

MARIGOLD REPORT

To Councils and Special Areas Board

Strathmore Mayor, Pat Fule, provided greetings on behalf of the town. Fule noted that libraries are the great equalizers in the community and that Marigold makes the Internet more accessible to rural communities. He congratulated Marigold representatives for their advocacy efforts towards a new headquarters facility.

HIGHLIGHTS OF MARIGOLD AGM AND BOARD MEETING

Held on Saturday, April 21, 2018

Marigold Library System held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) and regular Board Meeting at the Alliance Church in Strathmore, Alberta.

AGM

Erin Gregory presented a high-level overview of Marigold's 2017 financials and answered questions.

2017 Audited Financial Statements, prepared by Auditors Gregory Harriman and Associates, showed Marigold Library System in a healthy financial position with a clean audit. **Revenues** increased by \$319,306, mostly because of increases in provincial grants based on current population, and for services to Indigenous populations.

Total Expenses for 2017 increased by \$220,244, which is 5% over the prior year, mostly because Marigold served a larger population. \$525,000 was moved into internally restricted reserves for a new building and a new vehicle. Transfer Payments, which represent Community Library Grants and Service Grants paid to member libraries, increased by \$16,023, or 2.6%↑ from the prior year.

The auditors noted that through careful management of the budget, Marigold expenditures were within 3.5% of the total budget projections.

Audited Financials are available at:
www.marigold.ab.ca/financial-information

Elections and committee appointments

Lynda Lyster continues in her position as Chair. As outlined in Marigold's Constitution, the Vice Chair and Treasurer are chosen from members of the Executive Committee and were appointed at the April 4, 2018 Executive Committee meeting.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2018 - 2019

Lynda Lyster – Bighorn MD #8, Chair
John Getz – Village of Standard, Vice Chair
Gary Billings – Village of Rockyford, Treasurer
Kayla Jessen-White – City of Airdrie
Kristen Anderson – Village of Hussar
Maxine Booker – Acadia MD #34
Dimitri Dimopoulos – Rocky View County
Lil Morrison – Starland County
Susan Roper – Town of Cochrane
Marian Walsh – Town of Okotoks

STANDING COMMITTEES 2018 - 2019

Advocacy

Lil Morrison (Chair)
Melanie Jensen
Helen Veno
Kayla Jessen-White
Lynda Lyster

Building

John Getz (Chair)
Gary Billings
Denise Peterson
Lynda Lyster

Human Resources (HR)

Susan Roper (Chair)
Maxine Booker
Dimitri Dimopolous
Lynda Lyster

Finance

Gary Billings (Chair)
John Getz
Lynda Lyster

Governance

Kristen Anderson (Chair)
John Getz (Vice Chair)
Eleanore Chinnick
Jan Dyck
Margaret Nielsen
Denise Peterson
Lynda Lyster

Standards & Services

Maxine Booker (Chair)
Elaine Michaels
Jo Tennant
Marian Walsh
Ghada Wirth
Lynda Lyster

BOARD MEETING FINANCIAL



Unaudited financial statements to March 31, 2018 were accepted for information. Expenses are on track. TRAC levy, TAL membership, insurance and some eResource subscriptions are paid in full at the beginning of the year.

Unaudited RISE financial statements to March 31, 2017 were accepted for information. RISE videoconferencing is having a revival in programming and use. There were 55 people in attendance at a recent beekeeping program, and there are a dozen upcoming programs listed on the RISE website: www.risenetwork.ca. Marigold provides RISE bridging service for 83 public libraries in Alberta. Videoconferencing is also used extensively for internal meetings.

POLICY APPROVAL & DECISION

Policies, Bylaws and schedules reviewed and approved by the Marigold Board:
Committee Mandate Statements
Executive Committee Job Description
Policy Development
Board Member Compensation
Library Service Points Bylaws
Library Service Points Social Media
Contingency Plan for Finance

IMPORTANT DATES

-  Saturday, August 25, 2018
Crossfield, 9:30 am
-  Saturday, November 17, 2018
Chestermere, 9:30 a.m.

