

BOARD REPORT

2021

Strategic Planning

The Board embarked upon a strategic planning process in 2021, and engaged Barb Pedersen Facilitation Services Inc to lead the Board through the Transformational Strategic Planning Process in May. A community needs assessment process that engaged residents, users, members, staff, agency representatives, municipal leaders, and other stakeholders through individual interviews, focus groups, input sessions, surveys at outreach events, online, and the LPL newsletter was undertaken. In October the Board participated in a 2-day 'retreat' that resulted in 6 overarching goals, together with strategies, objectives and measures, that make up the new 2022-2026 Plan of Service, approved by the Board at the December board meeting.

Hours of Operation Changes

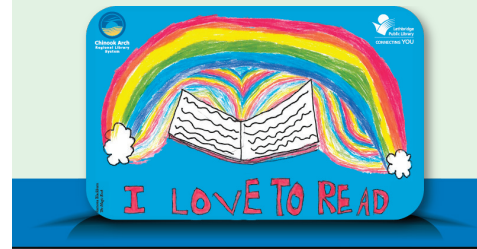
Due to budget reductions implemented by City Council the Board approved changes to permanent operational hours for the main and Crossings branches, consisting of a reduction in evening hours at both branches, and a later opening time.

2020 Board Awards

Henry Bosman was the recipient of the 2020 Board Recognition Award for his contributions to the Library. (* the Board awards recipients for the previous calendar year).

No Fee Memberships Continue in 2022

The Library Board approved the elimination of membership fees for another year based on the ongoing needs of our community and as part of its efforts to assist our community as we all work to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. Membership fees provide a significant barrier to many, and eliminating fees ensures that all residents are able to access the Library's physical and virtual services equally.



Lethbridge Public Library is Fine Free

In February, Lethbridge Public Library announced that late fees would no longer be charged for overdue items after the Board approved the change in late 2020. The move to fine free focusses on recovering Library materials versus charging monetary fines. Fines provide a significant barrier to many, and eliminating them ensures that all residents are able to access the Library's physical and virtual spaces equally.



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Lethbridge
Public Library | **CONNECTING
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2021 Board Trustees

Craig Brown (Chair)
Sean Hubbell
(Vice-Chair)
James Chymboryk
Jennifer
Gullage-Payne
Wendy Kalkan
Carol Koran
Mike Maguire
Terra Plato (CEO)
Allan Quinton
Angela Viola
Heather Woodruff

Bookmobile

lethlib.ca/branch/bookmobile

Main Branch

810 - 5th Ave. S. T1J 4C4

Website

lethlib.ca

Crossings Branch

255 Britannia Blvd. W. T1J 4A3

Email

questions@lethlib.ca

Changes to the Board:

- » Craig Brown was appointed Board Chair at the 2021 AGM.
- » Sean Hubbell was appointed as Board Vice Chair at the 2021 AGM.
- » Angela Viola and Carol Koran joined the Board at the 2021 AGM.

2021 Board Policy & By-law Updates

- » The Board Governance Committee completed a complete review of Board policies in 2021, with multiple minor updates made.
- » The Board approved the following new policy: LB33, Covid-19 Vaccination Policy for Board Trustees.
- » Schedule E of the Bylaws was updated to reflect a change in loan periods for Blockbuster collection from 3 days to 1 week, and an update to after hours.

Facilities

- » The Board presented 2 applications to City Council for the Capital Improvement Program – Crossings Expansion and Enhancement and the Library Master Plan. Both projects received full funding from Council. The Crossings project is further supported financially through a donation by the Friends of the Library.

Financial

- » Creation of a \$22,000 BAU to support current service levels in Read On over the next 3 years.
- » Creation of a \$75,000 BAU to procure a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Consultant.
- » Creation of a Capital Lifecycle fund for the Crossings sorter replacement (amount not to exceed \$100,000).
- » Creation of a Capital Lifecycle fund for the Main Branch security camera replacement (amount not to exceed \$90,000).

Advocacy

- » The Board advocated for a reinstatement of funding for the Centre for Equitable Library Access (CELA) and the National

Network of Equitable Library Services (NNELS) by participating in a letter writing and social media campaign. Both organizations provide libraries with access to specialized materials developed specifically for the print impaired and the cuts would have impaired the Library's ability to provide resources for print impaired customers.

- » The Advancement Committee of the Board approved a Library Briefing Book, to be used by Board members for advocacy purposes, and began development of an Advocacy Plan.
- » Letters were sent from the Board Chair congratulating the elected Mayor and City Councillors.

Services/Operations

- » The Board approved the closure of the Library in recognition of September 30, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.
- » The Board reviewed and approved the Resource Sharing Agreement with Chinook Arch Regional Library System.
- » The Board approved no fee memberships to continue through 2022 (utilizing an existing BAU).