



# PRL BOARD TALK

## Highlights of the Parkland Regional Library Board Meeting

NOVEMBER 7, 2019

### Organizational Meeting

Parkland's board has 12 new members. Board Members in attendance elected the new Executive Committee and Board Chair. Debra Smith was re-appointed Board Chair by acclamation. One vacancy remains on the Executive Committee. The board has until the February 20<sup>th</sup> board meeting to fill the vacancy, otherwise the seat will remain empty until the next year's organizational meeting in November.

### Executive Committee

The Executive Committee has one new face, along with returning members.

**Debra Smith**, Board Chair (Village of Lougheed)

**Sharolyn Sanchez**, (Town of Penhold)

**Jason Alderson**, (Town of Rocky Mountain House)

**Kevin Ferguson**, (Town of Ponoka)

**Bruce Gartside**, (Village of Donalda)

**Ray Olfert**, (Town of Blackfalds)

**Janine Stannard**, (Town of Coronation)

**Heather Ryan**, (Town of Olds)

**Megan Hanson**, (Town of Sylvan Lake)

### 2020 Budget Approval

As of the date of the board meeting, PRL's 2020 budget was not yet approved. However, by November 13<sup>th</sup>, the budget reached approval by 73% of the member municipalities representing 67% of the population.

### Trustee Orientation

A Board Member Orientation was given by Ken Allan with Miranda McGuire from the PLSB.

### Alberta Library Conference 2019

Parkland will cover the costs for 3 board members plus the Board Chair to attend the Alberta Library Conference held from April 23 to 25, 2020 in Jasper. Barb Gilliat (Village of Alix), Gord Lawlor (Town of Stettler), and Ann Zacharias (Summer Villages of Sylvan Lake) will attend. Attendees are selected to attend through a ballot process.

### 2020 Board Meeting Dates

**February 20** – Annual Report, Year in Review

**May 28** – 2019 Financial Statements

**September 17** – Budget Presentation for 2021

**November 12** – Organizational Meeting

### Library Card Sign up Month

PRL's Library Card Sign-up Month campaign was held this September. Alix Public was the star library this year, with a 34% increase in memberships. They received the Nintendo Prize package from PRL. There was an overall rise in memberships across the Parkland region of 4.5%

### Building Update

Tricon Developments has forwarded PRL's application for a development permit to the City of Lacombe. Williams along with representatives of Tricon presented the request to council on November 12<sup>th</sup>, which was approved.

Tricon is working on the agreement between PRL and Tricon for the construction of the new building and selling of the current headquarters building. When complete, this agreement will provide the most cost-effective way to finance the new building. Signing an agreement with Tricon should occur soon, since based on the draft construction schedule, pouring the concrete pilings for the new building should occur by the end of November.

Based on cost estimates PRL may have to move more of its current furniture than expected. There may be insufficient money to purchase large amounts of new furniture. Staff have already investigated the cost of moving the contents of the current headquarters building. A quote is being prepared by Outsource Installations Ltd.

Based on the draft construction schedule, Parkland's planned move in date is the end of October 2020.

## Advocacy Committee Activity

The Advocacy Committee has met once since the last board meeting. Nevertheless, they have been able to move forward on several objectives.

- A brief *What You Need to Know* trustee handout is in its first draft. Board members received it at this meeting.
- A Return on Investment (ROI) document that demonstrates the value municipalities receive from their membership in Parkland is nearing completion.
- The committee is working to educate PRL board members on their role as trustees and to promote attendance at board meetings. Staff will now track board member attendance so they can advise municipalities when a trustee misses two consecutive meetings. Under the Libraries Regulation it is assumed that a trustee who misses three consecutive meetings has resigned.
- There will soon be a document that clarifies the role of council in relation to their local library board.
- Advocacy Committee members contributed thoughts on how libraries are well positioned to help the provincial government balance their budget (for example, as an agency for service delivery).
- They discussed the value of regional library staff manning a booth at the AUMA trade show and are investigating whether presenting a session at AUMA instead would be a better use of time and money for this conference.

Lawlor stated that all of the current Advocacy Committee members wish to continue their service to the PRL Board; making room for two more members. Bill Rock volunteered and has joined the committee.

The Advocacy Committee members are:

- Gord Lawlor**, Chair, (Town of Stettler)
- Barb Gilliat**, Vice Chair (Village of Alix)
- Jeanny Fisher**, (Town of Daysland)
- Stephen Levy**, (Town of Sedgewick)
- Norma Penney**, (Village of Clive)
- Janine Stannard**, (Town of Coronation)
- Cora Knutson**, (Town of Bentley)
- Deb Smith**, Ex Officio, (Village of Lougheed)
- Bill Rock**, (Village of Amisk)

## Community News from Trustees

**Stettler Public Library** will host a Wine Survivor night on November 16th at 7:00 p.m. The entry fee is \$20.00 and a bottle of wine. Last year they raised \$2,000.00 for the library.

The **Sundry Municipal Library** held a \$500.00 contest to local artists to have a mural painted in their library, with the winner Dax Stringer unveiling the Barb Bell memorial mural on September 30th.

**Alix Public Library** won the contest for Library Card Sign-up Month in September with a whopping 34% increase in membership. They received the Nintendo Switch Prize package from PRL.

## Board Members Present

Debra Smith (Board Chair), Jason Alderson, Doreen Blumhagen, Darlene Dushanek, Colleen Ebden, Kevin Ferguson, Jeanny Fisher, Elaine Fossen, Sandy Gamble, Bruce Gartside, Barb Gilliat, Megan Hanson, Jeanette Herle, Cora Knutson, Gord Lawlor, Faye Leicht, Daryl Lougheed, Leah Nelson, Ray Olfert, Terilyn Paulgaard, Norma Penney, Rosella Peterman, Bill Rock, Sharolyn Sanchez, Janine Stannard, Les Stulberg, Patricia Toone, Cindy Trautman, Doug Weir, Shannon Wilcox, Sharon Williamson, Bill Windsor, Bonita Wood, Ann Zacharias, Gavin Bates (Alternate for Glen Carrit), Greg Harris (Alternate for Dwayne Fulton)

## With Regrets

Glen Carrit, Agnes Hoveland, Philip Massier, Heather Ryan, Stephen Levy

## Absent

Jackie Almborg, Wendy Aschenbrenner, Connie Beringer, Jared Booth, Jacqueline Boulet-Boden, May Douglas Chamber, Trudy Kilner, Lonnie Kozlinski, Dana Kreil, Brenda McDermott, Josephine McKenzie, Blair Morton, Roger Nichols, Rick Pankiw, Corby Parsons, Chris Ross, Sonia Temple

## Guests

Bob Green, Ken Allan and Miranda McGuire (PLSB)

## PRL Staff

Ron Sheppard, Donna Williams, Tim Spark, Colleen Schalm, Haley Amendt, Kara Hamilton

**Next Meeting: February 20, 2020, 12:30 PM.**