REPORTS

MARIGOLD ANNUAL REPORT:

Planning for the Future. The Board approved the Report for distribution to stakeholders. Read more about Marigold's achievements and milestones at: www.marigold.ab.ca/annual-report

When we look back on 2017, it was a game-changing year when our long-held hopes and dreams transformed into very attainable plans for a new headquarters building and a new website framework. Marigold made significant progress towards the second year of its 2016 – 2018 Strategic Plan:

- Completion of a Feasibility Study allowed Marigold to gain a better understanding of the options and potential costs of acquiring a facility with greater capacity.
- Library service for Siksika and Stoney First Nations extended because of continued funding from Municipal Affairs.
- Branding and logo initiative resulted in a new, inspiring logo, a new tag line 'Empower Your Future' and new product designs
- Live online Advocacy course development for member boards and library staff .
www.marigold.ab.ca/plan-service

VALUE OF YOUR INVESTMENT report shows the value of services provided annually by Marigold. Libraries and municipalities benefit directly through the pooling of revenues so that all residents have access to abundant resources.

POWER OF YOUR LIBRARY CARD report highlights services provided annually by Marigold that are of value to residents living in Counties, Improvement Districts, Special Areas, MDs.

Members are encouraged to share these reports with their local boards and councils.

Please contact Deputy CEO Laura Taylor for more information about the Value of Your Investment
laura@marigold.ab.ca

NEW BUILDING UPDATE:

Marigold continues to work towards the building of a larger and better equipped headquarters facility in Strathmore in a joint project with Western Irrigation District (WID).

- Marigold and WID Joint Facility Committee members have conducted 3 meetings since January.
- An Area Structure Plan is required to rezone undesignated WID land, so Marigold can first purchase the land and then build a new headquarters facility. The timeline for completion of the Area Structure Plan is December 2018. In the meantime, much work can be done in terms of operating agreements, funding research and applications.

John Getz, Marigold's Vice Chair, noted that **Marigold is a good fit with WID because we are both not-for-profit, service-based organizations with approximately the same number of staff and a need for a new building approximately the same size.** The benefits of co-ownership include reduced costs of planning, construction and operating a joint facility, alignment with the strategic priorities of all levels of government and enhanced community engagement.



Marigold's **ReNews** publication (included with this *Marigold Report*) gives detailed information and updates concerning our new building plans, funding and progress. All issues of ReNews can be found at:

<http://www.marigold.ab.ca/new-building>

PRESENTATION: HISTORY OF THE WID

– David McAllister, GM of WID

The WID, formed in 1944, will celebrate its 75th Anniversary in 2019. Located in Strathmore, WID serves a large community of farmers and is governed by a Board. And, like Marigold, WID plans to operate in the same area for a long time. McAllister agreed with J. Getz that WID's governance structure and core values makes the two organizations a good fit.

In the future, WID will be involved in providing solutions to new water demands. McAllister noted that one of the main objectives of the WID is to help people grow more food with less water. In some areas WID is transitioning to buried pipelines to reduce evaporation. In others, canal rehabilitation will provide water savings which can feed urban growth. In his story on water management, McAllister also talked about how Aquatic Invasive Species (including Quagga and Zebra Mussels) pose a threat to Alberta's waterways and irrigation canals and reservoirs. Information and a series of educational videos about WID: <http://www.wid.net/media>

pronunciator: 

A World of Languages!



New! Language learning for the whole family. FREE access with your library card — through your local public library or www.marigold.ab.ca/eResources.

BOARD APPROVES REQUEST TO EXTEND PLAN OF SERVICE



Marigold Board approved the extension of the goals, vision, mission and values for two years (2019 & 2020) and the renaming of Vision 2018 to Plan of Service: Vision 2020

DISCUSSION and BACKGROUND

Marigold's three-year Plan of Service, entitled Vision 2018, will reach the end of its three-year timeframe in December 2018. The Libraries Regulation (Libraries Act of Alberta) requires library system boards to have a current plan of service, including a mission statement and goals and objectives, based on a community needs assessment. For Vision 2015 and 2018 (Marigold's most recent Plans of Service), Marigold compiled survey responses and held a facilitated consultation with Board members and stakeholders to plan for new goals and objectives. This was due to be done again in 2018.

After checking with a Public Library Services Branch consultant, the idea of extending the current Plan of Service goals has merit because of potential changes when a new headquarters facility is move-in ready.

Standards and Services and Executive Committee members considered the relevance of the Vision 2018 goals as well as the timing and outcomes of another round of consultations with Marigold stakeholders. These committees recommended that Marigold Board pass a motion to extend the current Plan of Service two years (2019 & 2020) and to rename the Plan of Service: Vision 2020.

At this time (2018), Marigold has embarked on two significant projects that will influence Marigold's future capacity to

innovate and deliver public library services: a new headquarters' building and a new website platform for Marigold and for its members.

