

MARIGOLD REPORT



To Councils and
Special Areas Board

HIGHLIGHTS OF MARIGOLD BOARD MEETING August 29, 2015

Marigold Library System Board met Saturday, August 29 at the community centre in Gleichen, Alberta.

On behalf of Wheatland County, Rex Harwood provided greetings from the county, noting that: “ Libraries define a community and are affordable to everyone. Marigold’s services are needed and appreciated.” Lynda Lyster recognized new Board members: Stavros Karlos—Town of Banff, Ghada Wirth—I.D. 9 and Sharon King—Village of Beiseker. Lyster also welcomed guests Lois Bedwell, ALTA rep, and Bill Ptacek, CEO, Calgary Public Library.

MARIGOLD FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Marigold unaudited Financial Statements to July 31, 2015 were accepted for information. Marigold Library System is in a positive financial position.

- 75% of the Provincial Grant has been received; 25% will come later pending budget approval.
- Marigold replaced a van with a 2015 Honda Odyssey.
- Public Library Services Branch of Municipal Affairs is paying the monthly fees for the SuperNet.
- New eResource called *Lynda.com* was added to provide access to training tutorials on software, creative and business skills.

RISE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Unaudited RISE Financial Statements to July 31, 2015 were accepted for information. Marigold provides RISE bridging service for over 90 public libraries in Alberta. Several topical information sessions are being presented this fall in partnership with organizations such as Alberta Law Libraries.

2016 BUDGET ESTIMATES

Budget Estimates for 2016 were accepted. The \$4,940,926 Budget Estimate is 7% above the approved 2015 budget.

- Two municipalities joined Marigold in 2015 (Banff, I.D.9) and population has increased in municipalities surrounding Calgary.
As a result, Marigold extended delivery routes, increased IT services, insurance coverage and materials allocations.
- Increased expenditure estimates account for foreign exchange rates; renegotiated contracts for caretaking and landscaping; maintenance fees for aging infrastructure; furniture replacement; insurance and shipping costs.
- Marigold pays for contracts and eResource subscriptions based on total population. Examples of increased costs include the TRAC levy, TAL membership and eResource licensing.

Capital expenditures under consideration for 2016 include:

- Facility infrastructure repair
- Reclamation of work space in headquarters basement
- Server replacements
- Ergonomic upgrade in shipping and receiving area
- Replacement of tables and chairs in staff areas
- Delivery van replacement

Key initiatives included in 2016 Budget Estimates

- Rebranding, new logo, advocacy
- E-content & downloadable media investment
- Management skills training for board members and staff
- Internet capacity increase
- Website redesign for Marigold HQ and member libraries

Marigold’s goals and objectives for its upcoming Strategic Vision 2018 are supported in this budget estimate. Final Budget goes to the Marigold Board for approval in January 2016.

Contact Michelle Toombs for budget estimate concerns or questions:
michelle@marigold.ab.ca

INFORMATION

Bill Ptacek, CEO, Calgary Public Library spoke about the new central library being an important landmark that positions the library to be a fundamental cornerstone for Calgary residents. The new library is scheduled for completion in 2018. Ptacek has been instrumental in reshaping Calgary Public Library with impactful rebranding, eliminating library membership fees, and reducing collections to provide enhanced community gathering spaces.

IMPORTANT DATES

Upcoming Board Meetings

Saturday, November 14, 2015
Rockyford Community Centre, 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, January 30, 2016
Videoconference, 9:30 a.m.

MARIGOLD GEARS UP FOR STRATEGIC PLAN: VISION 2018

“ Marigold is starting this strategic plan process in a position of strength. ” — Anne Smith, Facilitator



Anne engages Board members in strategic planning for Marigold Library System.
— Marigold Board meeting August 29, 2015



Headquarters staff



Executive



Member library staff

TIMELINE — STRATEGIC PLAN 2016-2018:

July → Focus groups

Facilitator Anne Smith spent several days at Marigold HQ working with three different focus groups: Executive and Standards & Services Committees; headquarters staff; library managers from member libraries.

August 29 → Focus groups

Anne lead Board members through a process to evaluate which service areas should be priorities for Marigold.

All focus groups agreed that the current Vision Statement, *Leaders in Library Service and Innovation*, is strong and will serve Marigold Library System through 2016 - 2018.

September 29 → Establish goals and objectives

The preparation of the Strategic Plan and formulation of goals and objectives will be led by the Standards and Services Committee, based on Anne's summary report.

November 14 → Present VISION 2018 to the Board

Strategic Plan 2016—2018 will be presented at the Marigold Board meeting in November.

SAIT students appreciate learning about Marigold and regional library systems

at Marigold headquarters: September 3, 2014



Thirty-five LIT (Library and Information Technology) students and two instructors from SAIT spent the afternoon touring and learning about Marigold. The group was divided into two parts, because there is not enough space at Marigold where 35 people can meet together.

This is the first time that SAIT has visited Marigold. The LIT curriculum has not included library systems in the past. Students were impressed with the range of Marigold's IT services and resources provided to members. This was an opportunity to educate the students about the value library systems offer to the library community and may help with recruitment in the future.