmworth, High Level, Hythe, Keg River, La Glace, Manning, Paddle Prairie, Rainbow Lake, Rycroft, Savanna, Spirit River, Valhalla, and Woking.

Contact Mallory (extension 104, mbruinsma@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca) about the newsletter, the conference, and your website. Assigned libraries: Beaverlodge, Calling Lake, Debolt, Flatbush, Fox Creek, Grande Cache, High Prairie, Kinuso, Red Earth, Slave Lake, Shannon, Smith, Valleyview, Wabasca, and Wembley.

Contact Barb (extension 109, bjohnson@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca) for questions about Relais and interlibrary loan, and to request kits and blocks.

*Please note, if one of the consultants is not available for an inquiry from their library, another consultant can be asked for help. The consulting department works as a team!

Emma Stewart
Consulting Services Manager

>> Tech Services Tidbits

It is really easy to procrastinate on things, and I say that as the self-proclaimed queen of procrastination (you know, once I got around to giving myself the crown). To some extent, we're all guilty of procrastination, but when it comes to things like postal reimbursement or submitting vouchers, it's not always a good idea to hold on to those.

To begin with, the longer you're holding on to both postal reimbursement forms and vouchers, the longer you're tying up library money. Why wait? Send it off to PLS and get your money back sooner rather than later. I'm not saying that you should send either off on a daily basis, but why not set a schedule? Every two to three months is a reasonable submission schedule. If you've got a lot, you can even bump it up to once a month. But saving everything and submitting once or twice a year does no one any favours. Particularly those on the PLS side of things who have to sort through your stack of receipts. If all libraries held on to their receipts until the very last minute and submitted them, I would foresee lots of banging of heads against desks here at PLS.

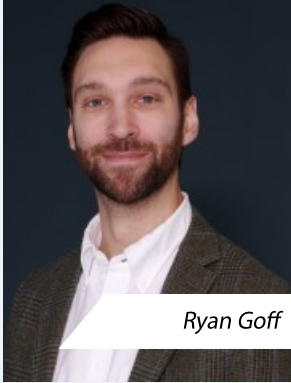
In addition to submitting postal reimbursement and your vouchers on a regular basis, here are a few other tips:

- Re-check your math, and then re-check it again. Make sure your paperwork totals match the invoices you're sending us.
- Make sure you've included all the necessary invoices.
- Fill in all the applicable fields on the voucher or reimbursement form.
- If you're unsure or have questions, please ask. PLS Staff are here to help you.

Janet Ayles
IT & Technical Services Manager



>> Multifactor Authentication Isn't Optional Anymore



Ryan Goff

Multifactor authentication seems to be everywhere these days. Whether it's your email provider, online banking, or any other host of online platforms, more and more companies are requiring this setup to continue using their services. A username/password combination is no longer sufficient in a fully connected digital world, especially when the same or similar passwords may be used for multiple sites.

Let's take a step back for a second and just clarify what multifactor authentication (also known as MFA/2FA) actual is. It is another way to validate who you are beyond your username/password. This can include one-time codes sent to your email or phone, or using a number of authentication applications or hardware tokens such as Google Authenticator or Yubikey. This helps satisfy one of the core security principles of "something you have, something you know" and makes your online accounts exponentially more secure.

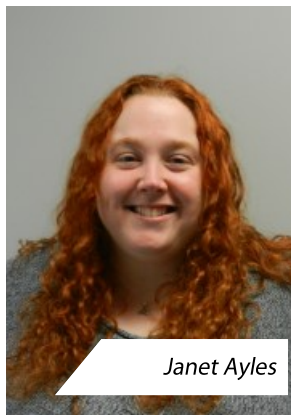
I'd highly recommend spending a few minutes and review your critical online services and setup MFA if you haven't already. I compare the use of multifactor authentication to a cars safety system: it's like using a seatbelt in a vehicle without an airbag. Anytime you can add an additional layer of security, it's never a bad thing, and could very well be the key deterrent in a cyberattack.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about MFA or any other technical topics, feel free to reach out to me.

Ryan Goff
Desktop & Network Administrator



>> From the IT Desk



Janet Ayles

Cleaning up Polaris

Part of our New Year routine is to carry out some database maintenance and clean up Polaris. Like most things, it's best to clean out the extraneous bits (records and whatnot) in order to keep it running smoothly.

