

**MARIGOLD LIBRARY SYSTEM**  
 Board of Management  
**Saturday, January 26, 2013**  
 Videoconference - Four Locations

ACADIA	Maxine Booker	Hanna	<b>MARIGOLD STAFF IN ATTENDANCE</b>	
ACME	Daniel Leronowich	Airdrie		
AIRDRIE	Shelley Sweet	Airdrie		
M.D. BIGHORN	Lynda Lyster	Cochrane	Laura Taylor	Hanna
BLACK DIAMOND	Diane Osberg	Cochrane	Lynne Thorimbert	Airdrie
CANMORE	Carney Raitz-Wakaryk	Cochrane	Steven Pattison	Strathmore
CARBON	Richard Ekman	Strathmore	Denise Fung	Cochrane
CEREAL	Elaine Michaels	Hanna	Colleen Spurvey	Hanna
CHESTERMERE	Marilyn King	Strathmore	Carlee Pilikowski	Strathmore
COCHRANE	Susan Roper	Cochrane	Margaret Newton	Strathmore
CROSSFIELD	Jo Tennant	Airdrie	Nora Ott (Recording)	Cochrane
DELIA	Barb Marshall	Hanna	Lorraine Betts	Strathmore
DRUMHELLER	Darlene Raketti	Strathmore	Barb Froese	Strathmore
GHOST LAKE	Christine Boyd	Cochrane		
HIGH RIVER	Linda Schafer	Cochrane		
HUSSAR	Kristen Anderson	Strathmore	<b>REGRETS WITH NOTICE</b>	
IRRICANA	Lisa Constantini	Airdrie	CONSORT	Robert Eccles
KANANASKIS I.D.	Susan Billington	Cochrane	EMPRESS	Sheila Howe
KNEEHILL COUNTY	Glen Keiver	Airdrie	FOOTHILLS M.D.	Barb Beary
LINDEN	Carrie Campbell	Airdrie	HANNA	Cathy Watts
OKOTOKS	Leslie Duchak	Airdrie	LONGVIEW	Jan Dyck
OYEN	Dennis Punter	Hanna	YOUNGSTOWN	Lorraine Ruppert
ROCKYFORD	Gary Billings	Strathmore	MARIGOLD HQ	Michelle Toombs
ROCKY VIEW COUNTY	Debbie Habberfield	Airdrie		
SPECIAL AREA # 2	Helen Veno	Hanna	<b>REGRETS WITHOUT NOTICE</b>	
STANDARD	John Getz	Strathmore	BEISEKER	Leo Louwerse
STARLAND COUNTY	Lil Morrison	Hanna	MUNSON	Lyle Cawiezel
STRATHMORE	Pat Fule	Strathmore	TROCHU	Connie Fraser
THREE HILLS	Ron Howe	Airdrie		
WAIPAROUS	Sandra Barker	Cochrane		
WHEATLAND COUNTY	Berniece Bland	Strathmore		

**GUESTS**

Board Chair of Hanna Municipal Library	-Evangeline Lamson	Hanna
Manager of Hanna Municipal Library	-Cheryl Johnson	Hanna
Manager of Nan Boothby Memorial Library	-Kathryn Foley	Cochrane
Board Chair of Nan Boothby Memorial Library	-Carol Byler	Cochrane
Councillor/Deputy Mayor for Town of Cochrane and Board Member of Nan Boothby Memorial Library	-Jeff Toews	Cochrane

# MINUTES

## 1. CALL TO ORDER - Lynda Lyster called the meeting to order at 9:33 am

### 1.1 Greetings

Jeff Toews, Councillor and Deputy Mayor from the Town of Cochrane, expressed greetings from the Town of Cochrane and from the Nan Boothby Memorial Library Board.

