

## Member Library News

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### Chestermere Public Library's New Children's Play Space



In order to support an aging library space and to support play as an essential activity contributing to the health and success of the community's children, the City of Chestermere Library Board made a significant investment in the construction of pirate-themed play space. The play space includes integrated learning games, play equipment, and a digital play screen. The Library Board hired Keebee Play to design and install the new space. The project took over a year from conception to full implementation, with a kickoff on Canada Day 2022. The design included a 'nested' and enclosed space for babies, a pirate

ship, wall panels, and flooring that resembles water and sand to complete the experience. The materials utilized in the space are durable and can be easily cleaned and sanitized. Characters in the space represent the diversity in the community. Additionally, the library was able to engage Qualico Communities to be a featured and partial sponsor.

Why play at the library? Play is considered fundamental in public libraries, and many different types of strategies have been implemented to encourage play. Successful libraries such as Calgary Public Library (with their many Early Learning Centres featuring play items and play infrastructure) have integrated play into their spaces. Play is also a key practice outlined by the Public Library Association's (of the American Library Association) Every Child Ready to Read at your Library curriculum (5 Key curriculum practices- sing, talk, read, write, play-as a parental "practices" to encourage child development). Adding play to public library spaces provides adults and children the opportunity to learn and create relationships through play, in a safe and inclusive environment. According to the United Nations, play is considered a basic right of children (Article 31).

Since the kickoff of the new space this summer, library door count has increased considerably. One parent told staff that she can't tell her child that they are coming to the library until right beforehand because the child is so excited to be coming to the library now, that he will not sleep the night before. Staff observe families spending many hours in the space reading and playing and many more community members use the space to connect with friends.

The best outcome for us has been the positive "buzz" it has created in the community. The community is talking about the library- this has been the best possible return on investment for the project (besides the smiles and laughter of the children)!

Submitted by Miranda Johnson  
Executive Director  
Chestermere Public Library



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## Bighorn Summer Reading Program



We've had a fantastic summer at Bighorn Library. For a hamlet of under 500 people, we had a great turn out for our Summer Reading Program. Every summer, Bighorn Library creates a fun tracking system for the pages read. This year, Ms Bonnie, made 2600 beads (yes, made herself) that we strung up so the participants could see their discs in

action. Every time a person made it all the way around, they got a prize. This year we had donations from Exshaw's Heart Mountain Store for fries and a pop, and movie tickets from the Banff Lux cinema. We don't have to tell you how excited those kids were when they lapped. A few made it around 3+ times. The fun didn't stop there. We had weekly crafts and games that everyone enjoyed. The Magic of Science was a HUGE hit. They loved making slime (who doesn't?). The kids had a blast playing with the large games outside in the sun too. Jenga and the



bean bag toss are always the go to games around here.

Overall, we had 31 kids sign up, ages 0-13, that read over 95, 671 pages in two months! We even had 3 teens sign up online for the Marigold teen challenges - a first for us! Our wind-up party saw lots of happy faces as they chose their prizes for a job well done. We are super proud of the Exshaw kidlets and hope that we beat our record next summer.

Submitted by Tara Harrison  
Program Developer  
Bighorn Library

## Marigold News



### Library Leaders Meeting

Every fall, Marigold hosts a Library Leaders Meeting, a day-long workshop focused on a specific topic relevant to our member libraries. The meeting is geared towards Library Managers, but staff in an assistant capacity such as Assistant Manager and/or local Board Chairs are welcome to attend.

This year, the Library Leaders Meeting will be hosted on **October 12th from 9:00-4:00** in the Marigold Library System & Western Irrigation District Community Room.

The topic for this year is Corporate Storytelling with Joan Marie Galat. Joan is an author, storyteller, and freelance writer. Please see the additional details below, provided by Joan, for options prior to the October 12th meeting.

#### Ordering Books

If any libraries would like to order books in advance of the workshop, please contact [Jenn Laskosky](#) with a detailed list of the items you would like to purchase by Tuesday, October 4, 2022. Joan will bring the items on the day of to help avoid shipping costs. View the list of books [here](#).

