AGENDA OF THE DIDSBURY LIBRARY BOARD MEETING ON JUNE 16 , 2026 AT THE DIDSBURY MUNICIPAL LIBRARY, 2033 - 19 AVENUE COMMENCING AT 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

REGRETS:

CALL TO ORDER:

AGENDA: a) Additions/Deletions

b) Adoption of the Agenda

MINUTES: Adoption of May 2026 minutes

CONSENT AGENDA: The following items were presented as part of the consent agenda;

a) Balance sheet, Income statement (to May 30)
b) July Calendar
c) Manager's report
d) May statistics summary
e) PLC Meeting Notes
f) MVC Letter to Minister
g) PRLS Board Talk
h) Summer Posters: Art Fundraiser, Books without Borders, Summer Library Crew

COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Board Chair
b) Policy Committee
c) Finance Committee

Bank meeting: updated Saving accounts from "Save more" to "Premium savings." This changed the interest rates from 0.6-0.8% to 1.59-1.78%.

d) Fundraising Committee
e) Personnel Committee

NEW BUSINESS:

a) August meeting date: Library Director is on vacation until the 18th. Is there an alternate date: Wednesday 19th or Thursday 20th
b) MVC agreement update
c) Parkland board training date
d) Bollards proposal for Town Council
e) Create new Library Task force: "Objective 3A: Establish task force by end of 2026 that meets quarterly. Complete Terms of Reference and milestones."

AGENDA OF THE DIDSBURY LIBRARY BOARD MEETING ON JUNE 16 , 2026 AT THE DIDSBURY MUNICIPAL LIBRARY, 2033 - 19 AVENUE COMMENCING AT 7:00 P.M.

CLOSED SESSION:

NEXT MEETING DATE: August ? 2026

ADJOURNMENT:

MINUTES OF DIDSBURY LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

May 19, 2026 @ DIDSBURY MUNICIPAL LIBRARY, 2033 19 AVE AT 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Board Chair:	Brittany Stevens;
Secretary:	Pat Harty;
Members-at-Large:	Bill Windsor, Troy Lambert, Trudy Woodlands; Diane Arbuckle, Angela Look, Aimee Hunter, Jaimee Reese
Comm. members:	n/a
Library Manager:	Maia Foster.
REGRETS:	n/a

CALL TO ORDER: Brittany called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

1. **AGENDA:**
   - 1.1. Additions/Deletions
     - *Amendment:* May agenda has date of April meeting.
     - *Amendment:* Add item 4.6 [Funding Committee] to Committee Reports.
     - *Amendment:* Add item 5.3 (Jaimee presentation on behalf of Post Office) to New Business.
   - 1.2. Adoption of the Agenda

     MOTION 14-26: Angela moved that Agenda be passed as amended.
     CARRIED

2. **MINUTES:** Adoption of April 2026 minutes
   - *Amendment:* Revise April Meeting Minutes by adding Jocelyn Baxter to 'Comm members' in attendance.

     MOTION 15-26: Trudy moved that April Minutes be passed as amended.
     CARRIED

3. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
   - 3.1. Balance sheet, Income statement (to April 30).
   - 3.2. June Calendar.
   - 3.3. Manager’s report.
   - 3.4. April statistics summary.
   - 3.5. PD reports: Southern Alberta Library Conference (SALC) Maia Foster and Jen Derksen.
   - 3.6. CAP Libraries Impact Survey Results report.

     MOTION 16-26: Angela moved that Consent Agenda be accepted.
     CARRIED

4. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
   - 4.1. Board Chair
     - Met with Ron Shepard. Ron would like to present an orientation of the PRLS to Library Board (date and time TBD).
     - Spoke to Mayor and Reeve Albers. Reeve will work with mayors to draft a letter advocating for libraries affected by Bill 28. The letter will be presented to each mayor's council.
   - 4.2. Policy Committee
     - n/a
   - 4.3. Finance Committee

- n/a

4.4. Fundraising Committee
- Mural squares and Garage Sale poster have been made.
- Will speak to Prairie Whistle about planning the next Trivia fundraiser.

4.5. Personnel Committee
- n/a

4.6. Funding Committee
- Bill spoke to Ron Shepard. Counter offer to county funding agreement is being drafted. It will be presented to the county then the finalized version brought to board.

MOTION 17-26: Troy moved that Committee Reports be accepted as info.
CARRIED

5. **NEW BUSINESS:**

5.1. Administrative plans for Q3
- Maia, Trish, and Brittany attended the Marigold conference in Calgary.
- Working towards formalizing agreement with Friends of the Library.