### 1.2 Introduction of delegates, guests, and staff

- Daniel Leronowich, from the Village of Acme, Leo Louwerse from the Village of Beiseker, and Richard Ekman from the Village of Carbon were welcomed as new appointees to the Marigold Board. Jo Tennant was welcomed from the Town of Crossfield.
- Cheryl Johnson, Manager of the Hanna Municipal Library and Evange Lamson, Board Chair of the Hanna Municipal Library Board, attended as guests at the Hanna Location.
- Carol Byler, Board Chair of the Nan Boothby Memorial Library and Kathryn Foley, Manager of the Nan Boothby Memorial Library, attended as guests at the Cochrane location.
- There are vacancies in 3 locations: Morrin, Special Areas #3, and Special Areas #4.

#### 1.2.1 Delegates answered the question, "What was the last book you read"?

A variety of titles and authors from many genres were presented by those in attendance.

ACTION: Delegates, guests and staff were asked to submit their book titles to Margaret Newton at [margaret@marigold.ab.ca](mailto:margaret@marigold.ab.ca)

ACTION: Margaret Newton, from Marigold Headquarters, will compose and distribute a list of book titles.

## 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: L. Constantini/L. Schafer

- To approve the agenda

CARRIED

## 3. MINUTES OF THE November 17, 2012 MEETING

MOTION: L. Duchak/H. Veno

- To approve the minutes of November 17, 2012

CARRIED

## 4. CONSENT AGENDA

### 4.1 Transfer of agenda items from consent agenda

- There were no items to be transferred from the consent agenda

MOTION: L. Morrison/D. Habberfield

- That consent agenda items 4.1 to 4.3 be approved

CARRIED

## 5. DECISION

### 5.1 Financial

#### 5.1.1 Financial Statements to December 31, 2012

MOTION: J. Getz/S. Roper

- To approve the unaudited financial statements to December 31, 2012 and be received as information.

CARRIED

#### 5.1.2 RISE End of Project Financial Report

MOTION: M. Booker/C. Raitz-Wakaryk

- To approve the unaudited RISE financial statements to December 31, 2012 and be received for information

CARRIED

### 5.1.3 2013 - 2015 Budget

-This is the first year that Marigold has prepared a three-year budget. Levies for Municipalities and Library boards are based on 2012 population figures that are released by Municipal Affairs.

- The levies for municipalities, based on the second year of Schedule C of the Marigold Agreement, were sent out this past week.

-The majority of Marigold's revenue is from grants from the Province and the levies. The province pays the provincial operating grant based on 2010 population figures and is expected to do the same for 2013. Marigold typically receives the provincial operating grant in June or July.

MOTION: J. Getz/D. Punter

- To approve the three year budget for 2013, 2014 and 2015.

MOTION: S. Sweet/E. Michaels

-To amend the main motion to state:

-To approve the budget for 2013 and the projected budget for 2014 and 2015. CARRIED AS AMENDED

## 5.2 Policies/Plans

### 5.2.1 Website Policy - Advocacy

-Marigold's website provides access to information and resources for the Marigold Community.

-The information is intended for member libraries and municipalities, but information is accessible for any member of the public.

-The policy was revised extensively to update wording in some sections of the policy.

MOTION: L. Morrison

-That the Website Policy be approved CARRIED

### 5.2.2 Collection Management Policy and Schedule B – Materials Allocation 2013 – Standards and Services

-The Policy was revised at the November Standards and Services meeting and Schedule B was tentatively approved using 2011 population numbers.

-Once 2012 population figures were released, the policy and schedule were approved by the Executive Committee in January.

MOTION: M. Booker

-That Collection Management Policy and Schedule B – Materials Allocation 2013 be accepted CARRIED

### 5.2.3 Schedule A - Services Grant for 2013– Standards and Services

-Marigold does not direct how library boards allocate the Services grant, but it is recommended that libraries use the money to assist with costs associated with resource sharing.

-The schedule is reviewed annually to compensate for population changes.

-The Schedule was tentatively approved by the Standards & Services Committee in the fall and was approved by the Executive upon the release of the current population figures in January.