If you've been at your library for at least a year, purging inactive patrons isn't a new idea for you. What I do, is gather a list of patrons who have been expired for more than two years (I use December 31, 2019 as a cut off date) with \$10 or less in account charges. You'll get an email with a list of your patrons to be purged from Polaris. I'll recheck the list in case anyone has been renewed, but otherwise will clean out the listed patrons on March 1st.

In addition to patrons, we also do some cleaning of withdrawn and deleted items. When it comes to deleted items, we break it down into two categories: magazines and everything else. Deleted items are purged from Polaris when they meet the following criteria:

- Magazines with status of deleted for over a year
- Items (everything other than magazines) with status of deleted for over two years

I've been asked why we bother cleaning out expired patrons and deleted items. That's a fair question, but let me put it to you this way – why do we clean old and outdated belongings out of our house? Unneeded date (or stuff, if you'd like) just serves to clog up the works. It can throw off reports and skew the data you're getting back. Plus, keeping a database clean is just considered good practice. Now I won't say we need to Marie Kondo Polaris, but it's a good idea to clean out the data we no longer need.

Library Inventory and Technology Planning

I'm sure you're all tired of me going on about technology plans, but there's a reason I keep bringing them up. I've been working on compiling an inventory of library computers on our network and have uncovered a few surprising details.

- The oldest library computers I have found were purchased in 2008. That's 14 years ago. For reference, I started Junior High at age 12.
- About 33% of the computers in libraries were purchased in

2016 and earlier.

- Less than 25% of computers still have a valid warranty. If your computer has an expired warranty, hardware failure means you'll need to purchase replacement parts or a new computer.

Why have I bothered with this? Well, to begin with, I like having a full picture of what's on our network. I track this information for computers at HQ, so identifying what's in the libraries is just the next step to that. Also, if I have information at hand about the age of your computers, I can subtly nudge you and suggest that you may want to look at replacing those aged computers.

This is where I'm going to start my very regular pitch for technology plans. Aged computers in libraries aren't anything new, but the high numbers were unexpected. Now there are a number of reasons to let your technology get to a significant age. You don't have the budget to replace it any more often. You don't know what you've got or how old it is. The computer powers on, so you assume it's fine. Or it could be something else entirely.

By harping on about keeping your technology current, I'm not trying to shame or criticize you. My intention is just to help you keep everything functional for your staff and your patrons. Aged and slow computers don't help anyone.

So if you don't already have a technology plan, I encourage you to reach out to me. I promise to work with you to build a realistic plan that accounts for your budget.

Booklists on Your Website

One of the neat features on your website is the ability to create booklists. They look cool, they let you promote your new items, or even an upcoming holiday or event.

However, cool looking booklists rely on our vendor having the cover art in their repository. Fun fact, if the cover art isn't in TRACpac, it won't show up on your website.

Or at least that's how it used to be. After running into missing cover art a significant amount of time, we conferred with our website vendor and came up with a workaround.

If you are missing images for items on your booklist, please reach out to PLS staff and we can manually add it in for you.

Janet Ayles
IT & Technical Services Manager

>> From Grande Prairie Public Library

by Charlotte Anderson, Emerging Technologies Librarian, Grande Prairie Public Library

Some fun new initiatives at GPPL

GPPL had a year of rethinking some of our strategies, finally initializing projects, and mostly trying not to give into pandemic stress.

And we (mostly) succeeded.

I know that we're all very tired and doom-scrolling on Twitter isn't helping, so if you need to self-care and look away from very busy projects, now is your time to stop reading. There are enough ways to be stressed these days without adding to it by seeing what GPPL staff are up to.

Here are some of the projects GPPL's launched recently(ish):

Little Free Pantry:

Little Free Pantry is filled with non-perishables, snack food and drinks, and hygiene items that are free for anyone to take. The pantry is stocked through donations by generous community members, organizations, and local companies. We restock the Pantry twice daily, and while we don't monitor who uses it (for obvious reasons), we do go through about 40 servings of food a day. Local non-profits and schools have started directing people experiencing food insecurity to us as a reliable option. For more information about the Little Free Pantry, you can check our website under Support GPPL -> Cool Initiatives or contact Tara Wiebe, Head of Customer Services.

Warming Wall:

Continuing the idea of the Little Free Pantry, the Warming Wall provides winter jackets, warm clothing, hats, gloves & scarves for free for anyone to take. It is also stocked through donations from community members. This will be a temporary installation for winter. It sees heavier use while the weather is around -40 and eases off when it's -1, which makes total sense.

