

Annual Report 2019

Parkland Regional Library System

Expanding opportunities for discovery, growth, and imagination for all Central Albertans

The Parkland Library Board thanks the Government of Alberta, Minister Madu, and our municipalities for their support of public libraries and stable funding during a challenging economy.



We purchased and installed **44 computers** for member libraries and upgraded the software of over **600 computers**



The Parkland Regional Library System is a co-operative network of 49 public libraries serving 64 municipalities and 218,595 residents in Central Alberta



We opened a new **library service point** at Maskwacis, which serves 12,998 people from the Louis Bull Tribe, Montana, Ermineskin Cree, and Samson Cree Nations

Virtual Library Services

We partnered with TRAC libraries to share **cloudLibrary** eContent between five regional systems



990,477 Wi-Fi sessions at libraries
773,304 virtual library visits (12% increase)
102,026 digital checkouts (31% increase)
59,652 eLibrary database sessions

Resource Sharing

Parkland vans moved **1,079,050** items around the region travelling **88,050** km

We purchased, processed, and delivered **29,536** new items to member libraries

Rotating Collections

Member libraries borrowed:

13,413 **Large Print** Books
5,663 **Audiobooks**
105 **Tech & Promo Kits**
148 Children, Teen & Adult **Programming Kits**

Member Support

Parkland staff trained 654 member library staff, volunteers, and trustees, and provided 2,631 remote and on-site consulting sessions

Parkland introduced a new Integrated Library System (ILS) that provides better service to both member libraries and patrons

Strong Libraries, Strong Communities

Parkland Annual Report 2019

In times of economic challenge, it is the libraries that step up – providing free services to help their communities. Libraries provide resources to children, seniors, new citizens, and everyone in between. For both community and connectivity, libraries are the heart of rural Alberta.



The Board established an **Advocacy Committee** that is at the forefront of provincial work on Library Advocacy

We created a financial **Return on Investment** for each member municipality demonstrating the value they receive from membership in the Parkland Regional Library System



You can stay up-to-date by visiting our website, www.prl.ab.ca, or follow us on **Facebook**, **Twitter**, and **Instagram**.

In September, we promoted Parkland libraries by purchasing **radio ads** on 6 stations that aired across the region

An audit of 30+ library social media accounts led us to develop a more strategic **social media strategy**

Contact Us:

Parkland Regional Library System

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Board Chair Debra Smith

Vice Chair Sharolyn Sanchez

Executive Committee

Debra Smith (Chair)
Janine Stannard (Vice Chair)
Jason Alderson
Kevin Ferguson
Bruce Gartside
Robyn Gray
Bob Green
Megan Hanson
Ray Olfert
Sharolyn Sanchez

Advocacy Committee

Gord Lawlor (Chair)
Janine Stannard (Vice Chair)
Jeanny Fisher
Barb Gilliat
Cora Knutson
Stephen Levy
Norma Penney
Debra Smith (ex officio)

Director - Ron Sheppard (ext. 230)

Manager of Library Services

Colleen Schalm (ext. 266)

Manager of Finance & Operations

Donna Williams (ext. 209)

Manager of Technology Infrastructure

Tim Spark (ext. 212)

IT Helpdesk – (ext. 686)

Complete Board and Municipality list here



*Statistics based on 2019 Annual Report to PLSB Municipal Affairs

Strong Libraries, Strong Communities