MOTION: M. Booker

-That Schedule A - Services Grant for 2013 be accepted CARRIED

#### 5.2.4 Schedule B – Community Library Grant for 2013 – Standards and Services

- Marigold annually receives a library services grant from Public Library Services Branch because Marigold is the Board of Management for six Community Libraries that are located in Hamlets. The funding is immediately transferred to those six community libraries.
- In 2012, the amount was increased from \$5.40 to \$5.45 per capita.
- The Schedule was tentatively approved by the Standards & Services Committee in the fall and was approved by the Executive in January.

MOTION: M. Booker

- That Schedule B – Community Library Grant for 2013 be accepted

CARRIED

### 5.3 Upcoming Board Meetings

#### *April 20, 2013*

- The next full Marigold Board meeting and AGM will be in Strathmore on Saturday, April 20.
- The meeting will start at 9:30 a.m.
- The venue has been changed to the Hope Community Covenant Church to provide more space and better meal options.
- Members were urged to let Marigold headquarters know if they would be requiring a room at the Travelodge for the night of April 19<sup>th</sup>.

#### *August 24, 2013*

- The Saturday, August 25 meeting will be hosted by the Canmore Library located in the new Multi-Plex called Elevation Place. The meeting will start at 9:30 am

#### *November 16, 2013*

- The Saturday, November 16 meeting will be hosted by the Chestermere Library. It will start at 9:30 am.

## 6. ITEMS FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

- There were no items from the Consent Agenda

## 7. GROUP DISCUSSION

Board members engaged in a discussion to answer the question, “Do you enjoy having Marigold’s AGM on a Tuesday evening or would you prefer the meeting to be held on a Saturday morning like the other three Marigold Library System Board meetings?”

- The change from Tuesday evenings to Saturdays was preferred by a majority of delegates.
- Many delegates find travelling on a Saturday morning easier than on a Tuesday evening because they can find more time to get to the meeting and many do not enjoy driving at night.
- More Board members can attend on a Saturday because there are fewer scheduling conflicts.

## 8. INFORMATION

### 8.1 ALTA Report – Diane Osberg

- The Trustee Manual is being updated
- A meeting is to take place to discuss collaboration between LAA and ALTA
- Registration for ALC in Jasper will soon be open. The Jasper conference will look the same in 2013 with both organizations included.

### 8.2 Bibliographic Services Presentation – Lynne Thorimbert

- Lynne Thorimbert reported on the restructuring of the Bibliographic Services Department and on the new operational changes the department implemented in 2012. The changes will streamline processes, save time and resources and will allow goals to be met for 2013.

### 8.3 2012 Marigold Highlights

-Laura Taylor addressed the accomplishments of staff and credited the numerous achievements to high team performance. Laura acknowledged a knowledgeable and dedicated Board. Some of the highlights from 2012 include:

- Crossfield Library re-joined Marigold
- Village of Munson rescinded their intention to withdraw from the Marigold Library System
- Wheatland Country provided increased support for Libraries located in the County
- New E-resources were launched
- Programing initiatives were implemented including Audio-Cine licensing and craft kits
- RISE expansion project was launched
- Consultation visits increased
- Health and Safety upgrades were implemented
- Publications were created; Power of Your Library Card and a new L2U catalogue
- Work space re-organization was started
- Influenced decision to keep Public Libraries under the jurisdiction of Municipal Affairs
- Advocated Marigold's services and clarified Marigold's funding to several Municipal Councils

### 8.4 Information Sharing - Roundtable

-Board members shared stories and highlights from their locations.