The Lendery:

Those who live or work in the County of Grande Prairie have another way to pick up their library materials! The Lendery is a



collection of smart lockers that offer a secure, alternative location for library users to pick up books, DVDs, and other items. The Lendery can be found at the Wellington Resource Centre in Clairmont, and patrons looking to pick up library materials can do so Monday to Friday, from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

The Lendery was made possible by a partnership between the Grande Prairie Public Library, the County of Grande Prairie Community Libraries, and Peace Library System. Financial support was provided by the Government of Alberta and the Willie Janssen Legacy Fund, as well as the County of Grande Prairie. For more information, Hailey McCullough, Head of Adult Services, would be the person to reach out to.

Exams through PearsonVUE:

People will now be able to schedule their GED tests provided through PearsonVUE at GPPL rather than in Edmonton. This will be helpful for community members who have an easier time getting to Grande Prairie, and while it won't solve access problems for everyone in the Peace Region, it at least provides an option within the area. All test scheduling must be done through PearsonVUE, but Nythia Hojka, our Office Manager, would be happy to walk anyone through the steps it took to become an authorized testing center (it wasn't an easy process).

Champions of the Library:

We restarted our 'Friends' of the Library! While a Friends group isn't a new concept, we're at the point where additional fundraising strategies are important for going forward this year. Due to our current budget realities, we've cut a lot from our collection budgets, including our entire Most Wanted section, and we hope to be able to keep things like the Library of Things going completely through donations. Our Champions will start their fundraising activities soon.

Seed Library:

Gardeners can borrow seeds from the library at planting time, and then at the end of growing season they can save some of the seeds from their plants and return a portion to us. We started this initiative in the beginning of February and in the past few weeks we've seen a few people stop by for seed resources. For more information, contact Marci Banack, Adult Program Coordinator.



Tool Library:

We've been advertising our Tool Library for a few months seeking donations, and soon the items will be catalogued and on the shelf. We'll be adding a cordless drill, stud finder, tool bags, jigsaw, ladder, tire changing kit, and more. Once it's live you'll be able to see all the details for the Tool Library on our website under the Library of Things, or contact Clayton Tiro-Burns if you have any questions. While the items are only loanable at GPPL, he'd be happy to discuss the project for anyone looking for tips on starting their own.



Contact information for the staff mentioned can be found on our website: www.gppl.ca/Staff-List



Staff Development Day

Around the System...

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

Grimshaw Municipal Library

After 30 years of leading the way in library services, Linda Chmilar has retired as Manager of Grimshaw Municipal Library. Linda has been a strong advocate for the library in our community over this time, and knew the importance of being ready to share information whether she was at a council meeting, shopping for groceries, or on the sidelines of her kids' sports events. She introduced many creative programs, and ran numerous successful fundraisers, with the backing of scores of volunteers, thousands of lists, and millions of file folders! Fashion shows, parades, craft and county fairs, casinos, bra fittings, readers theatre, cash calendars, teas, movies, quilting, Harry Potter camps, Lego, and the Festival of Mini Trees – anything could (and did) happen at the library. Her efforts were behind the expansion of the children's space in the former location, and most recently, Linda took on the numerous challenges of bringing us to our new home. Our board and staff are beyond grateful for all she has done for Grimshaw Municipal Library. Thank you, Linda!

Vivianne Gayton
Grimshaw Municipal Library
www.grimshawlibrary.ab.ca
780-332-4553

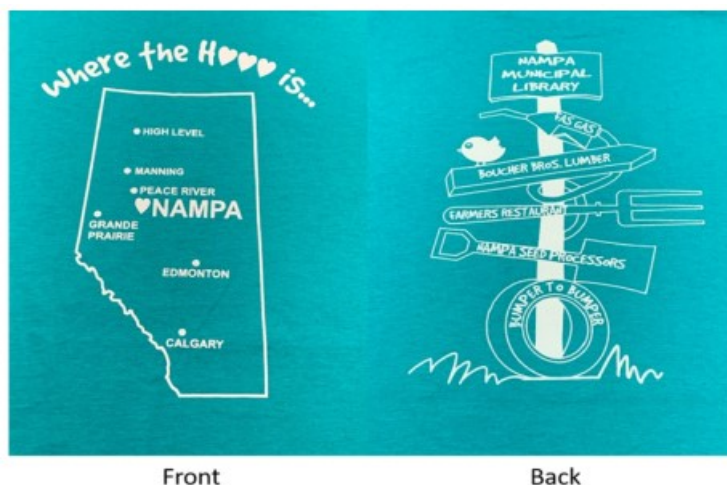


Nampa Municipal Library

The Nampa Municipal Library is doing a fundraiser! Help out by purchasing one of their snazzy T-Shirts. With one of these shirts you always know where the H ♥♥♥ Nampa is as well as High Level, Manning, Peace River, Grande Prairie, Edmonton, and Calgary.

