



NEWS & Notes

PEACE LIBRARY SYSTEM'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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SUMMER 2017

2016 Snapshot

Peace Library System staff and libraries had a busy year in 2016! Check out these numbers...

Resource Sharing

961,154 Items Circulated
to **37,330** Patrons

192,800 Items Lent

224,310 Items Borrowed

Technical Services

30,024 Items Ordered

32,411 Items Catalogued

1,956 Van Deliveries

56,250 KM Driven

287,450 Items Delivered

Consulting Services

91 Group Training Sessions

54 Programs Sponsored
in Member Libraries

50 In-Person Visits
(and **214** Remote Consultations)

15 Library Manager Meetings

7 Workshops

1 High Calibre Conference

Ancestry

8,734 documents viewed

↑ 96%

Hoopla

8,875 checkouts

↑ 36%

OverDrive eBooks

66,163 downloads

↑ 13%

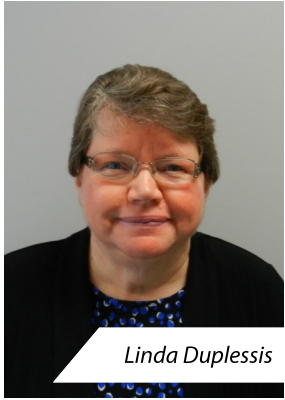
IT Services

43 In-Person Visits

1,023 Remote Support Sessions

18,309 Visits to PLS Website

>> From the Director



Linda Duplessis

It's been a busy winter/spring season and things aren't about to slow down anytime soon.

There are the usual spring meetings to coordinate, as well as significant Rural Libraries Conference planning. Special provincial grants for services to Indigenous communities and for building improvements will mean lots of planning and related activities. We have a final plan for the reconfiguration of the Technical Services area and will be replacing flooring at the same time.

We will keep upheaval to a minimum and continue to offer full service during all of this activity, and look forward to a new look throughout the building.

Building Upgrades Coming

The provincial budget contains just over \$10 million for improvements to six library system headquarters buildings. (The seventh building received separate funding in 2009.) This has been the focus of library system lobbying for the past several years, as sources of capital funding for library systems are very limited. Peace Library System (PLS) is eligible for \$1,010,000, payable once the Minister of Municipal Affairs signs off on the agreement. The funding is based on a 2012 Alberta Infrastructure assessment of the PLS headquarters building plus the cost of inflation. We are working with local experts to develop a sequential plan for the upgrades between now and December 31, 2020. In addition to new flooring, we anticipate a number of mechanical and electrical upgrades, improvements for barrier-free access, and a roof replacement.

Indigenous Populations Grant Continues

The provincial budget includes funds of over \$200,000 to continue to expand services to Indigenous communities in our region. We can build on activities that took place in 2016-2017 – cultural awareness training, marketing, collection development (print and digital), programs, new technology for outreach, early literacy initiatives, etc. And we will support new outreach strategies and other projects at member libraries. **Libraries are encouraged to apply for funding to reach out to Indigenous communities and to offer programs and services to attract Indigenous patrons to the library. Be bold and be creative!** An updated application form was sent out recently and can be submitted to my attention.

Let Your Patrons Know About New eResources

In February, PLS launched **Consumer Reports** online region-wide. Since then, the Public Library Services Branch has launched **Read Alberta eBooks** showcasing over 1,000 fiction and non-fiction Alberta-published eBooks, and **Newspaper Source Plus**, which provides full-text articles from the world's major newspapers, newswires and news magazines. Libraries recently received access to our newest eResource – **Transparent Language Online** – which supplements **Mango** and provides access to some Indigenous languages. And TRAC has added the **Overdrive Kids eReading Room**, a bright and attractive interface of children's downloadable titles in Overdrive.

A new province-wide resource, called **the Alberta Research Portal**, has just launched **Gale Primary Sources**. This gives access to original documents including 73 Digital Archives (300 million+ pages), the Literature Resource Center, the Shakespeare Collection and World History in Context. It includes expansive Canadian historical content and North American Indigenous Peoples resources. The Alberta Research Portal is now available on your library's website under the eResources tab.

Also coming this summer is **LyndaLibrary**, an online learning tool that helps anyone learn business, software, technology and creative skills to achieve personal and professional goals.