5.1.2. Capital Plan (Treasurer and Director)
- Maia is creating the list of plans requiring those reserves.

5.1.3. Partnership Plan (staff)
- Maia is formalizing a partnership plan for donors.

5.1.4. 5 Year maintenance Plan (Health and Safety rep and Director)
- Maia plans to formalize a Partnership Plan for partners and donors

5.1.5. New Library Task Force (Committee)
- Committee to be formed in 2026.

MOTION 18-26: Jaimee moved that Administrative Plans for Q3 be accepted.
CARRIED

5.2. Community Memory project overview
- Summer Student hired through 'Young Canada Works Grant' will collect stories about Didsbury from local residents. Stories to be shared on Library website.

MOTION 19-26: Aimee moved that Community Memory project be accepted as info.
CARRIED

5.3. Canada Post presentation (Jaimee)
- Last year Didsbury Post Office applied to Canada Post for a grant to the Didsbury Library. The grant was awarded ($5000).

CLOSED SESSION: n/a

NEXT MEETING DATE: Next meeting June 16.

ADJOURNMENT: Brittany called meeting adjourned at 7:41pm

DIDSBURY MUNICIPAL LIBRARY

Balance Sheet As at 31/05/2026

ASSET	
ASSETS	
PETTY CASH	50.00
REGISTER FLOAT	75.00
CURRENT ACCOUNT101	132,245.82
M.V.C.U. SHARES	1,392.76
SUMMIT SAVINGS 6989 CONTINGENCY	159,090.33
SUMMIT SAVINGS 0556 CAPITAL	25,240.84
TOTAL ASSETS	318,094.75
TOTAL ASSET	318,094.75
LIABILITY	
LIABILITIES	
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	1,845.55
TOTAL LIABILITES	1,845.55
TOTAL LIABILITY	1,845.55
EQUITY	
EQUITY	
EQUITY	249,068.81
Current Earnings	67,180.39
EQUITY TOTAL	316,249.20
TOTAL EQUITY	316,249.20
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	318,094.75

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DIDSBURY MUNICIPAL LIBRARY

Comparative Income Statement

	Actual 01/01/2026 to 31/05/2026		Budget 01/01/2026 to 31/12/2026		Percent
REVENUE					
REVENUE					
RURAL SERVICES GRANT		0.00		13,176.00	(100.00)
MUNICIPAL APPROPRIATION/COUNTYGRANT		144,778.50		282,357.00	(48.73)
PROVINCIAL GRANT		38,501.00		38,501.00	0.00
FCSS GRANT		1,350.00		5,000.00	(73.00)
OTHER GRANTS		0.00		11,000.00	(100.00)
FRIENDS		10,000.00		10,000.00	0.00
EMPLOYMENT GRANTS		0.00		5,000.00	(100.00)
FUND RAISING	0.00		3,000.00		(100.00)
DONATIONS	1,573.45		5,000.00		(68.53)
DONATIONS - TAX RECEIPTED	2,774.20		1,000.00		177.42
CORPORATE DONATIONS-TAX REC.'D	0.00		1,000.00		(100.00)
SALES (LOBBY BOOK SALE)	124.50		500.00		(75.10)
TOTAL DONATIONS AND FUNDRAISING		4,472.15		10,500.00	(57.41)
SERVICE REVENUE: PRINTING	2,184.35		4,400.00		(50.36)
SERVICE REVENUE: 3D PRINTING	6.35		300.00		(97.88)
SERVICE REVENUE: LAMINATING	59.00		200.00		(70.50)
COPIER INVOICING	463.35		600.00		(22.78)
TOTAL SERVICE REVENUE		2,713.05		5,500.00	(50.67)
BANK INTEREST		550.81		150.00	267.21
DIVIDENDS - SHARES		0.00		0.00	0.00
GST REBATE	2,899.57		2,100.00		38.07
LOST/DAMAGED ITEMS	420.27		500.00		(15.95)
FACILITY RENTAL INCOME	0.00		50.00		(100.00)
FOIP REQUESTS	0.00		0.00		0.00
COUPONS AND REBATES	0.00		100.00		(100.00)
TOTAL OTHER INCOME		3,319.84		2,750.00	20.72
DO NOT USE	0.00		0.00		0.00
TOTAL FUND RAISING		0.00		0.00	0.00
TOTAL REVENUE		205,685.35		383,934.00	(46.43)
TOTAL REVENUE		205,685.35		383,934.00	(46.43)
EXPENSE					
EXPENSES					
WAGES	108,630.37		287,795.00		(62.25)

