

# MARIGOLD REPORT



To Councils and  
Special Areas Board

## HIGHLIGHTS OF MARIGOLD BOARD MEETING

**November 14, 2015**

Marigold Library System Board met Saturday, November 14 in the Rockyford Community Centre.

Mayor Darcy Burke provided greetings. He thanked Marigold for an impressive return on Rockyford's investment and noted that Marigold provides value to the community. Chair Lynda Lyster welcomed new Board member Guss Nash -Village of Carbon and guest Pam Medland - Director, Airdrie Public Library.

## FINANCIAL

**Draft Budget estimates for 2016, 2017 and 2018 were accepted for information.**

Marigold's estimated budget for 2016 is \$4,981,426 (8% above the Board-approved 2015 budget). 2014 population (from Municipal Affairs) is 280,855, which is an 8% increase from 2013 population.

Marigold's goals and objectives for its upcoming Strategic Vision 2018 are supported in this budget estimate. Key considerations for the draft budget include:

- Increased service population accounts for added service costs, such as extended delivery routes, increased insurance coverage and materials allocations.
- Increased expenditure estimates account for foreign exchange rates; renegotiated contracts for caretaking, landscaping; maintenance fees for aging infrastructure; furniture replacement; insurance and shipping costs.
- Marigold pays for contracts and eResource subscriptions based on total

population. Other examples of increased costs include the TRAC levy, TAL membership and eResource licensing.

**Draft Capital/Projects Budget 2016 was accepted for information:** Expenditures in the coming year include: van replacement, IT expenditures to improve the network outlined in a revised Tech Plan, increasing Internet capacity, a new website, a new logo, basement room refurbishment, roof structure replacement, furniture replacement, and an HQ facility feasibility study.

For questions or comments regarding Marigold's budget, contact CEO Michelle Toombs: [michelle@marigold.ab.ca](mailto:michelle@marigold.ab.ca)

## DECISION

MARIGOLD MEMBERS AND STAFF FULLY COMMITTED TO PROVIDING EXCEPTIONAL PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE

**Marigold Library System, VISION 2018: Strategic Plan 2016-2018** was approved.

The objectives define strategies and performance measures that Marigold Library System will pursue to achieve four major goals over the next three years. These goals respond to the five most

critical challenges facing Marigold as identified by respondents to Marigold's Strategic Planning Survey:

- funding for Marigold to support service to a growing population
- limited functional space at Headquarters restricting Marigold operations
- getting the word out about Marigold and the value of libraries
- ability to assist member libraries in meeting changing and increasing demands for library services and content
- balancing traditional services and new services requiring different resources and expertise

Focus groups overwhelmingly agreed that space limitations facing Marigold Headquarters impact the organization's ability to take effective action in other areas such as increasing services and enhancing technology.

Vision 2018 is a seamless transition from Vision 2015 with continued emphasis on service, training & professional development, communication and advocacy. Read the plan at: [www.marigold.ab.ca/plan-service](http://www.marigold.ab.ca/plan-service)

VISION 2018 —GOALS		SERVICE AREAS
1	Marigold will invest in its operational assets and capacity to allow for service expansion.	Headquarters
2	Marigold will increase its services to member libraries, as space at Headquarters and staff time permit.	Service Delivery
3	The Marigold Community will better understand the purpose and value of Marigold.	Advocacy and Communication
4	Marigold will capitalize upon and nurture the knowledge, skills, and abilities of its Community.	Training and Professional Development

## Community Libraries Plans of Service 2016-2018 were approved.

Community libraries (library service points) are located in hamlets across the Marigold region. Marigold Library System is the board of record for member municipalities where community libraries are located. There are six community libraries in the Marigold region.

Led by Standards and Services Committee with support and advice from Marigold Library System consultation staff, the Community Libraries prepared and distributed a survey, gathered verbal feedback from the community and drafted Plans of Service. Public Library Services Branch recognized Marigold as a leader in engaging every community to express their voice in setting their goals for the next three years.

## The following policies were reviewed/revised/approved by Marigold Board:

- ✓ Hours of Service - Community Library Services Points
  - ✓ Contingency Plan for Finance
  - ✓ Programs
  - ✓ Consultation (deleted - covered elsewhere)
  - ✓ Advocacy (deleted - covered elsewhere)
  - ✓ Expansion Plan (deleted - covered elsewhere)
  - ✓ Integration of Members into Marigold
  - ✓ Advocacy Committee Statement
  - ✓ Board Meetings
  - ✓ Public Access to the Internet - Library Service Points
- Marigold Board Policy Manual is online at:

[www.marigold.ab.ca/PolicyAndPlanning](http://www.marigold.ab.ca/PolicyAndPlanning)

## UPDATES AND INFORMATION

### Marigold advocates for headquarters infrastructure funding:

The need for repairs and upgrades to Marigold's undersized 65 year old Headquarters building is increasingly urgent and beyond the capacity of Marigold's budget. Appeal letters were recently mailed to Minister of Municipal Affairs Danielle Larivee and Infrastructure Minister Brian Mason asking for advice or support

to acquire funding to expand or relocate to a more functional facility that is in the size range of other regional library system headquarters in Alberta.

Marigold's service population has increased by 2 ½ times in ten years making it the third largest of all the library systems in Alberta based on population (after Calgary and Edmonton).

Marigold will be hiring an architectural firm to conduct a feasibility study in 2016 to better understand affordable options and estimated costs.

## SCHEDULE C COMMITTEE SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

Schedule C is the last page of the Marigold Agreement that lists the years and levy rates for three types of levies:

- municipalities without library boards
- municipalities with library boards
- library board levies

A Schedule C ad hoc committee is formed every two or three years to propose the per capita levy rates, and to prepare and present the Schedule C Amendment for consideration by the Executive Committee and Marigold Board. The committee reviews all angles of Marigold's financial well-being, factors impacting member municipalities, economic forecast and Marigold's strategic plan.

This ad hoc Committee is needed again to recommend levy rates in 2017 and beyond.

### 2016 Freedom to Read Week Proclaimed by Marigold Chair

Member libraries, councils and residents are encouraged to Celebrate Freedom to Read February 21-27. The proclamation will be sent to local libraries and councils. Find more information at [www.freedomtoread.ca](http://www.freedomtoread.ca)

## UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

### Saturday, January 30, 2016

Videoconference, 9:30 a.m.

### Saturday, April 23, 2016

AGM, at Strathmore Alliance Church, 9:30 a.m.

### Saturday, August 20, 2016

Canmore, 9:30 a.m.

### Saturday, November 19, 2016

Crossfield, 9:30 a.m.



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