



## AGENDA ITEM

### Parkland Regional Library – Proposed 2022 Budget

October 14, 2021

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#### BACKGROUND

On December 1, 2001, Lacombe County became a member of the Parkland Regional Library System (PRL). As per the membership agreement entered into with PRL, the County is required to either approve or not approve PRL's budget for each upcoming year. Attached for your information is a summary of the PRL 2022 proposed budget as well as supplemental notes. Action requested of Council regarding this matter is consideration of approval of their budget.

#### ANALYSIS

All municipalities having membership in PRL are required to vote on the budget for the upcoming year. Pursuant to the membership agreement, the PRL annual budget only becomes effective when it has been approved by two-thirds of the member municipalities representing at least two-thirds of the member population.

The 2022 budget proposes a 1.67% increase in revenues and expenditures (compared to 0.27% in 2021). The proposed 2022 per capita membership fee is \$8.55, which is the same as the 2020 and 2021 rates (compared to a 3.6% increase from 2019 to 2020). Of the \$8.55 per capita membership fee paid by the County to PRL, \$1.13 per capita will be forwarded to libraries for the purchase of books (Book Allotment at 2017 levels). Alberta Municipal Affairs, Public Library Services Branch, also provides Parkland Regional Library a Rural Library Services Grant of \$5.55 per capita for each Lacombe County resident.

The distribution of the Rural Library Services Grant and the Book Allotment to the public libraries in the County is determined by Lacombe County in accordance with the following formula as outlined in Policy RC(6) – Library Support:

- 25% - based on the previous year's official population of the urban municipality in which the public library is in relative to the total population of all the urban municipalities that operate public libraries within the County, and
- 75% - based on the number of memberships purchased by Lacombe County residents at each library in the previous year relative to the total number of memberships purchased at all the public libraries within the County in the previous year.



New for 2022, Parkland will use the population estimates from the Office of Statistics and Information at Alberta Treasury Board and Finance. This may result in a slightly lower requisition for the County based on current estimates.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

1. Approve the budget as presented.
2. Not approve the budget as presented.
3. Other actions as determined by Council.

## **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

The County's 2022 PRL membership fee is estimated to be \$88,432.65 (10,343 residents x \$8.55/resident) which will be included in the County's 2022 budget. The 2022 membership fee will be the same as was budgeted for in the 2020 and 2021 budgets.

## **LEGISLATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. Section 3 of the Municipal Government Act (MGA) states the purposes of a municipality are: 1) to provide good government, 2) to provide services, facilities, or other things that, in the opinion of council, are necessary or desirable for all or part of the municipality, and 3) to develop and maintain safe and viable communities.
2. Section 180(1) of the MGA states that Council may act only by resolution or bylaw.
3. Clause 8 of the Parkland Regional Library agreement covers approval of the Library's annual budget.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The proposed budget approval is annual process carried out by Council. As this process is consistent with the bylaws and policies of the Regional Library, the County's public engagement will be limited to informing the public of Council's decision on this matter.

## **STRATEGIC PLAN**

The following elements of the County's 2018-2023 Strategic Plan are relevant to this issue:

Our Vision: "An attractive, balanced and progressive community."

Our Mission: "To build a safe and vibrant community through leadership, innovation and healthy relationships."



Service Delivery Strategy: "Provide appropriate service levels to our citizens," and "Maintain effective cooperation and collaboration with neighbouring urban and rural municipalities."

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council approve the following resolution:

*That Council approve the 2022 Parkland Regional Library budget, as presented.*

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**PREPARED BY: Michael Minchin, Director of Corporate Services**

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**REVIEWED BY: Tim Timmons, County Manager**

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