PENSION FUND	2,482.02		6,145.00		(59.61)
BENEFITS	2,198.61		7,875.00		(72.08)
WORKERS' COMPENSATION	0.00		870.00		(100.00)
SOURCE DEDUCTIONS EI	2,535.55		6,159.00		(58.83)
SOURCE DEDUCTIONS CPP	5,812.86		15,675.00		(62.92)
PAYROLL SERVICES	450.50		1,100.00		(59.05)
COURSE OR CONFERENCE EXPENSE -STAFF	1,770.58		2,000.00		(11.47)
STAFF APPRECIATION	13.38		600.00		(97.77)
TOTAL STAFF EXPENSES		123,893.87		328,219.00	(62.25)
AUDIT		525.00		550.00	(4.55)
BOOKS PURCHASED	133.86		8,500.00		(98.43)
PERIODICALS	675.58		650.00		3.94
AV MATERIALS	1,099.23		5,240.00		(79.02)
BACKPACK EQUIPMENT	68.48		500.00		(86.30)
PHYSICAL RESOURCES		1,977.15		14,890.00	(86.72)
DIGITAL RESOURCES	591.10		1,500.00		(60.59)
DO NOT USE	0.00		0.00		0.00
EBOOKS/EADIOBOOKS	0.00		4,000.00		(100.00)
DO NOT USE	0.00		0.00		0.00
TOTAL DIGITAL RESOURCES		591.10		5,500.00	(89.25)
BOARD EXPENSES CONFERENCE	150.00		250.00		(40.00)
BOARD EXPENSES	61.89		250.00		(75.24)
TOTAL BOARD EXPENSES		211.89		500.00	(57.62)
MAT SERVICES - DO NOT USE	0.00		0.00		0.00
SECURITY SYSTEM	166.65		400.00		(58.34)
TOTAL EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES		166.65		400.00	(58.34)
CONSULTANT FEES		0.00		0.00	0.00
EXTERNAL ADMIN FINANCE FEES	91.70		100.00		(8.30)
BANK CHARGES	20.25		50.00		(59.50)
CASH SHORT / OVER	45.65		0.00		0.00
BANK REC. ADJUSTMENTS	0.00		0.00		0.00
GST PAID GENERAL	448.59		1,750.00		(74.37)
GST PAID BOOKS ONLY	5.58		650.00		(99.14)
TOTAL GST PAID		611.77		2,550.00	(76.01)
LIBRARY SUPPLIES - DO NOT USE	0.00		0.00		0.00
TOTAL LIBRARY SUPPLIES- DO NOT USE		0.00		0.00	0.00
ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS		155.00		300.00	(48.33)
FREIGHT	0.00		400.00		(100.00)
POSTAGE	0.00		100.00		(100.00)
TOTAL POSTAGE/ SHIPPING		0.00		500.00	(100.00)
PUBLICITY AND ADVERTISING	106.98		700.00		(84.72)
FUND RAISING EXPENSES	30.99		300.00		(89.67)
PROGRAM EXP.-AUTHORS/STORYTELLERS	0.00		1,000.00		(100.00)
PROGAM EXP. SUPPLIES/CRAFTS/REFRESH	649.33		3,000.00		(78.36)

PROGRAM EXP. INSTRUCTORS	0.00		2,000.00		(100.00)
VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION	228.05		600.00		(61.99)
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES		1,015.35		7,600.00	(86.64)
OFFICE SUPPLIES	354.00		900.00		(60.67)
PAPER	194.97		475.00		(58.95)
B&W COPIES CONTRACT	148.36		600.00		(75.27)
COLOUR COPIES CONTRACT	495.28		1,500.00		(66.98)
LAMINATING	25.89		25.00		3.56
STATIONERY,PRINTING COPIER COSTS		1,218.50		3,500.00	(65.19)
TELEPHONE	233.20		575.00		(59.44)
TELECOMMUNICIATIONS		233.20		575.00	(59.44)
TRAVEL AND HOSPITALITY (STAFF)		66.21		350.00	(81.08)
HEALTH AND SAFEY SUPPLIES	58.18		0.00		0.00
JANITORIAL SUPPLIES	336.62		625.00		(46.14)
REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE	0.00		625.00		(100.00)
MAINTENANCE		394.80		1,250.00	(68.42)
FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT	64.06		3,000.00		(97.86)
COMPUTER & PRINTERS	231.65		750.00		(69.11)
TOTAL CAPITAL		295.71		3,750.00	(92.11)
CONTENTS INSURANCE	1,255.00		1,185.00		5.91
GENERAL LIABILITY	2,095.00		2,115.00		(0.95)
INSURANCE		3,350.00		3,300.00	1.52
GAS	1,792.52		3,400.00		(47.28)
ELECTRIC	1,573.89		5,775.00		(72.75)
WATER AND SEWER	432.35		1,025.00		(57.82)
CARBON LEVY	0.00		0.00		0.00
UTILITIES		3,798.76		10,200.00	(62.76)
BAD DEBT		0.00		0.00	0.00
LEGAL		0.00		0.00	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES		138,504.96		383,934.00	(63.92)
TOTAL EXPENSE		138,504.96		383,934.00	(63.92)
NET INCOME		67,180.39		0.00	0.00