## 9. Book Draws

- Winner at Airdrie – Ron Howe
- Winner at Cochrane – Carney Raitz-Wakaryk
- Winner at Hanna – Maxine Booker
- Winner at Strathmore – Richard Ekman

### 9.1 Freedom to Read Week Display Draws

- Winner at Airdrie – Debbie Habberfield (will donate to Crossfield Library)
- Winner at Cochrane – Susan Barker (will donate to Cochrane Library)
- Winner at Hanna – Dennis Punter
- Winner at Strathmore – Darlene Raketti

## 10. ADJOURNMENT

L. Lyster declared the meeting adjourned at **11:57 am**

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Chair

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CEO

## Marigold Board Meeting January 26, 2013 Background Notes

### 1. Marigold and RISE Financials

The **cash based accounting** method records revenue and expenses when 'cash' is exchanged; revenue is recorded when payment is received and expenses are recorded when invoices are paid. Sole proprietorships and small organizations use this method. The **accrual accounting** method records revenue and expenses

when the information is entered into the accounting system. Revenue, such as levy payments, is recorded when invoices are prepared, not when the cheques are received. Expenses from purchases of goods and services are recorded by the date on the invoice, not when the invoice is paid. Marigold Library System uses this accrual accounting practice for financial procedures and reporting in accordance with GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles). Large to mid-sized organizations use this method.

Marigold Balance Sheet to end of December 2012: With over \$335,000 in the bank this year over last year, Marigold is in a good cash position. Good attention has been paid to accounts receivable balance. \$21,000 less owing this year compared to last year under accounts payable. Auditors will adjust reserves and capital entries after the AGM.

Marigold Income Statement: Revenue exceeded budget by \$52,000. Overall, expenditures came very close to budget projections, with under-expenditures in the staff and computer accounts and over-expenditures in the supplies, travel and utilities accounts. Marigold purchased supplies in bulk for the coming year and for the Crossfield conversion. Materials expenditures at 99% of budget is a testament to good planning and careful management – a credit to the Technical Services team.

RISE Balance Sheet and Income Statement: Deferred revenue is lower by \$5,541.30 because this amount was transferred into Marigold revenue to cover December expenses such as the Videoconference Specialist salary.

## **2. Marigold Budget for 2013, 2014 & 2015**

Marigold's resident population increased by 5% (official 2012 population released by Municipal Affairs in December) and this increase was factored into the revenue for municipal levies; however, this population increase is not factored into the revenue from provincial grants. The Public Library Services Branch's advice is to use the previous year's revenue. For the last two years, the provincial operating and rural services grants have been based on 2010 population. Crossfield's population was added to revenue projections for municipal levies and the provincial grants.

Changes to the draft budget presented at the November Board meeting include:

- Population – lines 9-13, 30, 38, 107,115, 146, 147
- Workflow Enhancement Project – lines 64 & 105
- Technology Plan – lines 69, 70 & 75
- Seminar with Eli Mina – lines 78 & 83
- AMBC consortium being discontinued – line 85
- Addition of shelf-ready cataloguing services – line 89
- TAL levy increase – line 93; these three items changed the total on line 94
- Professional Collection, Serials & Subscriptions (change in title) – line 110
- COLA of 3% and cushions for job review – line 128
- Increase in benefits (Health Care Spending Account, CPP and EI) – line 129;

## **3. Town of Crossfield**

The Town of Crossfield officially became a member of Marigold Library System on January 1, 2013. The entire collection of the Crossfield Municipal Library was weeded in preparation to add holdings into the ILS (Polaris). The Crossfield library staff have been trained to add holdings, register patrons and use online databases and resources such as Overdrive.

As of January 11, there are 326 patrons registered with a TRAC/TAL card and almost 3700 items added into the TRACpac library catalogue. Crossfield items will be unavailable for loan for several months until the majority of their collection has been added into the system.

## **4. Village of Munson**

On December 17, 2012, Marigold received official word from the Village of Munson Administrator, Lyle Caweizel that council had rescinded its motion to withdraw from Marigold Library System. Munson had originally indicated their attempt to withdraw effective December 31, 2012. Marigold now has 42 participating municipalities and 36 member libraries.

**5. Marigold Headquarters staff updates**

Colleen Spurvey, Library Services Consultant, began work at Marigold on December 3 after relocating from St. John's Newfoundland. She has been immersed in learning the many and diverse duties of consultation and how Alberta's libraries are organized.