Linda Duplessis
Director



What's trending in books

ALBERTA READERS' CHOICE AWARDS FINALISTS 2017

Sponsored by the Edmonton Public Library, the Alberta Readers' Choice Award is awarded annually to an Alberta author as voted by Alberta readers:

50 Percent of Mountaineering is Uphill
by Susanna Pfisterer

Art Lessons by Katherine Koller

Gatekeeper by Natasha Deen

Paper Teeth by Lauralyn Chow

Son of France by Todd Babiak



SHIRLEY JACKSON AWARDS: BEST NOVEL FINALISTS 2017



The Shirley Jackson Awards honour outstanding achievement in the literature of psychological suspense, horror, and the dark fantastic:

Foxlowe by Eleanor Wasserberg

The Girls by Emma Cline

I'm Thinking of Ending Things
by Iain Reid

Lily by Michael Thomas Ford

Mongrels by Stephen Graham Jones

The Wonder by Emma Donoghue

AMAZON.CA FIRST NOVEL AWARD FINALISTS 2017

The First Novel Award recognizes outstanding literary achievements by first-time Canadian authors:

White Elephant by Catherine Cooper

Accordéon by Kaie Kellough

So Much Love by Rebecca Rosenblum

Mysterious Fragrance of the Yellow Mountains by Yasuko Thanh

The Break by Katherena Vermette



>> Consulting Corner



News & Notes

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

How to contact us:

estewart@
peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca

Editor/Design:
Emma Stewart

Contributors in this issue:

Janet Ayles
Chris Burkholder
Linda Duplessis
Vivianne Gayton
Jill Kergan
Michele Kettles
Ruth Reay
Fred Richard
Tracy Roberts
Leslie Ann Sharkey
Beverley Shewchuck
Emma Stewart
Anna Underwood
Rae Weniger
Katherine Wiebe

A Great Conference!

We enjoyed an inspiring Alberta Library Conference in Jasper a few weeks ago, and it was wonderful to see several library managers and board members in attendance from Peace Library System. Wasn't Rick Mercer amazing? And Joseph Boyden really rocked that jaw harp! We hope more of you will be able to take in the conference in the future. It's a great experience with good food, fun networking, informative sessions, interesting exhibits, and breathtaking scenery.

Board Basics Workshop!

Attention all new library managers and new/returning library board members! An excellent and free training opportunity is available to you to attend a Board Basics Workshop presented by the Public Library Services Branch. We are fortunate to have the workshop returning to our region and it will be held at the **Peace River Municipal Library on Saturday, June 10, from 9:30 – 3:30**. The library is located at 9807 – 97 Avenue, Peace River. Although free, you must register for the workshop by **Friday, June 2 at 4:30 p.m.** to reserve your seat. Register online at this link: <https://extranet.gov.ab.ca/opinio6/s?s=35518>.

This workshop is open to all library trustees, library managers and library system staff. It is designed to help participants support effective public library service in their communities and regions. In particular, participants will understand the Libraries Act and Regulations and other pertinent legislation; the Alberta public library network; and library board roles, responsibilities, and relationships.

Participants will receive a workbook and other support materials, snacks, and lunch. Other meals, travel, and any required accommodation will be the participant's responsibility. Questions regarding the workshop may be directed to the Public Library Services Branch at 780-427-4871.

Shelf Locations and Collection Codes

Rae is calling Peace libraries one-by-one to assist with a TRAC-wide Polaris Shelf Locations clean-up project. Thanks for helping us tidy up the database of unused/duplicate shelf locations.

Lots to Do and Read This Summer!

It's time to start thinking about promoting your summer reading programming, especially to the schools, and we know many of you are already receiving promotional materials if you're participating in the TD-Summer Reading Club. This year's theme provides opportunities for diverse programs and activities that celebrate Canada and showcase the many remarkable things about our country and people.

Remind your teen patrons to download their free eAudiobooks from Sync throughout the summer! Two titles come available each week and can only be downloaded during their week, but your readers get to keep the titles! For more information direct your patrons to <http://www.audiobooksync.com>.

We've recently set up an Overdrive Kids eReading Room, which is a bright and attractive interface of our children's downloadable titles in Overdrive. The Kids eReading Room can be accessed through your library's website under the eResources tab and click the Children link, or kids can also get to it from the top left corner of the main Overdrive page.

Storytime Kits

We're excited to announce that we've selected our Storytime Project Coordinator summer student who will develop and assemble the new storytime kits aimed at ages 2-3. Elizabeth Bertozzi will on May 16! We expect to have the kits ready for our public libraries to borrow by the fall.


