

# MARIGOLD REPORT



To Councils and  
Special Areas Board

## MARIGOLD AGM AND BOARD MEETING

Saturday, April 23, 2016

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

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**2015 Audited Financial Statements** were presented by Auditors Gregory Harriman and Associates. Marigold Library System remains in a healthy financial position with a clean audit. Statement highlights:

**Revenues** from provincial grants increased because 2014 population numbers were used as a basis for the 2015 payments, where 2010 population was used in the past. Marigold came under budget in part because of staff vacancies and recruitment.

**Expenses** for 2015 increased by \$273,000 from the prior year. Transfer Payments, which represent Community Library Grants and Service grants paid to member libraries increased by \$58,000 from the prior year; TRAC expenses, which are based on population, also increased.

**Capital purchases** in 2015 included two new vans and a new server.

**Examples of Services added or enhanced during 2015 includes:** more eBooks and digital content (downloading of eBooks increased over ↑130% in 2015); new eResources such as *Lynda.com* online learning resource and *Solaro* which provides study help and exam prep for students in grades 3-12.

Financials are available at:

[www.marigold.ab.ca/financial-information](http://www.marigold.ab.ca/financial-information)

Strathmore Mayor, Michael Ell, provided greetings on behalf of the town. Ell thanked the Board for its dedication to libraries and commented on Marigold's ability to look outside the norm to provide services to member libraries during a downturn in the economy. Also noted was Town of Strathmore's support for a new or enlarged headquarters building. This support was demonstrated when a resolution to borrow money was taken to the Mayor's Caucus in March. The resolution passed and will be taken to AUMA in the fall.

### 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 February 24, 2016 Executive Committee meeting.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2016 - 2017

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

### Advocacy

Lil Morrison (Chair)  
Jerry Kruse  
Helen Veno  
Kayla Jessen-White  
Lynda Lyster

### Building

John Getz (Chair)  
Gary Billings  
Denise Peterson  
Lynda Lyster

### Human Resources (HR)

Susan Roper (Chair)  
Berniece Bland  
Lynda Lyster

### Finance

Gary Billings (Chair)  
John Getz  
Lynda Lyster

### Governance

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

### Standards & Services

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

## FINANCIAL

**Unaudited financial statements to March 31, 2016** were accepted. Accounts receivable total is much higher on this year's balance sheet compared to last year because municipal levy invoices were issued later after Municipal Affairs released population data.

Expenditures are on track at 27% of the budget. Insurance for the HQ building was lower than expected while the insurance for collections was higher because collection size adjustments for all member libraries were sent to our AUMA Insurer last fall. Plastic library cards are being distributed by some libraries to students, which is an excellent initiative; therefore, card supply needed to be replenished.

**Unaudited RISE financial statements to March 31, 2016** were accepted. Marigold provides RISE bridging service for 92 public libraries in Alberta. With all consultant positions filled at Marigold and at Chinook Arch, there has been a renewed effort to increase the number and appeal of RISE programs.

In March, Marigold HQ staff participated in a three-hour, interactive videoconference on Stress Management, presented by a certified life skills coach from High River, Sandra Oleskiw.

## BOARD MOVES TO APPROVE SCHEDULE C

Schedule C is the amendment to the Marigold Agreement that outlines Marigold's levy rates for municipalities and library boards. The current Schedule is for 2015-2016. Schedule C members made a motion to recommend a 2% levy increase for 2017 and 2018 fiscal years. Schedule C members also approved an ongoing commitment for the next three years to harmonize municipal levy rates for municipalities with and without library boards because Marigold residents have access to the same public library services, including digital content.

Information will be sent to Mayors, CAOs and library board chairs middle of May, 2016. **Please contact CEO Michelle Toombs for more information:** [michelle@marigold.ab.ca](mailto:michelle@marigold.ab.ca)

### POLICY APPROVAL & DECISION

#### Policies and schedules reviewed and approved by the Marigold Board:

- Committee Mandate Statements
- Board Member Compensation
- Contingency Plan for Finance
- Collection Management
- IT Capacity Fund
- Resource Sharing
- Policy Making
- Operational Governance
- Procedural Bylaws
- Website

#### Library Service Points Policies:

- Accessibility for All Persons
- Collection Management
- Unattended Children
- Internet and Email Use by Library Staff
- Social Media

### INFORMATION & REPORTS

**Marigold Annual Report:** The Board approved the Report for distribution to stakeholders. Read more about Marigold's outstanding year at:

[www.marigold.ab.ca/annual-report](http://www.marigold.ab.ca/annual-report)

**Value of Your Investment** 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** 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 Assistant Director Laura Taylor for more information:**  
[laura@marigold.ab.ca](mailto:laura@marigold.ab.ca)

#### Board and Staff recognition

##### Marigold Board

- 5 years Jan Dyck (Longview)  
Susan Roper (Cochrane)
- 10 years John Getz (Standard)
- 15 years Lil Morrison (Starland County)  
Helen Veno (Special Areas)
- 20 years Kristen Anderson (Hussar)