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JULY 2026
Event Calendar

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	**2** **4:00 PM** Help Desk **7:00 PM** Pen to Paper	**3**	**4**
6 **1:00 PM** Seniors Games	**7** **4:00 PM** Books Without Borders **4:00 PM** Tritones & Treasures: A Musical D&D	**8** **SUMMER LIBRARY CREW WEEK 1** CREATE 10:30 - 12:00 **or** 2:30 - 4:00 EXPLORE 10:30 - 12:00 **or** 2:30 - 4:00 CONNECT 10:30 - 12:00 **or** 2:30 - 4:00	**9** **4:00 PM** Help Desk	**10**	**11** **1:00 PM** Cool Films: Cool Runnings
13 **1:00 PM** Seniors Games	**14** **4:00 PM** Teen Scene **4:00 PM** Tritones DnD	**15** **SUMMER LIBRARY CREW WEEK 2** CREATE 10:30 - 12:00 **or** 2:30 - 4:00 EXPLORE 10:30 - 12:00 **or** 2:30 - 4:00 CONNECT 10:30 - 12:00 **or** 2:30 - 4:00	**16** **4:00 PM** Help Desk	**17**	**18**
20 **1:00 PM** Seniors Games	**21** **4:00 PM** Books Without Borders **4:00 PM** Tritones DnD	**22** **SUMMER LIBRARY CREW WEEK 3** CREATE 10:30 - 12:00 **or** 2:30 - 4:00 EXPLORE 10:30 - 12:00 **or** 2:30 - 4:00 CONNECT 10:30 - 12:00 **or** 2:30 - 4:00	**23** **4:00 PM** Help Desk	**24**	**25** **FRIDAY & SATURDAY** **10:00 AM - 4:00 PM** Friends of the Library Book Sale **1:00 PM** Cool Films: Eight Below
27 **1:00 PM** Seniors Games	**28** **4:00 PM** Teen Scene **4:00 PM** Tritones DnD	**29** **SUMMER LIBRARY CREW WEEK 4** CREATE 10:30 - 12:00 or 2:30 - 4:00 EXPLORE 10:30 - 12:00 or 2:30 - 4:00 CONNECT 10:30 - 12:00 or 2:30 - 4:00	**30** **4:00 PM** Help Desk	**31**	

Library Manager's Report

June 12, 2026
Reporting: Maia Foster
Items for Information

a. Statistics and Programs

- Our regular programming schedule has wound up for the year. For June, July and August the Library will focus on the Summer Library Crew and some Adult programming that allows people to explore a new hobby/craft.
- We have had 10 people register for our writing workshop, hosted on Saturday June 13
- In response to requests in our annual patron survey we have added a YOTO player and cards. This device acts as an audiobook player for children. It has grown in popularity with parents over the past few years to have an audiobook option for young children without a screen.
- After seeing posts from other libraries we will be adding a few items to our Library of things: a folding table and a sewing machine. Both were items that the Library already owned and so added minimal cost to the budget.
  ** A reminder that the "Library of Things" offers patrons the opportunity to borrow items that may seem "untraditional" from a Library borrowing perspective. It focuses on items that people may only use occasionally and do not have the financial capacity to purchase.

b. Administrative Details

- The front space opened after paint and flooring was completed. We have had many excited patrons.
- The Director, Program Coordinator, and Board Chair attended the 1 day Marigold conference in Calgary.
- The Library director has been accepted to a Masters of Library Science degree program at Valdosta University. Classes will be taken asynchronously online and will not impact work hours. The degree takes 3 years to complete online.
- The Library director put her name forward as a director for the LAA (Library Association of Alberta) board, and was appointed at the LAA AGM on June 11 after being successful in a vote for one of three director positions.

