



Marigold is a Library System defined by the Alberta Libraries Act and Regulation and established in 1981.

- Marigold is a not-for-profit collective for municipalities to provide affordable, state of the art public library services and support. Cost savings and efficiencies are achieved with volume discounts, by consolidating work and by providing expert consultation.
- Marigold is not a public library, nor does it overlap services with public libraries. Local libraries provide the place (building), service (staff) and community connection. Marigold provides the “product” (e.g., materials, IT infrastructure, consultation and behind the scenes support), and it supports a province-wide network of sharing print, AV and electronic resources, as well as mail service.
- Marigold also provides online library services for the public such as websites and digital resources.
- Marigold’s headquarters, centrally located in Strathmore, Alberta (50 km east of Calgary), has 29 employees; 26.87 FTE

## Service Population

- With 326,355 Albertans in its service area, Marigold Library System is the third largest library system in Alberta based on population (after Calgary & Edmonton)
- One of 7 rural library systems in Alberta
- Serves 43 municipalities, 36 member library boards, 36 libraries including 6 full service libraries located in unincorporated communities (hamlets), 11 book deposits, 2 inter-library loan pickup lockers, Siksika and Stoney Nakoda Nations
- 43 municipalities belong to Marigold and there are 43 representatives on Marigold’s Board
- Acts as the Board of Record for 12 municipalities that do not have their own library boards
- 9 school-housed public libraries

## Collaborations

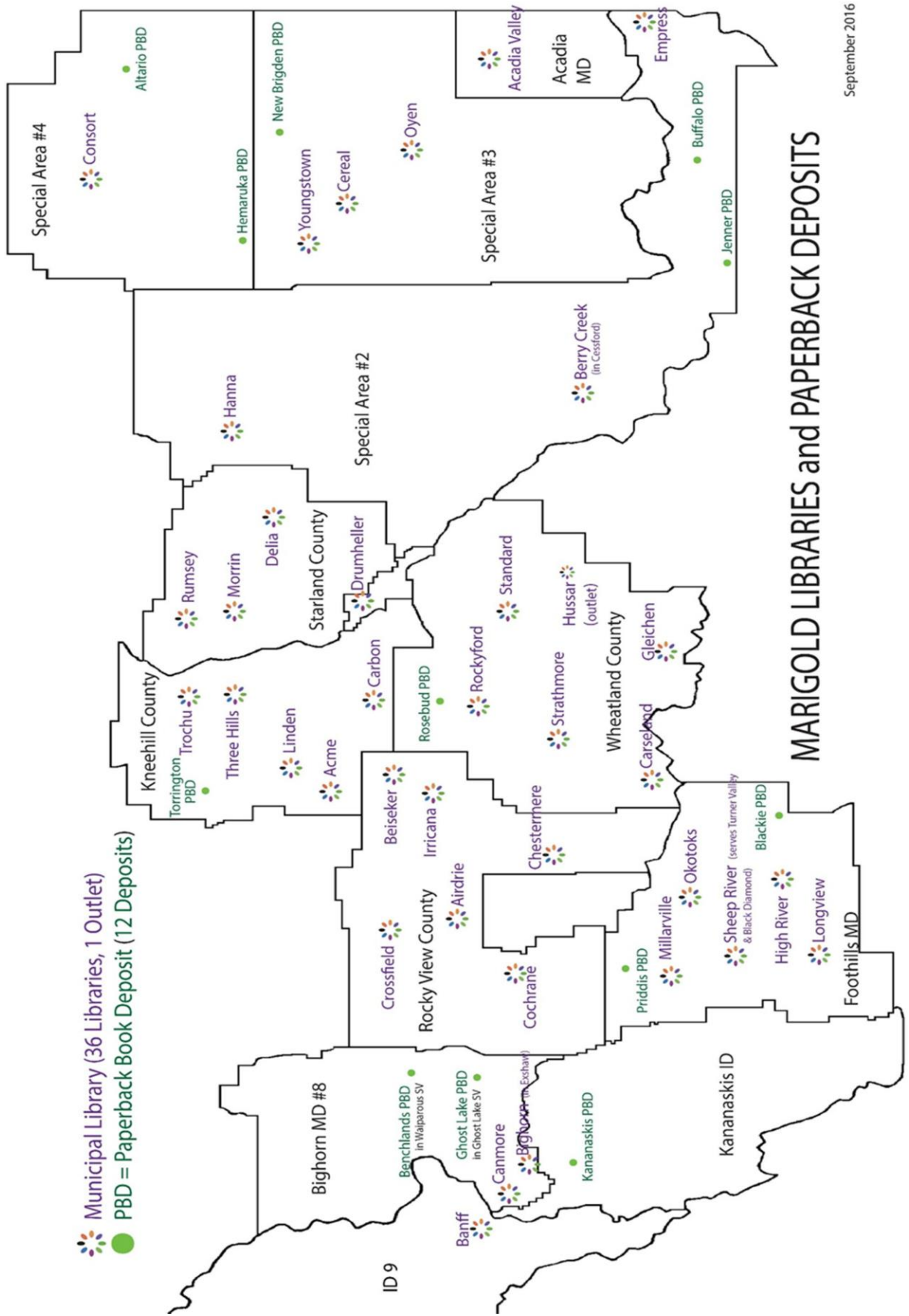
- TRAC (The Regional Library Automation Consortium) with Marigold, Peace, Northern Lights and Yellowhead Library Systems
- TRAC’s 180 libraries share one catalogue database to facilitate sharing of materials
- TAL (The Alberta Library) for database licensing and union catalogue for Alberta’s public, academic and special libraries
- PPG (Calgary and Area Public Purchasing Group); discounts and shared contracts
- WID (Western Irrigation District); co-owned and co-located building project to replace headquarters facilities and capitalize on operational efficiencies

## Financial

- Annual budget: \$5.3 Million in 2021
- \$996,467 in operating reserve (2 to 3 months contingency)
- \$3 Million in capital reserves for a new building
- Registered charity; fully audited every year
- 63% of revenue comes from municipal and library board levies based on a per capita levy rate multiplied by official municipal population (as defined by Municipal Affairs)
- 25% of funding comes from Municipal Affairs as a library system operating grant
- 8% of funding comes from Municipal Affairs for rural residents because Marigold is the Board of Record for 12 rural municipalities. All of this revenue is redirected to member libraries throughout Marigold
- Support for 6 libraries located in unincorporated communities with annual cash payments of \$9,760 each: Exshaw, Millarville, Carseland, Gleichen, Rumsey, Cessford

**MISSION:** Marigold cultivates a collaborative library community to support a range of responsive, quality library services.

 Municipal Library (36 Libraries, 1 Outlet)  
 PBD = Paperback Book Deposit (12 Deposits)



**MARIGOLD LIBRARIES and PAPERBACK DEPOSITS**