Adult shirts come in turquoise, black, grey, royal blue, and orange with sizes ranging from Small to Double Extra Large. Youth shirts are also available in yellow, red, and royal blue and come in either Medium or Large. The adult shirts cost \$30.00 and the youth shirts cost \$25.00.

For more information please contact Cathy at the Nampa Municipal Library. The phone number is 780-3223-3805.



Front

Back

Access homework help based on your provincial curriculum, grade and subject.



FREE with your Library Card:
Pre & Post Tests
Practice Tests
Assessment Results
Notes and Flashcard Study Tools



Peace Library System
8301 - 110 Street
Grande Prairie, Alberta T8W 6T2
780-538-4656 | 1-800-422-6675
www.peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca

Solaro

Solaro is an online homework help resource with lessons, practice tests, and study tools for grades 3-12. Users can specify their grade and region to access their provincial curriculum. Use this resource to keep up to date in class, to get ahead, or to catch up. All you need is the internet and a library card to use it!

Set Up & Account

1. Access Solaro from your Library's eResource page
2. Enter your library barcode and pin to login
3. **To create an account:** enter your barcode and receive your login username and password
4. **To login to your existing account:** select click here and enter your Solaro username and password
5. Select **Add Course**, select **Alberta** as your region and select the correct grade level
6. Check the box for every course you want to take and select save
7. Select the menu icon (located on the top right) and choose **My Account**
8. Select the edit/pencil icon in the **My Profile** section and fill in your profile information

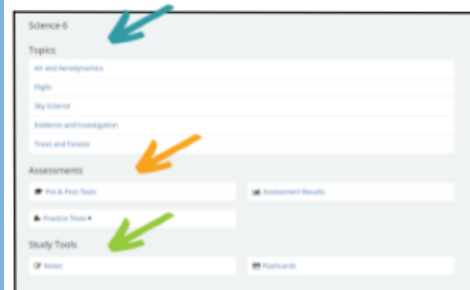
Account Features

Under your **My Account** page, you can also add a parent email and update your password.

To remove a course from your homepage:

1. Select the menu icon on the top right and choose **My Account**
2. Choose the **Select Courses** tab and uncheck the box beside the course you want to remove

Course Features



Topics

Each course will include a table of contents or **Topics** list. Select the topic you want to enter and you will be given a directory of units to learn about. Once you've completed a topic, a green check mark will appear beside the topic in the directory. Every unit completed will earn you a star.

Assessments

Directly below the **Topics** list is the **Assessments** features which can include Pre & Post Tests, Assessment Results and Practice Tests. Before launching into a test, you'll see instructions and rules to complete the tests. While taking tests, you can mark that your answer is a "guess" and the question will be flagged for review. Once completed, the **To Do** feature (located on the top right) will give you access to completed tests so you can review it.

Study Tools

Users can create notes and flashcards. To do this, they need to highlight the text within a unit at which point a pop-up will appear allowing them to choose between **Notes** or **Flashcards**. To see the index of all notes or flashcards, access the **Study Tools** list directly below the **Assessments** list.

Website Accessibility and the West Coast Trail



Mallory Bruinsma

The West Coast trail is a 75 km backpacking trail that stretches from Port Renfrew to Bamfield on beautiful Vancouver Island. Originally made to help shipwrecked individuals, this trail is considered one of the toughest trails in Canada and for good reason. The trail requires knowledge of tide charts, is inhabited by bears that are happy chasing hikers up ladders, rivers to ford,

over 100 (sometimes broken) ladders to climb, and sections of trail that are in serious disrepair. This trail takes inaccessibility to a new level. Many of the barriers that make the West Coast Trail inaccessible are also factors that can make websites inaccessible as well.

