MARIGOLD REPORT

Notes to Councils and Special Areas
January 2008

The January Board meeting was a video-conference with Board members in front of cameras in the Chestermere Library and the Town of Hanna Council Chambers. A total of 33 Board members, alternates and guests were present, along with six staff. Greetings were given by Mayor Mary Collins of Hanna and Maxine McKellar, Chair of the Chestermere Library board.

In absence of Chair Shelia Macklin, Vice-Chair Carol Anne Maisey (High River) chaired the meeting from Chestermere. Former Chair, Frank VanderKley (Trochu) served as vice-chair from Hanna.

The Board accepted reports and updates on the Consent Agenda, as well as the Resource Sharing Policy and Schedules to the Collection Management and Transfer Payments policies. The schedules reflect including Cochrane (Nan Boothby Memorial Library) in the materials allocations and services grant schedules.

The Board accepted the RISE report as presented by Rowena Lunn, Director. The **R**ural **I**nformation **S**ervices initiativ**E,** a partnership of Chinook Arch, Shortgrass and Marigold regional library systems, will use SuperNet to implement a video-conference network to link the three headquarters; the two large urban libraries and 78 medium and small libraries. Funding has been received from APLEN (Alberta Public Library Electronic Network), and PLDI (Public Library Development Initiative). An application has been submitted to RADF (Rural Alberta's Development Fund).

The Board discussed the Statement of Services — the Return on Investment Report sent to each participating council. The Statement reports, on a per capita basis, revenue generated and services delivered, and reflects the concept and practice of pooling and sharing resources.

Proposed amendments to the Agreement were presented for discussion by Kristen Anderson, Chair of the Governance Committee. Many of the amendments are for plain language and clarity. The Board suggested other changes be made before the final draft of the revised Agreement is presented for acceptance at the April board meeting. Once the amendments are accepted by the Board, they will be sent to all participating councils, and become effective when 60% of the councils representing 60% of the population approve.

The Board was updated on the outcome of the arbitration over the withdrawal of the Town of Banff from Marigold. (see enclosed special report)

Draws for Freedom to Read Week displays were won by Elden Kelln, Village of Acme and Ingrid Thornton, Town of Drumheller. The library staff in Acme and Drumheller will add challenged books to the display for Freedom to Read Week, February 24 to March 1, 2008.

The next Board meeting will include the Annual General meeting. It will be held at the Strathmore Travelodge on Tuesday April 22, 2008 in the evening.

Ingrid Thornton with Freedom to Read display

Celebrate your freedom to read!
At www.freedomtoread.ca find information about challenged material as well as interesting articles, contests, ideas for educators.

Municipalities Represented, January 26, 2008

in Chestermere: Carol Anne Maisey, High River (Vice – Chair)

Elden Kelln	Acme
Judy Dufort	Airdrie
Maxine McKellar	Chestermere
Adamo Cocuzzoli	Cochrane
Barb Castell	Foothills MD alternate
Christine Boyd	Ghost Lake
Kristen Anderson	Hussar
Dave Lord	Irricana
Leslie Duchak	Okotoks
Lois Habberfield	Rocky View MD
Alison Roppell	Rockyford
John Getz	Standard
Earl Best	Strathmore
Sandra Barker	Waiparous
Don Vander Velde	Wheatland County

Guests:
Jo Anne Houston, Library Manager, Chestermere

Ruth Wright, Alternate Chestermere

in Hanna: Frank VanderKley, Trochu (Co-Chair)

Maxine Booker	Acadia M.D.
Elaine Michaels	Cereal
Lisa Myers-Sortland	Consort
Donna Isaac	Delia
Ingrid Thornton	Drumheller
Murray Shack	Hanna
Glen Keiver	Kneehill County
Kathie Putman	Linden
Lois Bedwell	Oyen
Helen Veno	Special Area #2
Rosana Ramos	Special Area #4
Lil Morrison	Starland County

Guest:

Bob Cuthill, Three Hills

Staff:

Chestermere:

Karen Labuik	Assistant Director
Carlee Pilikowski	Communications Officer
Sarah Stephens	Administrative Assistant (recording)

Hanna

Rowena Lunn	Director
Shona Gourlay	Consultant/Member Services
Linda Williams	Consultant/Library Services

RISE—Rural Information Services initiativE

The SuperNet infrastructure allows the project broad applications that can be scaled up or down to meet the needs of libraries.

The video-conferencing network will deliver

- training to the public on the resources within the library
- children's literacy programs such as interactive story times and interactive summer reading programs
- training for member library staff
- delivery of author talks and guest speakers
- meetings of library boards, provincial groups, etc.
- a possible "virtual meeting room"

The project will help facilitate learning and skill development and may provide opportunities for people in rural Alberta to support the workforce development pillar of the rural strategy.

New services in remote rural libraries may be able to increase access to quality health care services in their community.

The project will assist the libraries in determining optimum hours of opening and the specific needs for access to video conference and other learning activities in each community. It will also further the concept of our libraries as a meeting place for the community – bringing programs to our communities rather than insisting that our rural residents travel to another centre for the opportunities.

YEAR END STATISTICS

More residents with library cards

There are 51,852 residents of Marigold who have TRAC/TAL cards. This is 34.6% of the population, up 2.3% from 2006. An additional 735 cards were issued to people from Cochrane and Rocky View, which joined Marigold in the last half of 2007.

All but three municipalities saw an increase in the number of cards issued. In 11 municipalities, more than 40% of the population have a TRAC/TAL card,

Residents of Marigold may obtain their TRAC/TAL card from the Marigold member library of their choice, or from headquarters if they do not live near a community with a library

JANUARY 12, 2008:
MP Kevin Sorenson reads to children at Chestermere Library's grand opening.

Board and Committee Meeting Dates

Feb 12	Standards & Services, Hanna
Feb 14	Advocacy, Drumheller
Feb 20	Executive conference call
TBA	Governance