MARIGOLD LIBRARY SYSTEM
Schedule C Fact Sheet
2019 – 2020

SCHEDULE C PROCESS

Schedule C is an amendment to the Marigold Agreement that outlines Marigold's per capita levy rates for municipalities and library boards. The most recent attached Schedule C is for **2019 and 2020.**

At the Board meeting on November 18, 2017 a motion passed "That the current Executive Committee will be the Schedule C Committee for 2019 – 2020." The responsibility of the committee is to recommend the upcoming term (e.g., years) and per capita levy rates, taking into consideration past and future trends, timelines and factors impacting the Marigold Community. The recommendation by the Executive was presented and approved at the Marigold Board meeting in January.

Following approval by the Marigold Board, Schedule C and attachments are mailed to the Mayor of every member municipality, with copies to the CAOs and library board chairs. Marigold requests that every municipality presents Schedule C to Council for consideration and returns a signed Schedule C to Marigold before September 30, 2018.

FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION

- The Bank of Canada inflation-control target[1] of 2.22% was taken into consideration when the levy rates for 2019 and 2020 were presented to the Marigold Board.
- Marigold Board is committed to harmonizing levy rates for residents, whether they live in municipalities with libraries or whether they use libraries that are in nearby municipalities. In 2021 and beyond, there will be the same (combined) levy rate for all municipalities.
- Marigold's service population has increased by more than two and a half times from 2004 to present. Marigold's services have also expanded and adapted to meet public and community demands; therefore, Marigold's operations have outgrown the space available in the current Strathmore location.
- An Architectural consultant was hired to conduct a feasibility study to determine space needs and building options. To better serve member municipalities, Marigold is in the preliminary stages of planning for a new expanded co-owned and co-located facility in Strathmore in collaboration with Western Irrigation District (WID) to increase operational space from 9,650 sq. feet to 20,000 sq. feet. The larger facility designed with adequate space, technology capacity, improved accessibility and safety features will enable Marigold to meet service delivery expectations, and to expand public library service to a growing population of over 320,000 Albertans. The new facility will also benefit the local community by providing much-needed meeting, event and programming space.
- As population grows and communities change, there is an increasing need to provide collections, services and programs that are culturally inclusive and broaden cultural awareness. Patron and member library demands for

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[1] http://www.bankofcanada.ca/core-functions/monetary-policy/inflation/

training are increasing as more content rich products and services are introduced. To keep up with service demands, Marigold has recently added services including:

- o expanded delivery system with more vehicles and scheduled deliveries
- o downloadable eBooks and eAudio, music, and online training and curriculum support
- o increased IT[2] infrastructure and support, including an IT spending credit for equipment upgrades for 37 member library boards
- o more training for member library staff, board members and patrons
- o more programs, supplies and equipment that encourage interaction among community members at the library
- o purchasing program for discounts on IT equipment, furniture, and supplies

- Marigold purchased over $1,100,000 of print and audiovisual material and digital content in 2017. Significant vendor discounts and free shipping extend purchasing capacity

- Marigold commits to resource sharing among Alberta's public libraries by providing services grants (cash back) to member library boards. In 2018, the grants to member libraries will total $645,320

- Use of public libraries in Marigold is growing; therefore, support costs are also increasing

- Year over year operational costs have increased:

  - o cost of larger vehicles to handle increased delivery volume
  - o digital content contracts (costed on total population in Marigold)
  - o computer hardware, software and licenses
  - o TRAC[3] and TAL[4] levies (costed on population)
  - o automation and out-sourcing to expedite turnaround time for library materials
  - o utility, caretaking, and landscaping costs for headquarters
  - o insurance costs
  - o transportation costs for consultants and IT staff who visit Marigold libraries increased

OVERVIEW

- *Value of Your Investment Reports* for municipalities show that the value of Marigold services exceeds the investment (see attached 2017 report for your municipality). *Value of Your Investment Reports* for 2017 were presented at the Marigold AGM in April.

- Marigold has successfully achieved goals and objectives identified in Marigold's strategic plan, Vision 2018. Vision 2018 was developed by stakeholders in Marigold communities and identified priorities to provide efficient and cost effective library services and support, such as more technical support, programming, training for member library staff, downloadable eBooks and digital content.

- Marigold serves 44 municipalities, 37 member library boards, 36 libraries, 12 book deposits, 2 inter-library loan lockers, Stoney Nakoda and Siksika Nations, and over 320,000 people.

- Residents have access to:

  - o 3.3 million circulating items, digital content and services on the TRAC online catalogue
  - o collections and services in all Marigold libraries and TRAC
  - o Library to You (L2U) mail service for homebound residents and patrons in remote communities

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[2] IT: Information Technology – infrastructure planning, implementation and ongoing support for the integrated library system (Polaris), Marigold telecommunications, computer hardware and software, and RISE videoconference system.

[3] TRAC: The Regional Automation Consortium, involving 180 libraries in Marigold, Yellowhead, Northern Lights and Peace library systems.

[4] TAL: The Alberta Library, which provides support for electronic resources, training and advocacy for all member libraries in Alberta.