



# PRL BOARD TALK

## Highlights of the Parkland Regional Library Board Meeting

MAY 24, 2018

### Audit Report Approved

The report on PRL's 2017 finance audit by Collins Barrow was presented to the board by Sydney Hillman and approved by the board. It was a clean audit. According to the auditors "there were no prior year recommendations to note", and "there are no current year recommendations to note" related to improving our financial processes. This is the eighth year with no recommendations.

### Budget 2019

PRL's budget plans for 2019 were discussed with good feedback from board member attendees with clear direction for PRL staff when preparing the 2019 budget. The overall requisition increase request for the 2019 budget will be 1.6%, or \$28,385 spread over Parkland's 218,348 population. This works out to 13¢ per capita.

### Building Update

In March PRL's Executive Committee reviewed proposals for PRL's building project, and subsequently requested clarification from the bidders. PRL Management developed a grading system and the Executive Committee rated all proposals and prepared recommendations for the board. At the May board meeting, the board voted unanimously to go ahead with the proposal from Tricon, to build a new building for PRL. Tricon's proposal was the only one which would allow Parkland to obtain a new building that would not

impose a large financial burden on the PRL board and member municipalities.

Tricon has proposed to buy Parkland's current building outright from the Board at the assessed value of nearly \$2 million. This plus the grant of \$2.4 million from the government of Alberta will allow us to construct a new building nearly debt free.

We're excited, and grateful to the companies and municipalities that submitted bids, and to the government of Alberta for the grant that is helping us complete this much needed development.

The deadline for spending the government grant is the end of 2019. While we hope to be finished by then, we can request an extension if necessary.

### First Nations Update

Exciting news for our region is that there is a real possibility of a public library being established in Maskwacis.

Hopefully the library would be able to follow the model of the Kainai Public Library, located on the Blood First Nations reserve. The Kainai Public Library is the only on-reserve public library, in Alberta. Following the Kainai model, the Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC) would become a full member of Parkland Regional Library. As allowed by the Alberta Libraries Act, a library in Maskwacis would be run as a service point governed at the board level by the system with Parkland's library board acting as the library board. However, Parkland's policy regarding accepting library service points states that PRL would not take on any more outlet libraries where the Parkland Board was the governing board. Nonetheless; at their recent meeting, the board voted to make an exception to the policy to allow Maskwacis to establish a library. This exception was made because all municipalities can establish a library board. However, First Nations reserves are not municipalities under provincial legislation because they are under federal jurisdiction and there is no other way for public libraries to be set up on reserves other than having regional system boards acting as the governing board.

The establishment of the library requires funding from the community to become a member of PRL at the rate of \$8.12 per capita. The provincial government will provide an ongoing operating grant to the system of

\$5.55 per capita which is passed on directly to the library to support library operations. There is also the possibility of a one-time establishment grant from the provincial government to help set up the library. The establishment grant is normally calculated at \$10.27 per capita.

## Communications Update

Per direction from the executive committee PRL has embarked on the process of new logo development. With the new building and our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year it's the perfect time to rebrand. We're working with Edge Marketing and Design for this project. Hopefully we'll have a new logo to reveal at the next board meeting.

## Community News from Trustees

**Camrose** Public Library won a Minister's Award for their Snacks in the Stacks program. Carley Anglestadt, programmer at Camrose won the Lorne Macrae Intellectual Freedom Award for her program "Seniors need hook-up apps too: Tech without age."

Camrose will also be hosting a Harry Potter themed tea on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Carstairs** Public Library won a ministers award for their annual Parenting Fair program.

**Sedgewick &** District Municipal Library hosted a Blanket Ceremony for their community led by Roy (PRL Elder and Knowledge Keeper) & Judy Louis on May 30<sup>th</sup>, and for students at the school on May 31<sup>st</sup>.

## Board Members Present

Debra Smith (Board Chair), Ray Olfert, Janine Stannard, Darlene Dushanek, Jeanette Herle, Elaine Fossen, Patricia Toone, Jeanny Fisher, Barb Gilliat, Cora Knutson, Terilyn Paulgaard, Bill Windsow, Heather Ryan, Ann Zacharias, Teresa Rilling, Rosella Peterman, Kevin Ferguson, Sharon Williamson, Bob Green, Deb Cryderman, Cindy Trautman, Sharolyn Sanchez, Shailen Weselak, Sandy Gamble, Jason Alderson, Les Stulberg, Al Campbell (alternate), Doug Weir, Dana Kreil, Colleen Ebden, Chris Ross, Bill Rock, Norma Penney, Roger Nichols, Donnie Hill, Leah Nelson, John Rimmer (alternate), Bonnie Scribner (alternate)

## With Regrets

Blair Morton, Dana Depalme, Stephen Levy, Bruce Gartside,

## Absent

Jackie Almborg, Jarred Booth, Jacqueline Boulet, Roger Gaetzman Amber Griffithm Tim Hoven, Trudy Kilner, Lonnie Kozlinski, Brenda McDermott, Josephine McKenzie, Duncan Milne, Rick Pankiw, Megan Patten, Leonard Thompson

## Guests

Sydney Hilman (Collins Barrow)

## PRL Staff

Ron Sheppard, Donna Williams, Tim Spark, Briana Huether, Colleen Schalm

**Next Meeting: September 13, 2018, 1:00 PM.**