With a new facility, Marigold will continue to deliver library system services, but the mechanisms for service delivery may be adjusted because of the added capacity to be more efficient and responsive.

A recent rebranding and logo exercise reconfirmed Marigold's commitment to the mission, vision, values and goals in Vision 2018. A new tagline, Empower Your Future, has been built into Vision 2020.

The goals and objectives in Vision 2020 provide ways of addressing the remaining challenges identified during the Vision 2018 consultation.

Input into Vision 2020 occurred through numerous channels. For example, Member Satisfaction Surveys in 2017 and 2016 confirmed a high level of customer satisfaction with Marigold staff and services, and the belief that these services and staff expertise are the basis for future growth.

Many conversations during Marigold Board and committee meetings, as well as during member municipal council presentations, have confirmed Marigold members' understanding that Marigold needs to invest in a new headquarters building.

Marigold has a busy two years ahead. It is reassuring that an established and workable list of goals and objectives will help us to stay focused and to achieve what we have been talking about for decades.

BOARD & STAFF RECOGNITION

Marigold Board

5 years Jo Tennant (Crossfield)
Karen Neill (Morrin)
Donna Bauer (Ghost Lake)

Marigold HQ Staff

5 years Jessie Bach (Bibliographic Services Manager)
Steven Coplan (IT Support Technician)
Caleigh Haworth (Training & Communication Coordinator)
Glenn Russel (Delivery Driver)
Jaspreet Singh (IT Network Specialist)

10 years Lynn Blain (Cataloguer)
Barb Froese (Library Services Assistant)
Richard Kenig (IT Manager)

Marigold's new headquarters facility project is proceeding with important work being accomplished in the first quarter of 2018. Marigold has continued working closely with Western Irrigation District [WID]. The Joint Facility Committee with Marigold and WID, Building Committee and Executive Committee conducted seven meetings between January 1 and April 5 and have made progress on early deliverables in line with project timelines.

UPDATES

John Getz (Marigold Vice-Chair), Gary Billings (Treasurer) and Michelle Toombs (CEO) met with Alan Parkin, CAO of Wheatland County in November 2017. As a result of that meeting, Marigold submitted a letter to Wheatland County in December requesting a line of credit type of loan of up to \$2,000,000. Marigold spoke as a delegation in February and Council supported Marigold's request pending approval of Bylaw by Council and the public.

Marigold and WID Joint Facility Committee members met at Marigold Headquarters on January 9, January 31 and April 5. WID has presented a certified Appraisal Report of the WID land and a draft purchase agreement. Next steps for the joint project include decisions regarding the purchase of land and legal agreements.

The Marigold Executive made a motion on April 4 to retain Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (BLG) to represent Marigold Library System and to complete legal services required for the new headquarters facility, including a purchase agreement. At the direction of the Executive, Michelle and Lynne Thorimbert, Director of Service Delivery, reviewed options for legal services for the purchase of land and building a new facility. Marigold will require expertise in the areas of real estate and development and construction, including operating agreements. Interviews were conducted with four firms between February 28 and March 12 and each firm was considered for the ability to manage the project, their understanding of Marigold's culture and their approach to customer service. The team from BLG demonstrated knowledge and experience in similar real estate and joint construction projects and instilled confidence that they will pay attention to details that could end up costing Marigold money if overlooked. BLG's fees were in line with the costs for other firms.

On April 4, the Marigold Executive made a motion to proceed with Western Irrigation District to engage CivicWorks to complete planning and design services for undeveloped WID land. CivicWorks will begin working with the Town of Strathmore on an Area Structure Plan [ASP]. An ASP is required to rezone undesignated Western Irrigation District land so Marigold can first purchase the land and then build a new headquarters facility. Costs incurred by Marigold for the ASP will be deducted from the purchase price Marigold pays for the land after subdivision. CivicWorks has worked closely with the Town on Strathmore on the community of Heritage Heights and the 390-acre "Prairie Strathmore" residential area, and is familiar with Town planning requirements, public hearings, design strategies, stormwater and reserve minimums and Town bylaws.

John, Michelle and Steve Grajczyk met with Strathmore Mayor Pat Fule and Councillor Bob Sobol to discuss how the Town's plans may impact Marigold's building plans and if there are opportunities for waived or reduced fees. Town representatives were made aware that the current Marigold building has been well maintained and has a solid structure that could be beneficial to a future owner.

PROJECT HISTORY: Background information and details on past progress including previous issues of ReNews are available on the Marigold website at <http://marigold.ab.ca/new-building>