##### Marigold HQ Staff

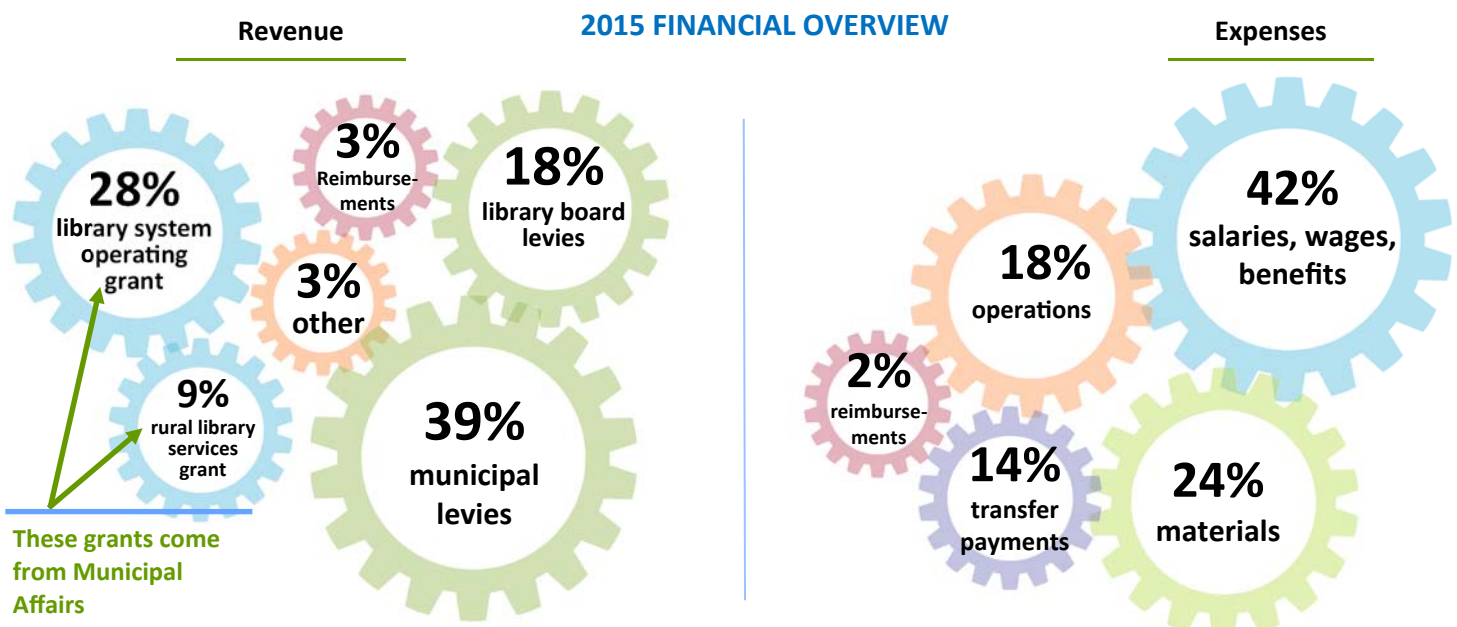
- 5 years Nora Ott (Administrative Asst)
- 10 years Albert Herr (Driver)  
Laura Taylor (Assistant Director)
- 30 years Carlee Pilikowski (Communications Specialist)

### IMPORTANT DATES

#### Upcoming Board Meetings

Saturday, August 20, 2016  
Canmore Public Library 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, November 19, 2016  
Crossfield 9:30 a.m.



Complete 2015 Audited Financial Statements are available upon request and at: [www.marigold.ab.ca/financial-information](http://www.marigold.ab.ca/financial-information)

## 2015 ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- Chair Lynda Lyster noted that 2015 was a tough year for Albertans while libraries emerged as “Beacons of Support” during the economic downturn.
- An astounding 475 consultation/IT visits were made to member libraries for training, IT support, orientations, weeding sessions and more. (↑63% increase over 2014)
- On the technology front, Minecraft video game (networked throughout Marigold) brought in new members and provided opportunities for computer literacy training and community engagement.
- Use of eResources went up dramatically in many cases. Kits and games such as giant Checkers, Yahtzee, giant Pick-up Sticks and life size Jenga continue to grow in use.
- Banff Public Library’s collection became fully shareable with the rest of Marigold, TRAC and beyond.
- A successful case was made to do a Feasibility Study in 2016 to gain a better understanding of the options and potential costs of acquiring a facility with greater capacity.

## MARIGOLD IS THRIVING!

### Across Marigold in 2015...

87,695 people / families with library cards  
 1,896,878 items loaned to Marigold cardholders ↑14%  
 814,879 items loaned & borrowed between libraries ↑30%  
 9,403 items checked out at Marigold libraries by MELibraries patrons (outside of TRAC)

eResource	Growing interest in online resources!	Increase
Cloud Library	13,476 eBooks downloaded	132% ↑
OverDrive	145,655 eBooks/eAudiobooks downloaded	15% ↑
Freegal	29,611 songs downloaded	26.2% ↑
TumbleBooks	8,098 children's books accessed	4.9% ↑
Hoopla	15,661 items streamed (movies, TV episodes etc)	124% ↑
Press Reader	23,185 newspaper views	107% ↑
Zinio	22,072 magazines downloaded	19.3% ↑
Solaro	19,233 instances used	New in 2015

## In the Press: Generous Donation to Hanna Library

**14 May, 2016 luncheon in memory of Mary Bye and in appreciation for the donation that Sandy Van Bussel has made to the Hanna Municipal Library, in Mary Bye's memory.** Mary Bye was a wholehearted supporter of literacy, reading and library services. She would often do recitations in the area. This endowment will ensure that Hanna Library can continue to promote literacy and reading in their community. It will be instrumental in the library’s efforts to create a space for the public to use as a resource for knowledge, training, exploring the visual arts and a meeting space. CEO Michelle Toombs and staff were honoured to attend this luncheon.



**L-R:** Mayor Chris Warwick - Town of Hanna, Jordon Christianson - Chair of Special Areas Board , Evange Lamson - Chair of Hanna Municipal Library Board , Sandy Van Bussel holding a photograph of her mother Mary Bye, Hon. Kevin Sorenson M.P. for Battle River-Crowfoot, CEO Michelle Toombs - Marigold Library System (at Willow Creek Country Gift Store & Bistro in Hanna)