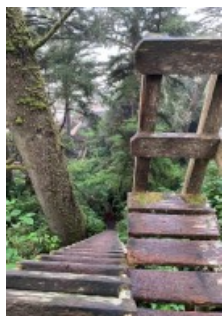
Up to Date Information

Before starting a long hike it is good practice to do some research. You may check the weather, look at the trail conditions, and ensure the roads to the trail in good order. On the West Coast Trail you also check the animal report. It is normal on the trail for certain campgrounds to be closed due to bear activity. This information is available on the trail website as well as information boards at the start of the trail. While old information on a library site is unlikely to result in waking up next to a bear, it can negatively impact patrons. Having up to date information on the website such as library hours will build trust with the patrons. Showing up at a library that turns out to be closed can be embarrassing and can also cause anger and frustration. This can severely decrease the likelihood that patrons will return to the library.



Accessible Information

Once up to date information is available the next step is to ensure that the information is accessible to everyone. This includes using detailed Alternative Text when using pictures, and using terminology that is widely known rather than librarian jargon. The goal is to have patrons read the webpage content and at the end understand what they read. In essence we want patrons to be able to safely climb a ladder. Imagine spelling mistakes, incorrect information, and library jargon as missing rungs. Think of missing alternative text and poor color contrast as multiple missing rungs.



It is important to make sure that anyone who goes to a library webpage can make it both up and down the ladder of information.

Pathways

The fastest way to get from one place to another is to go in a straight line. It is easy however to instead make patrons walk on a slippery and broken path. Website pathing should be as straight forward as possible. Patrons should not have to spend a moment thinking which link to click. Check links every month to ensure they are not broken. The online universe changes much more rapidly than hiking trails in a year. That means website administrators need to be checking pathways much more frequently.



Conclusion

Patrons that visit library websites should not have to feel like they are lost in the woods surrounded by broken ladders, and hidden bears. When editing a website try to imagine creating a safe trail that leads patrons directly to what they are looking for. Keep up to date information, make sure content is accessible, and maintain functional and direct pathways so patrons can enjoy both the journey and the destination.

Mallory Bruinsma
Consulting Librarian



Check out the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines at:
<https://www.w3.org/WAI/standards-guidelines/wcag/>
To learn more about the West Coast Trail visit:
<https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/bc/pacificrim/activ/SCO-WCT>

TRACpac Navigation

If you missed the TRACpac Navigation webinar you can watch a recorded version on the Peace Library System YouTube Channel (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOWAcYnREoWkeeCrXTliDw>) or the Staff Niche Academy page (<https://my.nicheacademy.com/peacelibrary-staff>).

Here's what was covered in the webinar:

- Navigating the Home Page
- Account Information
- Saved Lists
- Accessing eBooks and eAudiobooks
- Placing requests on magazines/serials
- TRACpac App
- Keyword Searching
- Browsing with Subject Headings
- Advanced Keyword Searching with Boolean Operators
- Narrowing your search with limiters
- Request Status'



Check out the *Using TRACpac* web page under Training Toolkit on the PLS website for more resources like a Boolean Operator Cheat Sheet, TRACpac Instructional Brochures (English/French), and Promotional Items (Posters/Bookmarks).

DID YOU KNOW?

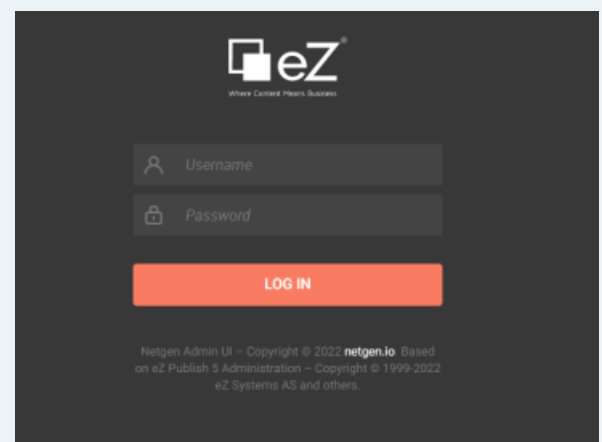
TRACpac App users can use the Scan ISBN Barcode feature to find items available in TRAC libraries.

Website Editing Refresher

If you missed the Website Editing Refresher webinar you can check out our Website Editing Training Toolkit page at <https://www.peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca/Training-Toolkit/Technology-Training/Website-Management>. On that page there are links to Staff Niche Academy videos, the link to the website editing manual, and links to important accessibility tools.