#### Additional Sessions

Joan will be available for in-person science and literacy building author visits/presentations October 13th-14th, within about an hour's drive of Calgary. If you are interested in arranging an in-person session for your library, visit [here](#) for more information. Joan also, generally, provides Zoom sessions outside of the above dates.

To attend the Library Leaders meeting RSVP to [Jennifer Muckle](#) by Tuesday, October 4, 2022. Please indicate any food restrictions that you have. Marigold encourages carpooling, but will pay for mileage costs for up to two participants from each library. If you require overnight accommodation before the meeting, please indicate that as well when you RSVP. Please forward this information to your library board chairs, as they

are welcome to attend as well.

If you have any questions, please contact [Laura Taylor](#) and [Jenn Laskosky](#).

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## Library Coffee Chats

Join Marigold for our monthly library coffee chats! Connect with other libraries in the Marigold region to discuss new resources, library programs, and other library related topics. Coffee chats are aimed at library managers, however, if a manager is unable to attend, another staff member is welcome to join.

At our September chat we had BiblioLabs demonstrate their product as a potential new eResource for Marigold! BiblioLab is a resource that libraries can work with their community to create, share and discover multimedia. It can host ePubs, PDFs, primary source materials, articles, audio, video and images. This is beneficial for any libraries who have patrons who have writing groups and would like to publish their books. They have an [Indie Author Project](#) in which authors are able to submit eBooks directly to the library which can lead to expanded discovery, distribution, and networking opportunities. More information about BiblioBoard and the Indie Author Project can be found [here](#).

October's chat will have a discussion to help with Marigold's Strategic planning that is due in 2023!

Our next Library Coffee Chat will be held **Wednesday October 5th at 1:30pm**. We will have a second session on **Thursday October 27th at 1:30** for the smaller Marigold libraries.

Join the October 5 Chat

Join the October 27 Chat

## Marigold Resources

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### eResources Challenge: Pronunciator

It's time for another challenge! This month's eResources Challenge is **Pronunciator**. Pronunciator is a great eResource to help you build new language skills.

Complete the eResources Challenge this month and earn another entry into our grand prize draw at the end

of December. Congratulations to Cheryl who won the draw for a \$50 gift card after completing our May-August challenges!





Want to know how you did on previous eResource Challenges or need a refresher on how the challenge works? Check out the [Marigold website](#) for more information.

Take the Challenge

## Marigold Library Manager Feature



### Miranda Johnson, Chestermere Public Library

**How long have you been the manager/director**

Almost two years.

**How did you get started working in libraries?**

My husband was in a course with the head of HR for a library system. He told her that he thought his wife would be an amazing librarian. The rest is history.

**What do you enjoy most about working in the library?**

I love the people and the learning. I learn something new everyday. I also love working as a team. My library passions are: library programming, rearranging the library space, and talking with staff and the community.

**What is your favourite library memory?**

I had a library patron call in at closing, stating her father had passed away. She was looking for music for a song about a rainbow. Before I started a search, I stated- is the song, "Somewhere over the rainbow" from the Wizard of Oz. Then I sang the song. She started crying and said "yes, that was his favourite". I was also asked to speak on behalf of the library at a Citizenship Ceremony.

**What are you currently reading?**

I like to read several books at once. I am concurrently reading: *Atlas of the Heart* by Brene Brown, *Strengths Based Leadership* from Gallup, & *The Lady Has a Past* by Amanda Quick

We want to hear from you! If you are a Marigold library director/manager and would like to be featured in our newsletter, please fill out a [short survey](#) here.

## Indigenous Information

### Indigenous Advisory Group

Marigold Library System established an Indigenous Advisory Group in October 2017. The group is made up of library staff from all over Marigold and several staff members from Marigold Library System, including myself.

We meet twice a year in the spring and autumn, most recently by Zoom of course, but we are hoping by spring of 2023, it will be an in-person event at the beautiful new Marigold Headquarters. The meetings are a supportive environment to share concerns, ask questions and share your own wonderful programming ideas.

Our agendas are created with input from our members so that we can best meet your needs.

