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

Due to road and weather conditions, the board met via teleconference.

The Board reviewed the 2012 financial picture prior to audit. A small surplus of $3,845 is projected, which is significantly better than the budgeted $16,500 deficit. A small provincial operating grant increase contributed to increased revenue; overall expenditures came in slightly less than expected.

A revised 2013 Operating Budget was approved. The new budget reflects current population figures, revised grant projections, and adjustments to some expenditure categories. It is a balanced budget that does not include any cost of living increase for staff in 2013.

The Board approved the updated Five-Year Capital Plan for 2012-2016. It is evident that, without new sources of capital funding, PLS reserves will be largely depleted by 2016.

The Director reported on a new one-time $25,000 Resource Sharing and Network Grant from Alberta Municipal Affairs. The grant is available to provincial network nodes to support resource sharing and collaboration.

The Board approved two revised policies: *Staff Travel* and *Violence & Harassment for Library Service Points*.

The Consulting Services Manager reported that 102 public library consultations were carried out in 2012. Two excellent authors – Lee Edward Fodi and Cyndi Sand-Eveland – will be touring the region in April and May.

The Technical Services Manager reported that training had been taking place to assist library staff in adding item records in Polaris correctly. This is needed to ensure that library patrons can find the materials they want online.

The Director reported that the new library websites are up and running, and that training will be provided as soon as details are sorted out with the vendor. The new PLS website is still under construction.

The Board reviewed the *2013 Annual Survey and 2012 Annual Report of Public Library Systems in Alberta*. Statistics show steady activity in ordering, cataloguing, training for member libraries, and items borrowed from the PLS collection. Staffing numbers have decreased due to the completion of various projects.

Thanks to funding from the Public Library Services Branch, a new resource called Press Display is now available to library patrons. It provides access to over 1,200 newspapers in 54 languages, including 291 Canadian newspapers.

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

## Present:

## Veronica Bliska MD of Peace (Chair)

Mary Hermans Town of Beaverlodge

## Valerie Forsythe Village of Berwyn

## Lorrie Shelp MD of Big Lakes

## Bonnie Bigam Clear Hills County

Ray Skrepnek MD of Fairview

Anton Prybysh Town of Fairview

Jackie Hockey Town of Falher

John Croken City of Grande Prairie

Lynne Coulter Grande Prairie Public Library

Brock Smith County of Grande Prairie

Tom Burton MD of Greenview

Chris MacLeod Town of High Level

Darcie Acton MD of Lesser Slave River

Philippa O'Mahony Town of McLennan

## Carolyn Kolebaba Northern Sunrise County

Colin Needham Town of Peace River

### Raoul Johnson MD of Smoky River

### Elaine Garrow MD of Spirit River

Denise Skoworodko Town of Spirit River

Warren Stewart Town of Valleyview

**Regrets:**

Dale Janzen Birch Hills County

Vacant Village of Donnelly

Bob Regal Town of Grimshaw

###### James Waikle Town of High Prairie

Don Seymour Village of Hines Creek

Brenda Kerr Town of Manning

Cheryl Novak Village of Nampa

Joan Harbaruk County of Northern Lights

Michelle Farris Town of Rainbow Lake

Claude Lagace Town of Sexsmith

Mark Missal Town of Slave Lake

Tara Jones Town of Wembley

**Absent:**

## Bernie Hornby Town of Fox Creek

## Carol Descoteaux Village of Hythe

Dollie Anderson MD of Opportunity

Reta Nooskey Paddle Prairie Metis Settlement

Whitney Burback Village of Rycroft

### Cindy Clarke Saddle Hills County

**Board Meeting Highlights**

**March 16, 2013**