Have a great spring!
Emma, Samm, Rae, and Katherine

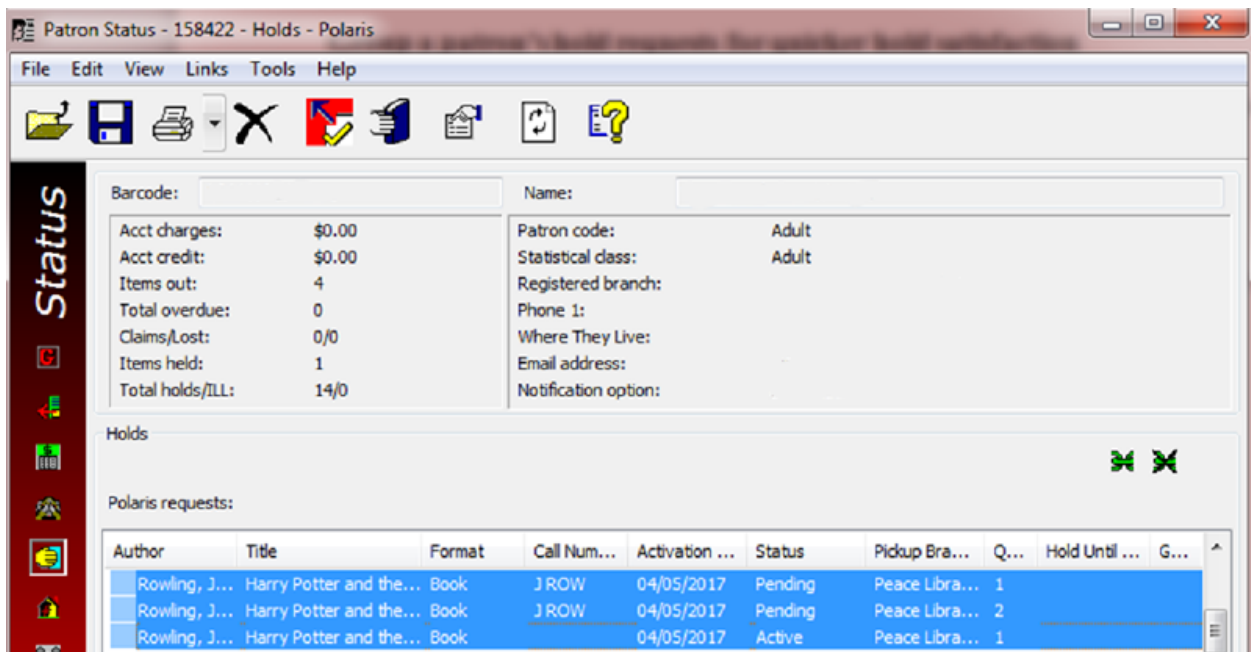
>> Rae's Tips


Group a patron's hold requests for quicker hold satisfaction

You can group hold requests with a status of Active, Inactive, or Pending. A group can contain requests with any or all these statuses, and you can add any number of hold requests to an existing group. Whichever hold is filled first satisfies and removes all the holds in the group!

To group hold requests:

1. Place hold requests on several similarly titled Bibliographic records (example "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets")
2. Open the patrons' record in the Requests view 
3. Hold down the keyboard control key and click on each of the holds to add to a Group:



4. Click on the (left) green "Add to Group" icon 
5. Three holds for Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets are now in a group (A). The patron will not receive all three, only the first of the three to be filled.

Author	Title	For...	Call Num...	Activation ...	Status	Pickup Bra...	Q...	Hold Until Date	Group
Rowling, J...	Harry Potter and the...	Book		04/05/2017	Active	Peace Libra...	1		A
Rowling, J...	Harry Potter and the...	Book	J ROW	04/05/2017	Pending	Peace Libra...	1		A
Rowling, J...	Harry Potter and the...	Book	J ROW	04/05/2017	Pending	Peace Libra...	2		A

>> Tech Services Tidbits

With all the things that go on in your library, it can be hard to stay on top of everything. I know it's easy to let ordering slide, but it isn't a good idea to get too far behind on ordering. Your allotment is sent in twice a year and the next amount will be sent in to PLS in the not-too-distant future. I know, you would never think that it could be a huge problem to have too much money on hand, but unused allotment money means less books that could be on your shelves for patrons.

PLS's awesome Acquisitions staff. If you have funds available, PLS can definitely help you spend them.

Speaking of available funds, it's never a bad idea to keep track of how much of your allotment is available for spending. Check out the Did you know? section of the IT column for details on how to check how much money you have for book purchases. If you have funds available, there are books to be bought!

There is no shortage of ordering options. In addition to the Hotlist and Superforthcoming given to you, there is always Title Source 360, standing orders, and tons of Programs that are put together by

Janet Ayles
Acting Technical Services Manager

>> May day!