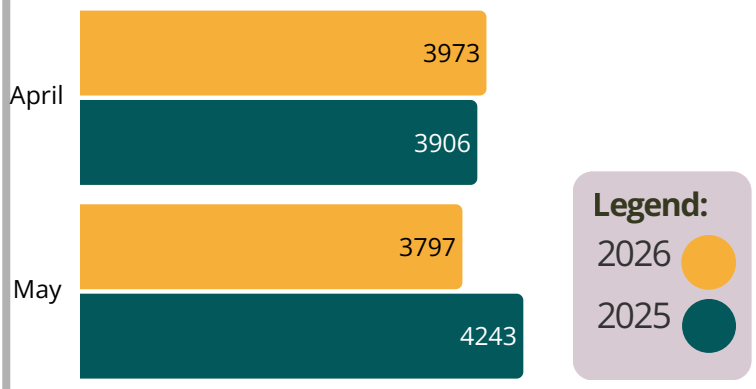
c. Finances

- The Provincial grant was received, $38,501.00
- The TC Energy grant for the MVC ComicCon was approved for $1000.00
- The Garage Sale raised $500.00

Monthly Statistics Summary

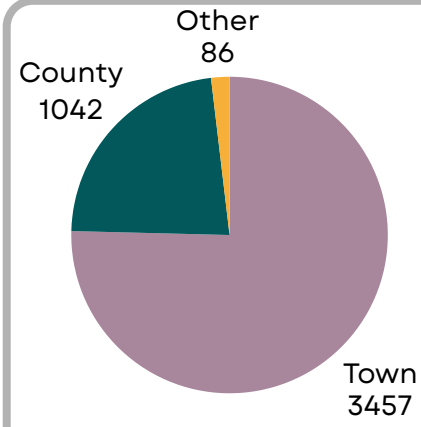
May 2026

Library Visits



April and May 2026 #s based on averages and estimates, door counter broken in accident.

May Circulation



Total Collection Checkouts

4168

Items Lent to Other Libraries: 1455

Items Borrowed From Other Libraries: 1647

Total ELibrary Checkouts

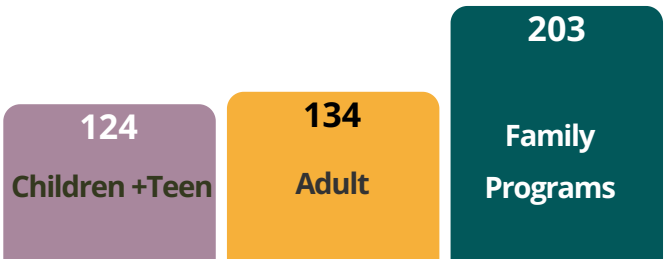
184	audio
380	ebook
127	emag

634

Program Attendance Statistics

May Highlight:

The Plant and Seed Exchange had 39 people through the door to participate!



Top Checkouts by Collection:

Adult Fiction - 835
Early - 583
Adult DVD/ Blu Ray - 447
Adult Non Fiction - 332

Other Fun Facts

At the end of May, a Yoto player and over 40 book cards were purchased to add to the collection. This was in response to multiple requests in the community survey.

Two summer staff have joined the team. The process of genre sorting the Junior and YA sections have begun along with a story collecting project.

Parkland Libraries Council Meeting Notes

June 1, 2026
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Parkland Regional Library System

Parkland Regional Library System

Meeting Purpose

To collectively discuss topics that directly impact Parkland member libraries and staff.

To generate recommendations for action by PRLS and/or by member libraries on these topics to enhance the consistency of services and processes for the benefit of users and staff throughout the region.

To share news from our libraries that fosters a collegial environment, facilitates innovation, and leads to increased cooperation between libraries.

Library Attendees: Virtual – Haley Amendt (ASYL), Wendy Cotton (ABASH), Maia Foster (ADI), Megan Ginther (ACARS), Lesley Moody (AOL), Rhonda O'Neill (AST), Natasha Resta (AECK), Ashley Spykerman (APR), Susan Tyndall (AELNO), Becky Vaillancourt (AKI), Deb Weidenhamer (ANO), Kendrya Wiebe (AIN).

Library Attendees: In-person – Paddy Birkeland (ASVC), Vera Boettger (ABEN), Billy Bruno (AMASK), Maria Buffalo (AMASK), Deanna Cundliffe (APO), Terry Holdstock (ADE), Carrie Korpiniski (ARI), Alyssa Martin (ACA), Mitch Munday (AELNO), Christina Petrisor (ALAC), Nicole Rice (ABLA), Morgan Strueby (AF), Ben Worth (ARMH).