Lori Miller, a part-time staff member from the Airdrie Public Library has been hired temporarily to assist with the conversion process in Crossfield (adding holdings at Crossfield). Marigold appreciates the willingness of Airdrie Public Library to lend a part-time staff person for the conversion project in Crossfield.

Glenn Russell has been hired as a temporary van driver to cover the position for Albert Herr who has taken a temporary leave of absence up to approximately February 18, 2013. Glenn is retired and resides in Strathmore.

**6. Building Projects at Marigold Libraries**

Several libraries have completed major moves to new facilities over the past few years including: Beiseker, Canmore, Drumheller, Ghost Lake, Kananaskis I.D., and Sheep River. Other libraries are in the process of planning or have completed renovations including: Acadia Valley, Bighorn, Carseland, Consort, Gleichen (roof, steps, upper level, drywall), High River, Rosebud Super Paperback Deposit, and Youngstown. Major moves to new library facilities and renovations demonstrate the relevance and importance of public libraries in communities.

**7. Shelf-Ready Cataloguing for Marigold Libraries**

Marigold has set up shelf-ready cataloguing and processing for Hotlist (bestseller) titles from United Library Services and for DVDs and audiobooks from CVS MidWest Tapes. Shelf-ready service includes cataloguing, barcoding, stamping, spine labels and mylar for books. The best part is that items are automatically linked with Polaris! Hotlist/Bestseller items from ULS will arrive shelf-ready at Marigold within one to four days of release. Marigold will receive new release DVDs shelf-ready within 2 days of release from CVS. These changes will help alleviate backlog and increase the turnaround time of when an item is received at Marigold headquarters to when it is delivered shelf-ready to member libraries. Most library systems in Alberta use outsourcing cataloguing methods from vendors.

**8. Freegal e-Resource**

Marigold cardholders continue to enjoy the new e-Resource Freegal that was launched in October 2012. Freegal is a music database that enables patrons to download, free and legally, up to three songs per week. There is a wide variety of music and genres including Johnny Cash, Michael Jackson and One Direction to name a few. To date, over 7600 songs have been downloaded. If cardholders keep up this downloading pace, over 30,000 songs will be downloaded by the end of the year.

**9. Library Press Display (new e-Resource paid for by Public Library Services Branch)**

Announcement from Clive Maishment, TAL CEO, came on Friday, 7 December 2012. *"Thanks to a \$310,000 investment through the Alberta Public Library Electronic Network, all TAL-member public libraries will have electronic access to more than 1,200 newspapers from around the world through Press Display. Starting in January 2013, the two-year Press Display license will provide more Albertans with up-to-date news and information from 94 countries in 48 languages, including 291 Canadian newspapers. Working with the Alberta Public Library Services Branch, Press Display was identified as a provincial priority for several reasons. The service provides newcomers to the province with access to news in their native language, helping to preserve cultural ties. Newcomers to Alberta also have an opportunity to develop language skills by reading English-language newspapers. In addition, urban newspapers in Alberta have been decreasing distribution outside the major centres. Through Press Display, more Albertans can access full editions of the Calgary Herald, Edmonton Journal, Calgary Sun, National Post, The Globe and Mail and more. The resource runs on a full range of platforms, including PC, Mac, iPhone and Blackberry.*

*In 2013, APLEN will also fully fund [100% funding] NoveList, Automotive Repair Reference Centre, Heritage Quest Online, and the TAL Universal Core which are currently subsidized at 70 percent. Mango Languages, Career Cruising and Canadian Points of View Reference Centre which are currently funded by a one-time grant from the Government of*

*Alberta will be renewed in 2013 and fully funded by APLEN until mid-2014. Improving e-content by making more resources available provincially supports the vision of seamless access to library services identified in the Alberta Government report, Framework for the Future: Positioning Libraries for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.*

*Thanks to Diana Davidson and her team at the Alberta Public Library Services Branch for their efforts in improving access to electronic resources.”*