Fred Richard

With spring comes spring cleaning! Ours comes in the way of Deep Freeze. Now all the computers in all libraries (with the exceptions of a few rogue computers where there was a problem with the software install) have Deep Freeze installed and performing its spring cleaning each night. What this means (for those who don't know) is that the image stays as-is and no changes can be made to the public computers. If changes are made or things are deleted or added to the desktop or computer, when rebooted, the image reverts back to what it was with nothing changed.

This also means that Windows updates are being applied on a weekly basis. They are done overnight on the weekends, but if you run into a situation where the updates are being applied at a time when the computer should be up and running, please let me know. Along with Windows updates the weekend is also when updates are rolled out on software on your computers like Adobe and web browsers .

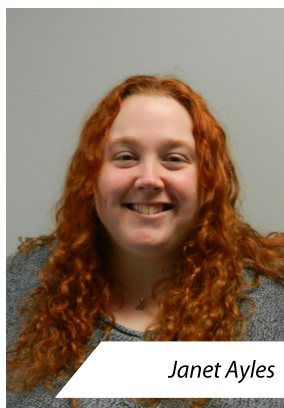
Things seem to be running smoothly for the most part; however, internet still seems to be going down for some libraries for various reasons. If there is an outage or things seem to be down please check all computers to make sure that it is not an issue with just the staff machine and that all computers are affected. Sometimes it could be something as easy to fix as a cable slightly pulled out or someone accidentally unplugged something. Of course, if everything is down, reach out to me with a phone call so that I can begin to make arrangements to be on site. With consultants performing their visits and Samm scheduling the digital training at each library it takes some planning to get to a library that may be a good distance away.

Of course, there is always LEAP and Polaris RDP staff can use as a work around until things are back up, but we like to have that as a short term solution for staff whose networked computers are down.

My visits have begun and I look forward to spending some time on the roads (hopefully under sunny skies) and meeting with all the library staff again this year!

Fred Richard
Desktop & Network Administrator

>> From the IT Desk



Janet Ayles

Summer is on the horizon!

So with summer nearly (almost, I hope) here, it's time to think about if your library hours will change. Do you close during the summer? Do you shorten or increase your hours? Will you be taking a vacation and closing the library for a long weekend or so? If the answer to any of these is yes, we need to update Polaris. Why? If Polaris doesn't have your up to date hours or any dates that you

may be closed, then it cannot calculate due dates or fines properly. Please let us know of any changes to your hours at helpdesk@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca.

Hoopla

Hoopla is really popular with our patrons and that's great! It's all about streaming media these days and Hoopla fits the bill. However, in order to balance demand with the budget, we've had to make some changes to the borrowing limits. The available number of borrows per month has been lowered to four per patron. We will review this over the next few months and see if any further changes are needed.

HelpDesk

Always remember that our Helpdesk is available to you for technical support 24/7. You can reach the helpdesk at <http://help.peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca> or by email at helpdesk@peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca. The Helpdesk is the best place to submit technical problems, questions, or non-urgent requests for assistance.

If you are experiencing a critical problem, please call us directly (afterhours, please reach out to the Afterhours support at YRL).

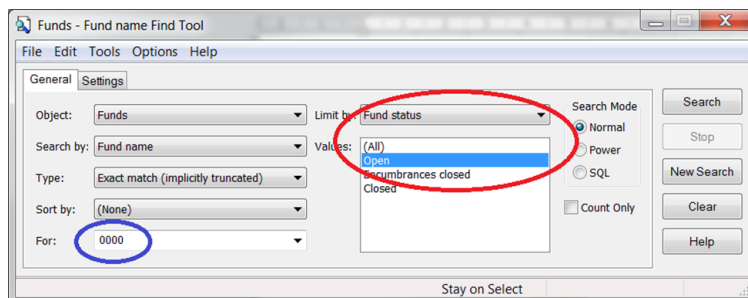
Critical functions are defined as:

- Unable to search TRACpac
- Unable to login to Polaris
- Unable to check items out to a patron
- Cannot connect to the Internet (depending on the cause, YRL may not be able to help and instead will have to wait for Fred or me)