Parkland Staff: Jessica Dinan, Karyn Goodwillie, Hailey Halberg, Kara Hamilton, Paige Mueller, Andrea Newland, Ron Sheppard.

Guests: Barb Gilliat, Michael Gray, Ryanna Hansen, Cory Twerdoclib.

Agenda

Meeting Purpose 1
Agenda Topics 2
1. Intellectual Freedom and Bill 28 Discussion 2
2. Library Bound Demo 2
Items for information 2

Agenda Topics

1. Intellectual Freedom and Bill 28 Discussion

Led by Andrea Newland.

On May 13, 2026, the Government of Alberta passed Bill 28, the Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026. While it covers several areas of municipal governance, the bill includes significant changes to the Alberta Libraries Act that would affect every public library in the province.

Discussion Questions:

- How is your library planning to deal with this legislation, (or are they?)
- Do you think that your staff have a solid understanding of the impact?
- What is your local board saying?

Group discussion on topics including Bill 28 timelines, implementation, compliance, and how the public and library boards are responding to the issue. Parkland will host another virtual meeting to discuss once the Regulations have been passed and made public.

2. Library Bound Demo

Presented by Michael Gray.

Library Bound's general manager, Michael Gray, will take us on a tour of their interface and demonstrate how to use its various selection and ordering functions. Please feel free to ask questions as he conducts the training.

Michael Gray gave a run through of ordering on the Library Bound website. The Library Bound Ordering Guide was made available to attendees and is also available in the Q:Drive (Q:\Collections\Ordering Guides) for reference. Accounts for all libraries are currently being created by Karyn Goodwillie and will be shared shortly. For those who could not attend the training today, two additional training dates have been set for June 16, 2026 and June 24, 2026. Please see Karyn's email and calendar invites for the training dates and note that they will be fully virtual and open to any library collections development staff.

Items for information

Placing Pre-Orders & Ordering Process for Allotment

- ULS Hotlist and popular titles have order cutoff dates set by the publishers. Placing pre-orders for these titles before the cutoff date ensures your order is included in the first print and will be received shortly after the publication date. Orders received after the cutoff date are dependent upon the publisher's stock and availability and may not be filled.
- The ordering process for allotment cart descriptions has been updated to ensure libraries still have the flexibility to place pre-orders without the risk of having "future orders" items received in the current fiscal year and over-expending allotment funds.
- The full ordering process for allotment and detailed cart description information is available on the Parkland Regional Library System Support Site and within the Collections Management Manual.

Mountain View COUNTY

May 27, 2026

Via Email: minister.municipalaffairs@gov.ab.ca

Honourable Dan Williams
Minister of Municipal Affairs

Re: Bill 28, Library Impacts

Honourable Minister Williams:

I am writing on behalf of Mountain View County regarding Bill 28 and its changes to the Libraries Act.

We respectfully ask the Minister to engage in and support a meaningful consultation process before the library provisions of Bill 28 advance further through the adoption of regulations.

As you know, the Mountain View County Urban Libraries are valued and well-used public services in our community. Within the borders of Mountain View County, we have 5 libraries and one satellite library. All libraries are funded primarily by taxpayers, governed by locally appointed boards (with the exception of the satellite library), and staffed by trained professionals who understand our community's needs.

We have reviewed the library-related provisions of Bill 28 and would like to relay the concerns from our library boards about the potential impact on our community:

Local governance: The Minister will have new powers to inspect libraries, issue binding directives, and make regulations governing access and borrowing. These are decisions that currently, and appropriately, belong to the locally appointed board and municipal councils. We are concerned about the precedent this sets for provincial intervention in locally governed services.

Fiscal impact: The legislation will require libraries to redesign service delivery (physical separation of materials, age verification systems, staff retraining, inspection readiness) without the announcement of any new provincial funding. These costs would ultimately fall on municipal taxpayers, and most of our libraries are already outgrowing the spaces they are currently using.

Privacy: Age-based access restrictions would require some form of ID verification for library patrons. This raises practical concerns about patron privacy, equity for residents without government-issued identification, and the appropriateness of asking frontline library staff to serve as gatekeepers.

Consultation: These changes were introduced without meaningful consultation with municipalities or the library sector. We believe the government should engage directly with the Coalition of Alberta Public Libraries and with municipalities before finalizing any regulations.

We are not opposed to supporting families or ensuring age-appropriate access, our libraries already do this through established policies and professional practice. But we believe the approach adopted in Bill 28 is disproportionate, operationally unworkable in its current form, and undermines the local governance model that serves our community well.