#### **10. Library To You (L2U)**

Until recently, this service was known as Paperbacks-By-Mail and has been in existence since 1981. Lynne Thorimbert provided this service description to a library colleague in Ft. McMurray:

*Marigold services over 400 patrons in Marigold, Peace, Shortgrass and Chinook Arch library systems through Library to You service. L2U patrons are generally people who are unable to use a public library or live far away from a public library. We have a collection housed at Marigold that holds the items listed in our current catalogue, as well as items listed in the previous two catalogues. New materials are purchased year round through careful collection development and make up the two catalogues issues we produce per year. There are approximately 250-300 new titles in each issue. As you'll see in the attached catalogue, the offerings includes mass market paperbacks, softcover children's books, teen series and non-fiction.*

*Patrons fill out a registration form online and mail or fax it back to Marigold. We send the catalogue out to them along with a green card they can use to request book orders by mail; patrons can also call our toll-free for service. Orders are filled by call numbers from the catalogue, but sometimes patrons will just request "like" authors or genres. We mail out the books to the patron with a return label to post back at no charge. The catalogue is accessible online on our Marigold site at [www.marigold.ab.ca](http://www.marigold.ab.ca). Unless an item is very popular and needs to be placed on hold, we send people new library materials in rapid order. We also keep 2 copies of top 10 titles or blockbusters to fill L2U orders.*

*Recently, Marigold altered and expanded the catalogue to include promotion of eResources, such as items from the TAL core that Marigold, Peace, Shortgrass and Chinook Arch all receive. For our 4 systems that also includes Overdrive eBooks, so we are able to promote that as a standard offering to all patrons, although each patron would access the own system's ebooks with a library card from their own system due to contractual agreements. Our Direct Services department at Marigold headquarters can assist patrons in getting both a Marigold card and direct them to the right person at their own library for a card to access eResources if they're interested.*

#### **11. Provincial Library News**

**TAL and APLEN:** Jason Openo has begun a secondment to the position of APLEN Director (in effect until June 30, 2013). Jason was the Manager of Edmonton Public Library's Whitemud Crossing Branch.

The Alberta Library (TAL) reviewed its committee and decision-making structure to create an organization that is more streamlined and responsive. At TAL's November Board meeting, members passed a motion to dissolve standing committees including APLEN Standing Committee, Post-secondary Library Directors, Advocacy, Finance, Governance and Personnel. Because the APLEN Standing Committee no longer exists, all service committees under its umbrella are also dissolved, including the APLEN Marketing and Promotions Committee. The intent is to provide opportunities for relevant and meaningful projects (i.e., coming together as a group to accomplish a specific task).

Dan Mirau, Chair of the TAL Executive Committee and Director of Concordia University College Library, posted an empowering message about the important role Alberta libraries play in creating a better future for Albertans. The post was made on the Alberta Government's social policy framework community blog which is part of an ongoing dialogue between individuals, agencies, community organizations and the non-profit sector about how to address social challenges in Alberta. Below are his thoughts:

*“Since social policy is about how we meet human needs, how we support well-being, and how individuals and communities come together, it is an area that Alberta's library community cares deeply about. Thanks to Minister Hancock and the Alberta Government for creating this community conversation.*

*Libraries currently provide everything from access to language training for newcomers to reading programs for tots and health programs for seniors – and everything in between. Libraries are places where Albertans learn, engage and connect with each other.*

*Like much of the rest of the world, Alberta is buffeted by the powerful forces of globalization and urbanization. In addition, the information explosion, the development of new technologies and rapidly changing community demands are combining to call for new ways of thinking and providing library services.*

Not long ago a diverse group of library community members – including students, recent graduates, and seasoned professionals from public, post-secondary and government libraries – got together to talk about the cultural, demographic, social and economic shifts that are likely to affect libraries and communities in coming years, and to explore new possibilities and new perspectives.