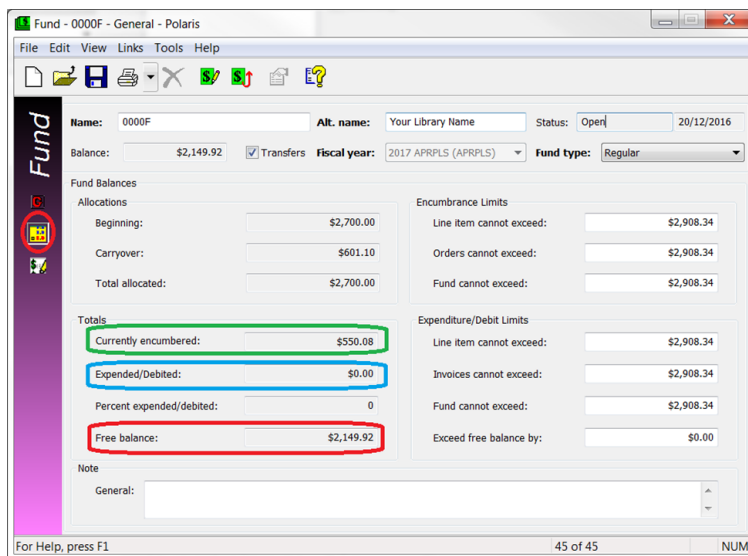
Did You Know?

PLS sends out monthly statements showing how much of your allotment has been spent, is tied up with on order items, and is

still free to be spent. In the meantime, you are able to check your free balance. That way you don't have to wait for the next statement in order to know how much you are able to spend. Just click **Acquisitions > Funds > Find Funds**. In the search field, put your library code (the numeric one, if you're not sure what it is, it's on your statement – if you're still unsure, call us) and set the **Limit by** to **Fund Status** and choose **Open**. That way you're only looking at this year's funds.



When you open your fund, you will get an error message. **That's normal**. All the error is telling you is that you don't have permissions to modify the fund (that is restricted to a select few here at PLS Headquarters), but you're still able to view your funds.



It's the second screen of the fund information that has the particulars you'll be looking for – Currently encumbered, Expended, and Free balance. Currently encumbered shows the total of your on order items. Expended covers what you've spent on book orders that have been completed. Free balance (and this is the fun one) is what you have available to spend. So go shopping!

Janet Ayles
IT Services Manager

>> From Grande Prairie Public Library

by Jill Kergan, Outreach and Learning Librarian, Grande Prairie Public Library

We Are Called to Action: Reconciliation @ Your Library

Why Now? The TRC Report

The government has tried to redress inequity towards indigenous populations in the past. However, since the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) released its report on Canada's residential school system the call for reconciliation has been stronger than ever.

Through statistics and witness testimonies the TRC's report revealed that the impact of Canada's systematic discrimination towards indigenous populations was more detrimental than we ever imagined. Moreover, the report illustrates how past inequity affects current attitudes and treatment of indigenous populations today.

What is our response?

Many Canadians respond to the TRC report with feelings of guilt. It's important to remember the TRC did not publish the report simply to make Canadians feel guilty. The TRC published the report to help us become aware of our past and understand how it has impacted Indigenous peoples so we do not repeat our mistakes.

The report makes 94 recommendations to help us reconcile our government's errors and move forward. In other words, it provides us with a roadmap on how to be supportive of indigenous cultures and foster healthy, trusting relationships. In doing this, it illustrates how we can work toward a more inclusive, cohesive and stronger nation.

What's going on at GPPL?

Walking with Our Sisters Mixer

The internationally acclaimed *Walking With Our Sisters* (WWOS) art installation is coming to Grande Prairie in June of 2018. Since it is a project that requires a lot of community involvement we held a mixer in February to raise awareness and discuss how people can get involved.

Essentially, WWOS was created to commemorate over a thousand murdered and missing Indigenous Women in Canada and the US over the last 30 years. The exhibit consists of over 1700 pairs of moccasin vamps which were donated by those who lost a loved one. When the exhibit arrives attendees will walk along the path beside the vamps to honour the memory of missing and murdered indigenous women.

The program began with a prayer led by an elder and ceremonial music. Following the introductory ceremony the local WWOS Committee discussed the significance of the exhibit. It was an emotionally charged and deeply meaningful event. There were over seventy attendees that came out to show their support.

#Hugasister Presentation

At our annual International Women's Day celebration Andrea Deleeuw discussed a grassroots #Hugasister movement spearheaded by two Grande Prairie women, Jackie Benning and Delaine-Lambert English, in response to the overwhelming injustice of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women. Since its conception it has grown into a movement of advocacy, education, support, and positive change. Their goal is to celebrate sisterhood and encourage solidarity so women are less likely to be subjected to violence. Her presentation was well received and she closed with a traditional indigenous song.

Coming Soon!

The Blanket Exercise

We are holding this activity on May 31 in partnership with the Grande Prairie Friendship Centre. According to Kathy Dube, a trained facilitator, the blanket exercise is an activity that illustrates the historic and contemporary relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada.

