



PRLS BOARD TALK

Highlights of the Parkland Regional Library Board Meeting

NOVEMBER 4, 2021

Organizational Meeting

Parkland's board has approximately 25 new members. Board Members in attendance elected the new Executive Committee and Board Chair. Debra Smith was re-appointed Board Chair by acclamation.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee has several new faces, along with returning members. Welcome!

Debra Smith, Committee Chair (Village of Lougheed)
Joy-Anne Murphy, (City of Camrose)
Philip Massier, (Red Deer County)
Len Phillips, (Town of Rocky Mtn. House)
Marc Mousseau, (Summer Village of Parkland Beach)
Norma Penney, (Village of Clive)
Barb Gilliat, (Village of Alix)
Stephen Levy, (Town of Sedgewick)
Heather Ryan, (Town of Olds)
Teresa Rilling, (Town of Sylvan Lake)

Budget 2021

PRLS' 2022 budget has been sent out to the municipalities for approval. As of the meeting date, the budget was approved by 58% of the municipalities representing 57% of the population, with one municipality declining. This is the third consecutive year with no increase in the per-capita requisition.

Advocacy Committee

The Advocacy Committee continues to enthusiastically serve PRLS. Last month, New councillor welcome

packages were mailed to all newly elected councillors in the region. The general consensus was that they were well put together and well received.

The volunteers for the Advocacy Committee for 2022 are:

Gord Lawlor - Town of Stettler
Norma Penney - Village of Clive
Barb Gilliat - Village of Alix
Bill Rock - Village of Amisk
Deb Smith, Ex Officio - Village of Lougheed
Shannon Wilcox - Town of Carstairs
Stephen Levy - Town of Sedgewick
Delaney Thoreson - Town of Eckville
Shawn Peach - Town of Castor
Marc Mousseau - Summer Village of Parkland Beach

Board Meeting Dates for 2022

Until further notice, Parkland will be holding board meetings virtually. Board meeting dates are subject to change, but are set as follows:

- **February 24** - Annual Report, Year in Review
- **May 19** - 2020 Financial Statements presented
- **September 15** - Budget presentation for 2022
- **November 17** - Organizational Meeting

OverDrive and eSharing Resources

At the September meeting, the board was informed about a new initiative to share electronic resources. Since 2019, Parkland has been sharing eBooks and eAudio books from its CloudLibrary Collection with the four library systems that make up The Regional Automation Consortium (TRAC). This ability to 'interlibrary loan' eContent has saved countless dollars and proved to be a hugely beneficial service to library patrons.

Following on this success, Parkland has recently entered another agreement with both TRAC, Edmonton Public Library (EPL), and Calgary Public Library, to share the eBooks and eAudio books available on our other major eContent platform OverDrive. Parkland has received word that the commencement of this new service will be December 1st. Training and marketing materials for this initiative will be forthcoming.

Training for Board Members and Newly Appointed Councils

Parkland is offering board members virtual trustee training. Dates and times for sessions were sent out following the organizational meeting.

A new council orientation is also now available and can be presented either virtually or in person. The intention is to explain the structure of public library service in Alberta, including the roles of municipal council, local boards, regional systems, and provincial government. This presentation will be provided on request.

Community News from Trustees

Stettler Public Library is holding a Wine Survivor fundraiser once again, which was very popular last year. Due to COVID-19, it was held virtually in 2020, which actually worked better, so they will continue to hold it virtually even after the pandemic is over. Last year they raised over \$3,500 and this year looks to be better.

Ponoka Jubilee Library is excited about so many first nations patrons coming to their library, in part because the Maskwacis library is presently closed due to the pandemic.

Olds & District Municipal Library is hosting a comedy night fundraiser on November 20th. It has been cancelled twice previously due to pandemic restrictions. They are hoping it can be held this time.

Carstairs Public library has been very innovative and is partnering to offer fun lunch and learns; the next one is about backyard birding. We also are excited for a beer making workshop to be held via Zoom!

Penhold & District Public Library had their organizational meeting. Their library manager gave a presentation on increased families and children attending the library. They are offering Dino week, Daddy and me play days, and a special Storytime with Author Karen Davies.

Amisk Public Library along with the local elementary school is creating a book to be given to the children's grandparents for Christmas.

Carstairs Public Library invited the Carstairs council to their library to reintroduce the services and programs that the library has to offer.

Blackfalds Public Library's new building is re-opening soon.

Delburne Municipal Library in partnership with the Delburne council is hosting a gingerbread contest on December 11th.

Eckville Municipal Library is hosting a Zoom book club for teens. It has been great for that age group to get into reading.

Board Members Present

Debra Smith (Board Chair), Gord Lawlor

Board Members Present via Zoom

Jackie Almberg, Alison Barker-Jevne, Doug Booker, Jaime Coston, Teresa Cunningham, Cal David, Ron These (Alternate for Amanda Derksen), Jeff Eckstrand, Lisa Ferguson, Gerald Caron (Alternate for Elaine Fossen), Dwayne Fulton, Barbara Gibson, Barb Gilliat, Gail Knudson, Guy Lapointe, Stephen Levy, Daryl Lougheed, Julie Maplethorpe, Philip Massier, Ricci Matthews, Marc Mousseau, Joy-Anne Murphy, Jackie Northey, Terilyn Paulgaard, Shawn Peach, Norma Penney, Leonard Phillips, Ray Reckseidler, Lori Reid, Teresa Rilling, Bill Rock, Heather Ryan, Brenda Dennis (Alternate for Laura Svab), Delaney Thoreson, Patricia Toone, Doug Weir, Carlene Wetthuhn, Shannon Wilcox, Sharon Williamson, Bill Windsor, Janice Wing

With Regrets

Dana Kreil, Joy-Anne Murphy

Absent

Sandy Gamble, Bruce Gartside, Steve Gay, Clark German, Pam Hansen, Bryce Olson, Sandy Shipton, Les Stulberg

PRLS Staff

Ron Sheppard, Tim Spark, Kara Hamilton, Haley Amendt, Haley Halberg, Jessie-Lynn Gersky

**Next Meeting: February 24, 2022,
10:00 AM (Zoom)**

For more information or if you want a copy of the draft minutes from this board meeting, please contact PRLS.