Libraries in Alberta are increasingly seen as community spaces for people to gather, share and connect. Alongside these emerging roles, libraries are still called on to support literacy, provide relevant collections and participate in preservation activities.

Libraries are the centre of our communities, yet we are rethinking how the physical space of the library is configured and shared. These new solutions need to be co-created with users to ensure welcoming and flexible spaces that meet diverse community needs.

Alberta libraries agree we must engage in conversations with the multiple communities we serve. We must value and support diversity. We recognize that librarians are in the people business, not the book business.

Alberta's library community is committed to equitable and seamless access to library resources. This includes a streamlined service for Albertans with one access point to the collective resources of all provincial libraries. Individual libraries engage in conversations and collaborate across geographic boundaries and across sectors. Library users expect access to new technologies and expect that library staff will be able to help them use these technologies. Libraries need to focus on the needs of users, not on the status-quo.

While the future holds challenges, perhaps the most powerful tool we have is engaging in community conversations – just like this one.”

**Alberta Wide Borrowing (AWB) Initiative:** PLSB and APLEN staff have collaborated to develop a list of technical specifications related to AWB and have issued of an RFI (Request for Information) to assess whether there is an off-the-shelf system or a custom solution is needed for varied library systems to talk to each other. Throughout 2012, a revised Resource Sharing Policy was developed in consultation with stakeholders to add details on how AWB would function across the network of Alberta public libraries. The policy, now called the Public Library Network Policy, was approved in fall 2012, together with a Resource Sharing Operational Policy.

**Kainai Library – First on an Alberta Reserve:** Excerpts from Lethbridge Herald article, Sunday, November 18, 2012: *“The Kainai Library is scheduled to open on the Blood Reserve in late January, first in temporary headquarters at the Kainai Alternate Academy and then into new space in a facility currently under construction. Part of the problem in establishing libraries on reserves has to do with jurisdiction. Libraries are typically a municipal responsibility while reserves are a federal responsibility. “But there are ways to do it. We worked through those steps and we made it happen,” said Maggie MacDonald, CEO of the Chinook Arch Regional Library System, adding she hopes it will serve as a model for the development of other public libraries on reserves.”*

**Jasper Conference future:** Library Association of Alberta (LAA) President, Diane Clark, wrote to Dwight Nagel, President of ALTA, (November 8, 2012) to advise him of the LAA Board discussion and motion regarding the Alberta Library Conference. *“Beginning in 2014, the Library Association of Alberta will plan a stand-alone conference. We regret that a joint conference no longer meets the needs of our members.” Diane goes on to say that LAA will offer a membership category for boards so that trustees may continue to attend the Alberta Library Conference at member rates, and that meeting space for the ALTA AGM and advocacy work will be available.”* A meeting with ALTA and LAA representatives has been arranged to gain a better understanding of the situation and to determine whether continuing to work together is a possibility.

## 12. **Alberta's Second Quarter Results (2012)**

A news release issued by the province at the end of November outlines that resource revenue is \$1.4 billion lower than expected. The province is holding the line on spending because of lower than forecasted resource revenue. The province's population was expected to grow by 2.5 per cent in 2012. Currently, Municipal Affairs, which includes the Public Library Services Branch (PLSB), is engaged in an intense “results-based budgeting” review. Although the outcome is unknown, there is hope that the per capita grants to sustain our libraries will not be impacted.

**13. International Test Results For Alberta Students ...**

An Alberta Government announcement on December 11 indicates that the performance of Alberta students has remained relatively consistent in science and math. *On the 'Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIPLS) 2011', Alberta's score was on par with the Canadian average, but declined from the last study in 2006. Results also slipped in relation to international rankings. "These results clearly show that we need to have a relentless focus on literacy as a foundation to our curriculum and learning objectives as we move forward," said [Education Minister Jeff] Johnson. "Literacy skills are a critical competency that Alberta students will need in order to be successful as they progress through higher levels of learning and into their jobs and careers."* Public libraries have an important part to play in life-long learning and literacy skills.