Participants take on the roles of Indigenous peoples. Standing on blankets that represent the land, they walk through pre-contact, treaty-making, colonization and resistance. Participants are drawn into the experience by reading scrolls and carrying cards which ultimately determine their outcomes. By engaging on an emotional and intellectual level, the Blanket Exercise effectively educates and increases empathy. The exercise will be followed by a debriefing session in which participants have the opportunity to discuss the experience in a talking circle.

We required pre-registration because you need at least twenty participants to take part. If you don't have enough participants the exercise loses its emotional impact. We also asked each participant to bring their own blanket. We will have a few extra blankets available in case anyone forgets. If you are considering hosting a blanket exercise we recommend inviting an elder to lead a prayer and smudging to begin. Also, if you plan on smudging inside be sure to advertise it in advance to warn people with allergies.

Crafts:

Indigenous cultures have a rich history of beautiful crafts that would make wonderful library programs. At GPPL we are hosting a **DIY beaded keychain program** this month and space is filling up fast!

Program Ideas for Your Library:

Indigenous Storytelling:

- Invite an indigenous storyteller to read to children
- Read indigenous themed books at storytime
- Select indigenous themed titles for book clubs

Recommended Books for:

Children:

Sometimes I Feel Like a Fox by Danielle Daniel

Fatty Legs & Not My Girl by Christy Jordan-Fenton

I Am Not a Number by Jenny Kay Dupuis

Teens:

Bone Dance by Martha Brooks

Lightfinder by Aaron Paquette

Shadows Cast by Stars by Catherine Knutsson

Adults:

The Orenda by Joseph Boyden

Birdie by Tracey Lindberg

Medicine Walk by Richard Wagamese

Crafts:

- Dreamcatchers
- Moccasins
- Hand Drums
- Rattles
- Medicine Bags
- Baskets
- Feather Headbands
- God's Eyes
- Rainsticks



- Corn Husk Dolls
- Talking Sticks
- Haida Art
- Dot Art
- Symbol Stones

Games:

Host an indigenous games tournament.

How to be more inclusive, generally:

Educate: Educating yourself is key to effective indigenous programming. The most well meaning programs can be perceived differently than intended. Take the time to learn indigenous customs and protocol when inviting elders and knowledge keepers to events.

For example, acknowledge when you are on treaty land at programs. Also, offer indigenous elders tobacco at events. Taking the time to learn appropriate protocol cannot be overemphasized. Further, attend any Indigenous themed professional development opportunities available. Relay what you learned to your staff.

Ask questions: If you don't know, ask! It seems like common sense; however, many people feel uncomfortable asking important questions. Most people will be glad you asked rather than pretending that you know or avoiding the topic entirely.

Get feedback: The best laid plansAlthough you have the best intentions what you are trying to do may be perceived differently than you intended. It is important to ask how programs were received to ensure they are indeed promoting reconciliation.



From the Walking with Our Sisters Mixer

Around the System...

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

Bonanza Municipal Library

Check out the winners of our Easter Draw at Bonanza Municipal Library!

—Submitted by Michele Kettles, Bonanza Municipal Library



Fox Creek Municipal Library

We have a display by local quilters throughout May which is being enjoyed by our patrons. It is always nice to celebrate our own townsfolk.

Fox Creek is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year and the library is filling with a Lego version of our town. Our Family Lego Club started it all and it is now branching out to the entire community. Although there is a lot more to Fox Creek, we feel we have made a good start so far. Building continues. Who knows how big this project will get!

We are looking ahead to our second Creation Location Sept 30 with all kinds of art activities for our town to participate in and special guest Ryan Cook, world renowned professional chainsaw artist. He will be carving a commemorative piece to celebrate Fox Creek.

—Submitted by Leslie Ann Sharkey, Fox Creek Municipal Library





Smith Community Library

This spring at our library we partnered with the Smith Community Development Council and the Smith School.

In the afternoons we had local citizens come to our library to paint banners that will be displayed on our street lights in a few weeks. They will brighten our community.

—Submitted by Ruth Reay, Smith Community Library



High Prairie Municipal Library

We had our 9th Annual Grade 5 Challenge on May 4th. The book that we had the students study for the trivia based challenge was *Slacker* by Gordon Korman. The kids really enjoyed the book. St. Andrews was unable to make the challenge this year so we invited the Jousard School Grade 5 class to compete in their place. Each team was made up of the top 3 students of each class based on a pre-test given out earlier to the classes. Each person representing their school received a custom made *Slacker* t-shirt and a medal. At the actual challenge, the winning team from High Prairie Elementary received the honour of taking the trophy back to their school, a hardcover copy of the book to keep and a signed bookmark sent to us by Gordon Korman. We also received a two slice pizza and pop coupon from Nado's Pizzeria, and the Park Theatre also donated a free movie pass to the winning students!