Here's what was covered in the webinar:

- Website Usability
- Common website issues and easy fixes
- The Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG)
- Color Contrast WCAG guidelines
- Alternative image text WCAG guidelines
- Logging into the website manager
- Updating library logos
- Updating library hours
- Adding social media links to the homepage
- How to make banners, fun facts, feature cards, and booklists
- How to create events both with and without registration forms
- How to post news to the website
- How to create a new webpage
- How to add links, images, documents, and videos to a webpage
- Editing the Website on a mobile device



If you would like one-on-one website management training please contact Mallory Bruinsma at extension 104 or at mbruinsma@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca. Both in-person and on-line training is available.

>> 2021 eResource Checkouts



Total checkouts:
119,706



Total checkouts:
1,347



Total checkouts:
8,332



Total Documents Viewed:
43,408



Total Checkouts:
15,462



Total Checkouts:
2,769

>>OverDrive Updates

OverDrive Reciprocal Lending Agreement

As of January 24th, TRAC has entered into a reciprocal lending agreement with Parkland Regional Library System (PRLS). This means that Peace Library System staff and patrons now have access to thousands of OverDrive items from PRLS' collection.

With a TRAC library card, users can now search and borrow eBooks and eAudiobooks from the PRLS OverDrive collection. And vice versa - their users can access the TRAC collection. You can access the PRLS collection through the **OverDrive website**, or the **Libby app**.

Checkout and holds limits apply only to the library being used. Titles borrowed from PRLS do not count against the checkout limit imposed by TRAC, and TRAC titles borrowed do not count against PRLS's checkout limit.

- TRAC Checkout limit: 10 items every 30 days
- PRLS Checkout limit: 10 items every 30 days

The system gives preference to patrons whose home library card matches the OverDrive library being used.

OverDrive Website

1. Go to TRAC's OverDrive home page (www.trac.overdrive.com)
2. Click on the **Partner Libraries** link at the top of the page and choose **Parkland Regional Library**
3. Once on PRLS's OverDrive site, sign in with your **TRAC library card number and pin**

You are now free to search and borrow items from the PRLS OverDrive collection

Libby App

1. Tap the Libby icon at the bottom center of any page
2. Tap the **Add Library** button, located under the **Your Libraries** title
3. Search *Parkland Regional Library* and tap when found
4. Tap **Enter Library Account Details**
5. Sign in with your TRAC Library card number and pin

You are now free to search and borrow items from the PRLS OverDrive collection in Libby

OverDrive App Retiring

This is a reminder that as of **February 23, 2022** the classic OverDrive app has begun its retirement. Instead of using two apps for the same content, the OverDrive app will slowly be dissolved in favor of Libby becoming the main app for patrons to read OverDrive's digital content.

As of February 23, 2022:

- New users searching for the OverDrive app in app stores will be redirected to Libby
- For the time being, users who previously installed the OverDrive app (mobile or desktop) will still be able to use it without disruption
- All users can continue to use the TRAC OverDrive website (www.trac.overdrive.com)

Libby will continue to work on both iOS 10 + and Android 5.0 + operating systems.



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Peace Library System acknowledges Treaty 8 territory of the Cree, Beaver, and Dene people, and Region 6 of the Métis Nation of Alberta. We are grateful to live, work, and learn together on this land which has been home to many

First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples since time immemorial. We recognize this land as an act of reconciliation, and we also commit to supporting and celebrating our local indigenous communities while working to break down institutional barriers to make our libraries equitable and accessible.

TD Summer Reading Club

The TD Summer Reading Club (TDSRC) [Staff Site](#) is live with updated content for 2022! The theme for this year is *Once Upon a Time; Myths and Legends!*. The staff site's Resources section has a new batch of recommended reads, activities, images, promotional templates, program forms, and online films provided by the National Film Board.



The TDSRC Kids' Site goes live June 13, 2022 with brand new content. Until then, anyone who visits the website will see the *About the Club* page and a countdown to the launch of the 2022 Kids' Site.

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 Mallory Bruinsma at mbruinsma@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 Mallory Bruinsma.

Peace Library System's events calendar

Freedom to Read Week

February 20-February 26, 2022

Intro to Solaro Webinar

Online

March 2, 2022, 1:00pm

March 3, 2022, 2:00pm

Using TikTok to Promote your Library Webinar

Online

March 16, 2022 1:00pm

Language Learning eResource Webinar

Online

March 22, 2022, 2:00pm

March 24, 2022, 12:00pm

Canada Reads Debates

March 28-31, 2022

International Children's Book Day

April 2, 2022

PLS Executive Committee Meeting

Location TBA

April 23, 2022, 10:30 am

PLS Board Meeting

Location TBA

May 28, 2022, 10:30 am