We respectfully ask the Minister to engage in and support a meaningful consultation process before the library provisions of Bill 28 advance further through the adoption of regulations.

Sincerely,



Angele Aalbers
Reeve

cc: MLA Tara Sawyer, Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills
MLA Jason Nixon, Rimbey-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre
Town, and Library Board, of Carstairs
Town, and Library Board, of Didsbury
Town, and Library Board, of Olds
Town, and Library Board, of Sundre
Village, and Library Board, of Cremona
Water Valley Library Board

PRLS BOARD TALK

Highlights of the Parkland Regional Library Board Meeting

MAY 21, 2026

2025 Parkland Audit

Parkland's audit was presented to the board by MNPs Lindsey Bauman and Erin Moir. The audit reports were previously presented by Bauman and Moir at the March Executive Committee meeting where they were approved.

Moir noted that there were no recommendations in the management letter this year, which shows the commitment of Parkland Staff to ensuring Parkland has sound financial management.

A copy of the Auditor's Report and Report to the Board has been sent to your municipality.

PRLS 2027 Budget

Parkland has begun working on the 2027 budget. Following the discussion at the board meeting, staff have been instructed to develop multiple scenarios which vary from no increase in the per capita requisition to one suggestion that the levy be increased by over a dollar. What fueled the discussion was the sustainability of Parkland's reserves. Traditionally, the Parkland Board has never allowed for funds to be budgeted for reserves or amortization expenses. Both Parkland's vehicle and Technology reserves could be entirely depleted in four years or less if additional income is not forthcoming. All major capital purchases made by Parkland are made by using reserve funds. The only way Parkland's reserves are replenished is through operating surplus. However, Parkland has seen a decline in surplus over the last few years and so reserve values are dropping. Another relevant factor is that the Government of Alberta has made it clear that the provincial government will not be providing any increase in the provincial operating grant in the foreseeable future.

CAP Libraries

Parkland, along with all the major public libraries in Alberta, continues to lobby for increased funding for libraries. Unfortunately, but not surprisingly, no increase in library operating grants will be forthcoming in the Government of Alberta's (GOA) 2026-2027 budget. Notwithstanding this fact, Parkland and the other major libraries in Alberta will keep trying to persuade the GOA to provide more operational funding to library boards and an improved grant structure.

While Alberta's major public libraries are attempting to obtain additional funding, work continues to dissuade the GOA from involving itself in the curation of public library collections.

Concerningly, the Omnibus Bill 28 was passed on May 13th and includes provisions granting the Minister responsible for public libraries sweeping powers of inspection. The intent of this legislation is to keep materials that are considered to be pornographic unavailable to minors without some form of age verification or parental consent for patrons under 16 years of age. One of the problems with this scenario is that determining what is "pornographic" is highly subjective.

Public libraries across Alberta have expressed concerns about being able to meet potential new requirements. For example, libraries have identified significant cost pressures, including the construction of physically separate spaces, additional staffing to mediate access and verify age, and uncertainty related to an inspection regime that has not yet been fully defined.

The Minister has indicated these costs will not be funded by the province, leaving municipalities to absorb them; an expectation many may not be able to meet.

Concerns over Bill 28 has led to the development of the Coalition of Alberta Public Libraries (CAP Libraries). Collectively, this group represents 324 service points across Alberta, serving 99% of Albertans. Its membership includes libraries of all sizes and from every region of the

province, including Alberta's seven regional systems. CAP has a steering committee of four which include:
Pilar Martinez, CEO Edmonton Public Library
Sarah Meilleur, CEO Calgary Public Library
Ronald Sheppard, Director Parkland Regional Library System
Sharon Siga, CEO Strathcona County Library

Sheppard and Martinez were selected to be the principal media contacts for CAP.

After some discussion, the board agreed that they should support CAP in relation to their advocacy efforts regarding Bill 28.

Committee News from Trustees

The Alberta Library Trustees' Association (ALTA) has three years of the Lorne McRae Intellectual Freedom Fund bursary to give out. The bursary is awarded to a person or organization who exemplifies the values and beliefs of Lorne MacRae and encourages, enlightens, and empowers the importance of Intellectual Freedom. See the application form here: https://forms.gle/3JKaAH7G89fq1PZg6

Sylvan Lake Municipal Library is undergoing an organizational review and considering investing in a new building in the next 5 years. They have also recently installed security cameras.

Cremona Municipal Library is celebrating their 55th anniversary on July first. For the 55 days prior to their celebration, they are posting positivity regarding the public library each day on social media.