Statistics Canada tells us that 69.9% of Indigenous people live off of reserves, mostly in urban settings but with 17.4% in rural areas. Even if your library is not situated near a reserve, there are many potential Indigenous library patrons within your community.

Any librarian interested would be most welcome to join us, you do not have to be an expert in Indigenous outreach. You may have an interest in supporting your own library patrons on matters surrounding Truth and Reconciliation, collection development, programming ideas and hosting cultural events are also all fun ways to increase your library's profile in your community.

If you would like someone from your library to take part in our next meeting, please send an email to me at [rose@marigold.ab.ca](mailto:rose@marigold.ab.ca) and I will add you to the email list when I am creating the agenda for our October meeting!

Submitted by Rose Reid  
Indigenous Outreach Specialist  
Marigold Library System

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## GEDI Indigenous Webinars

The Gateway to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Hub is offering several Indigenous webinars this month for their September Indigenous History Fireside Chat Series.

### **Indigenous History: Reconciliation- How did we end up here?**

Jaylene and Vince will guide us through what Reconciliation means to them personally, how colonialism has affected their lives, and the impact

### **Indigenous History: Decolonization- Current Impacts of Colonialism**

There is still a lot of work to be done when it comes to Truth and Reconciliation within our communities and across Canada. Jaylene and Vince discuss serious

### **Indigenous History: Indigenization- Where do we go from here?**

Indigenization may not be a term you're familiar with but it's every bit an important step in the Truth and Reconciliation process. Not only is it

it's had on their workplace experiences, within their communities and beyond.

**September 15 @ 12:00**

Register

concerns that still plague Indigenous peoples at home and in the workplace and the actions that must be taken to restore equity, and a path forward to true reconciliation.

**September 22 @ 12:00**

Register

critical to deconstruct colonialism, but to also encourage and support Indigenous employees to bring their true selves to work. Jaylene and Vince walk us through examples of what this might look like.

**September 29 @ 12:00**

Register

**Jaylene Martial** is a member of Cold Lake First Nations raised in the Edmonton area, mother of 3 humans and 2 fur babies. Graduated from the University of Alberta from the Faculty of Native Studies. She is a strong advocate for peoples' rights.

**Vincent Wells** is a member of the Kainai First Nation, one of the four nations that make up the Blackfoot Confederacy. He considers himself to be a "Jack of all trades" and a multi-disciplined Artist, who has lived and worked in southern Alberta, working in the construction industry for over 20 years. Vince has been engaging with the business sector and serving the Blood Tribe community firsthand for the past ten years, encouraging and empowering people to reach their full potential. Vince is one to find opportunities and inspire growth through engagement. He is also into guerilla art and utilizing the form to bring about change. In his spare time, Vince loves hiking mountain trails and twisting wrenches.

## From the Literary Community

### 2023 Book Bash Canadian Children's Literature Festival

The Toronto Public Library Foundation is now accepting applications from Canadian public libraries to host the [2023 Book Bash Canadian Children's Literature Festival!](#)

Book Bash is a fun-filled, free children's festival featuring a variety of activities and programs with Canadian children's authors, illustrators and entertainers. The Festival promotes reading and recognizes Canada's talented writers and illustrators of children's books. Funding for the Festival, up to \$20,000, is thanks to the generous support of the Muller Scholastic Endowment Fund for Canadian



All Canadian public libraries interested in hosting Book Bash in 2023 are [invited to apply](#) by **October 17, 2022**.

For further information about Book Bash or hosting the Festival, please feel free to contact Liza Fernandes, at [lfernandes@tpl.ca](mailto:lfernandes@tpl.ca)

## Professional Development

### Online Engagement Practices

**September 20th @ 1:30**

**Presented by Fortune Whelan (Canmore Public Library) and hosted by Marigold Library System**

If there's one thing the past couple of years has taught us, it's to be resilient, and when used properly, newsletters and social media are our friends. Want to improve your library's newsletter click rate? Increase your library's visibility on Instagram? Create more engagement on Facebook? In this session, we will cover:

- A step-by-step newsletter onboarding process
- Newsletter automation creation for higher click rates and engagement
- Content your patrons want to see





- How to use tools such as Canva and Promo Republic to create eye-catching and engaging posts
- Auto-searching social media posts
- How to utilize Link Tree
- How to host a Facebook party

Register

Online engagement is one of the best ways to keep in touch with our patrons...let's make our online presence count.