—Tracy Roberts, High Prairie Municipal Library



More from around the *System*...

Wembley Public Library

The Wembley Public library is thrilled that their HTC Vive Virtual Reality System is up and running. It has been a huge hit, with over 275 people trying it out in the first 6 weeks. People of all ages are being amazed by a virtual reality world of rollercoasters, underwater exploration, the human body and zombie fighting, just to name a few. There are new adventures being created everyday & I can't wait to see where it will take us next.

—Submitted by Anna Underwood, Wembley Public Library



Grimshaw Municipal Library

The last week of April is National Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness week. This is a topic near and dear to the staff of Grimshaw Municipal Library, so we were pleased to provide two informative sessions for our communities on Tuesday, April 25. We worked with Natalie Buttrey, who is a Donor Coordinator from the HOPE (Human Organ Procurement and Exchange) program, who Skyped in for the sessions. Buttrey gave a presentation on the history, importance and logistics of organ and tissue donations in Alberta, and answered questions from the audiences. The first session was over lunch, and we invited the Grimshaw Chamber of Commerce to have their meeting here, which we hope will be just the first of many chances to coordinate with the Chamber. The second session took place during our monthly Senior's Tea, and our attendees were very impressed with the presentation and the technology we used for it. We faxed in a number of donor registration forms on the day of the presentation, and in the days that followed. Thanks to Geoffrey Jackson from the Mile Zero News for taking this photo!

—Submitted by Vivianne Gayton, Grimshaw Municipal Library



Peace River Municipal Library

Peace River Municipal Library has started Reading Buddies! Students from grades 1 to 4 are matched up with teen volunteers for some practice reading out loud. Then the group comes together to listen to the latest chapter at a big kid story time!

—Submitted by Beverley Shewchuck, Peace River Municipal Library



Fairview Public Library

Here is a photo of our new Literacy Station. We received funding from the Fairview/ClearHills ECD Coalition to help purchase the AWE station.

The desk and chairs were from the Indigenous Grant through PLS. In the month of March we had over 70 children use the computer to learn.

—Submitted by Chris Burkholder, Fairview Public Library



>> Spotlight on: Consumer Reports

Consumer Reports is not just a magazine these days! Peace Library System now subscribes to their online database for the convenience of you and your community. Whether your patrons are looking for a new toaster, tablet, or treadmill, Consumer Reports will help guide them to the best purchase.

Consumer Reports has been helping subscribers find better, safer products for more than eighty years and is the world's largest nonprofit product-testing organization. They don't take free samples or allow paid advertising, but make sure that their shoppers and experts independently buy and test the products reviewed so you know the reviews are trustworthy.

Consumer Reports hosts a huge database of products with buyers guides and recommendations and allows you to directly compare features and specs of various products. Their website also includes the full text of Consumer Reports Magazine, so your patrons will never miss out on a feature.



When you're browsing Consumer Reports, make sure to scroll down to the bottom of the main search page and click on "Canada Extra" for information on Canadian prices and ratings as well as listings of various government and consumer protection agencies and links to manufacturers' websites.



>> Audiobook SYNC



Are you looking for ways to keep local teens reading over the summer? Thanks to Audiofile Magazine and Overdrive, we have access to SYNC, a free summer audiobook program for teens. Starting April 27th, SYNC will give away two complete audiobook downloads a week: pairs of high interest titles based on weekly themes. The audiobooks include such popular titles as *Between Shades of Gray* by Ruta Sepetys, *Shadows on the Moon* by Zoe Marriott, and *Feed* by M.T. Anderson.

Patrons can sign-up to get notifications of when the free audiobook downloads are available. They can receive alerts by text message, email newsletter, or by visiting www.audiobooksync.com. Titles change every Thursday at 7am ET when the program is running.

Downloads are in MP3 format, hosted by OverDrive, and are Mac and Windows compatible. Downloads will operate through the OverDrive app, and most listening devices are supported. Each SYNC audiobook will be available for download for a period of 7 days (only). Titles, once downloaded, are the patron's to keep.