Join the fellowship of the **Camrose Public Library** and the Chester Ronning Centre for an evening of film and conversation focused on the challenges facing public libraries and how we can support them in Alberta.

The event will feature a screening of *The Librarians*, and a panel discussion with Kerri Danner and Alyssa Martin, moderated by Joseph Wiebe.

Board Members Present

(In-Person) Janet Adam, Jackie Almberg, Denise Boniface, Laureen Clarke-Rennie, Curtis Cook, Shelley Cook, Teresa Cunningham, Sarah Fahey, Richard Forsberg, Elaine Fossen, Shaleah Fox, Dwayne Fulton, Dustin Gillespie, Barb Gilliat, Matthew Goudy, Pam Hansen, Lindsay Holmen, Haley Amendt alt. for Joe Iwanicki, Dana Kreil, Troy Lambert, Hazen Letwin, Lori Lindseth, Julie Maplethorpe, Lyle McKellar, Joy-Anne Murphy, Scott Pfeiffer, Bill Rock, Matthew Sumegi, Leona Thorogood, Cory Twerdoclib, Carla Lloyd alt. for Teri Underhill, Carlene Wetthuhn, Shannon Wilcox, Stephen Wyse

Regrets

Delijiah Antaloczy, Skyla Attfield, Alison Barker-Jevne, Lana Curle, Todd Dalke, Kathy Hall, Ryanna Hansen, Bryce Liddle, Ricci Matthews, Leah Nelson, Cindy Orom, Maxine Steil

Absent

Les Fee, Kimberlee Hunter, Victor Kelly, Paul Looser, Darryl Motley, Marc Mousseau, Amanda Peffers, Sandy Shipton, Naomi Tercier

Guests

Lindsey Bauman & Erin Moir, MNP

Next Meeting: September 17, 2026 (Zoom)

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

DIDSBURY
MUNICIPAL
LIBRARY

collaborative mosaic

Art mural fundraiser



BLANK SQUARES:

$10/EA

May 30 - June 15
purchase a square, add art,
and return for the mural!

hosted by the Didsbury Municipal Library Board

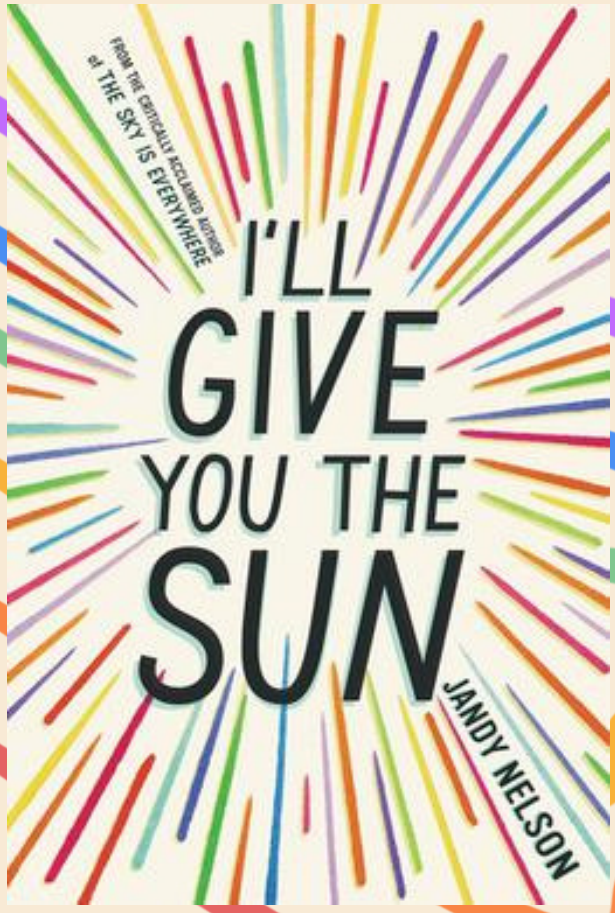
DML

DIDSBURY LIBRARY PRESENTS

BOOKS WITHOUT BORDERS

A TEEN BOOK CLUB





EVERY OTHER TUESDSAY

4:00 - 5:00 PM

STARTS JULY 7TH

SUMMER LIBRARY CREW

DML
DIDSBURY MUNICIPAL LIBRARY







Outdoor play, science activities, arts and crafts, music, games and friends!

- Registration is required
- FREE to attend
- Ages 5-12

Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays
Either: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm
or 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm

Registration opens on June 19th

www.didsburylibrary.ca