This session will be approximately 45 minutes, with time for questions after.

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## Stronger Together

Stronger Together is a free, fully virtual library conference for the Alberta library community. Started in 2020 as a response to the global pandemic, Stronger Together has since welcomed thousands of participants from around Alberta, Canada, and the world. In a time of global uncertainty, Stronger Together demonstrates how libraries leverage collaboration, teamwork and technology to thrive amid adversity. Please save the date and plan to join your colleagues on **October 6 and 7** as Alberta Libraries (and beyond) become Stronger Together!



Register

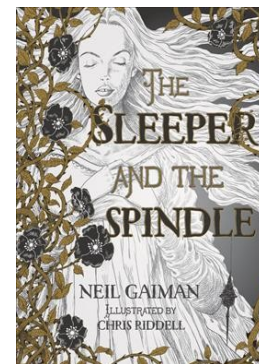
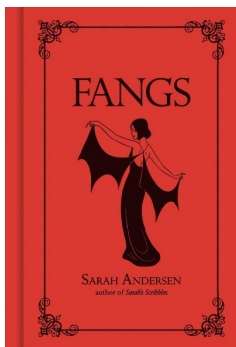
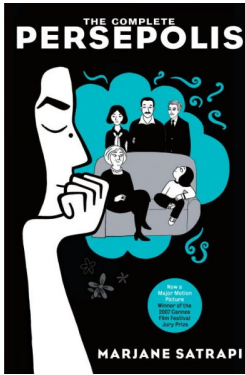
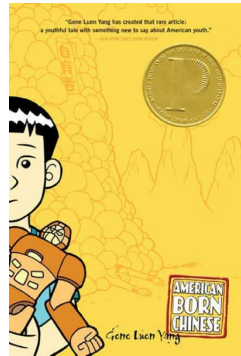
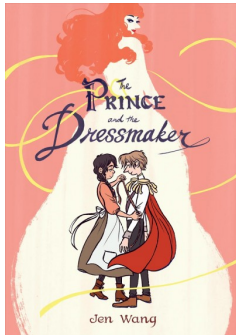
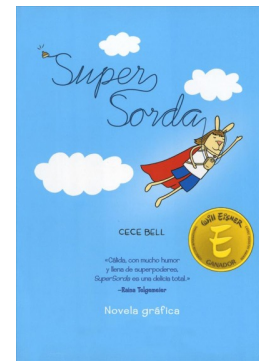
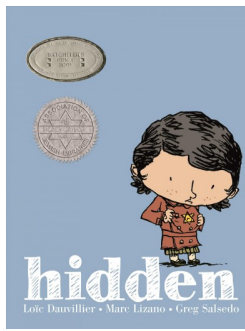
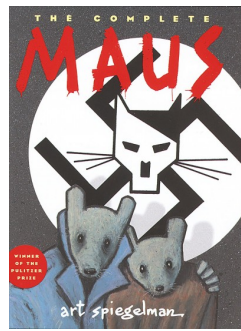
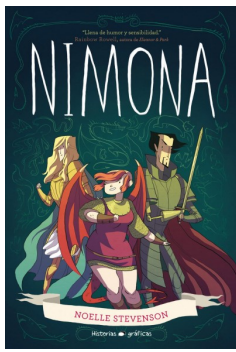
## Standalone Graphic Novels

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Do you want to read a graphic novel but don't want to commit to an entire series?

Try these standalone graphic novels!

Click on the book cover for a full synopsis.



## Share with Us!

What's happening in your library? We'd love to hear from you!

- News or updates about your library
- Programs or events you'd like to share
- Pictures of your library or events at your library

Email your Consultant with any newsletter submissions you'd like to share with the Marigold Community.

[Subscribe Now!](#)

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