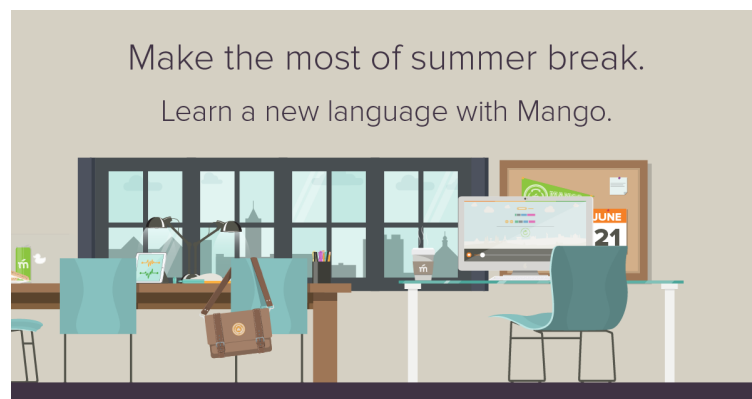
>> Language eResources

Patrons of Peace Library System libraries have access to two great language learning eResources through their library card.

The first of these, Mango Languages, is a fun and accessible way to learn new languages. They currently offer courses on over 70 world languages, as well as skills-focused English courses for English learners in your community.

One fun way that Mango works is by rapidly building language proficiency and cultural understanding around real-world communication skills that you'll actually need. Mango teaches through examples like 'What time are they arriving?' instead of much less useful phrases like 'The dog is under the table.'

Mango provides free mobile apps, hands-free learning features, and progress tracking, as well as access to a variety of specialty mini courses, like Pirate, Medical Spanish and romance courses.



Transparent Language[®] Online

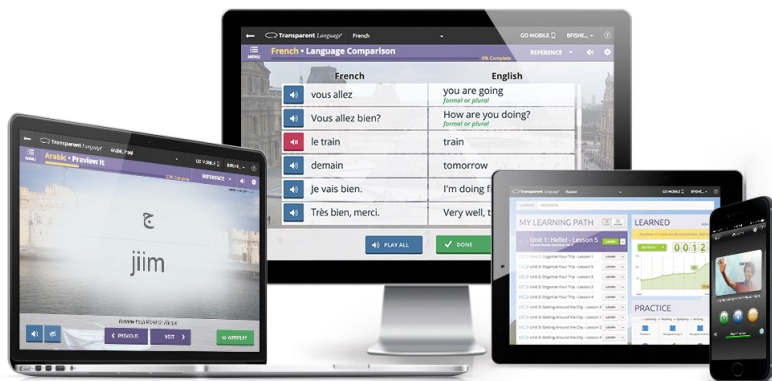
The second eResource for language learning is **Transparent Language Online**. Whether you're starting at the very beginning with a new alphabet or you're an intermediate learner looking to enhance your vocabulary and grammar knowledge, Transparent Language Online can help.

Transparent Language Online offers courses in over 100 languages, from Afrikaans to Zulu, while also providing English as a Second Language (ESL) materials for native speakers of more than 26 languages.

Transparent Language Online provides a fun, effective, and engaging experience for learners of all levels looking to build their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in a foreign language.

Packed with pronunciation practice, speech analysis, a grammar reference, writing activities, and vocabulary-building lessons, Transparent Language Online is accessible at the library, at home, or on the go on most Internet-connected devices, including Android tablets and iPads.

One great feature of Transparent Language Online for PLS libraries is its inclusion of Canadian Indigenous languages among its offerings. Courses on Cree, Ojibwe, and more can be found on their website.





Rural Libraries Conference Update

Planning continues for this year's Rural Libraries Conference, themed **Celebrating the Canadian Spirit: Diversity in Our Libraries**.

We are happy to announce our keynote speakers **Richard Van Camp** and **Monique Woroniak**. We know you'll get a lot out of their presentations, and we're very excited to hear them speak!

We look forward to seeing you all at the 2017 Rural Libraries Conference on September 21 and 22 at the Pomeroy Hotel & Conference Centre! Stay tuned for registration later this month and keep checking the website at www.rurallibrariesconference.com for more info.



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.

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.

Peace Library System's events calendar

peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca/calendar

County of Northern Lights Advisory Committee Meeting

Dixonville Community Library

May 15, 2017, 11:00 a.m.

Clear Hills County Advisory Committee Meeting

Worsley and District Library

May 17, 2017, 5:30 p.m.

MD of Spirit River Advisory Committee Meeting

Rycroft Municipal Library

TBA

MD of Greenview Advisory Committee Meeting

Debolt Public Library

May 25, 2017, 6:30 p.m.

Northern Sunrise County Advisory Committee Meeting

Peace River Municipal Library

May 29, 2017, 10:30 am

MD of Smoky River Advisory Committee Meeting

McLennan Municipal Library

June 1, 2017, 6:00 pm

Board Basics Workshop

Peace River Municipal Library

June 10, 2017, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Get Your Summer Read On Day

TD Summer Reading Club Launch Day

June 17, 2017

Executive Committee Meeting

Grimshaw

August 19, 2017