

Lougheed and District Public Library

Mission

**“The Village of Lougheed
Library Board is committed to
improving the quality of life of
our rural and urban residents
through the provision of the
optimal library resources and
services possible”**

Village of Lougheed

Community Profile

The Village of Lougheed was incorporated in 1911. The community is located on the south side of Highway 13 and aligns with the Canadian Pacific Rail Line. Lougheed is part of the Flagstaff County which is branded the “Community of communities”. The Village of Lougheed is one of 10 communities in the Flagstaff Region, each offering its own unique set of attractions. For residents and visitors alike, the Village has something to offer in all seasons. The community is proud of the camping and picnic locations, trout pond, Iron Creek Museum, library and sports grounds.

Over the years, community volunteers and groups have rallied to offer programs and events to attract people of all ages. The arena, now known as the Lougheed Field House, is a turfed facility that has a fitness center, bouncy houses and it is used year-round for community engagements, indoor sports and events.

Within an area of 50 kilometers, there is a wide variety of services, businesses, recreational and cultural groups available. Although high-speed internet is available in limited areas, local transmissions of cell phone, and internet cannot sufficiently be accessed, especially not for rural landowners.

Library Profile

The Lougheed Women's Institute created the first library in Lougheed in 1975. The original library was situated in an old post office and was called the Lougheed Women's Institute Community Library. In 1982, it was moved to its current location, a brand-new building containing both the library and town office. At this time, the library changed its name to Lougheed and District Public Library.

Funds are received by provincial grant, village grant, Agriculture Society Recreational grant, Enbridge and an allotment by the Parkland Regional Library of which we are a member. Other monetary support comes from fund raising projects such as a bottle drive, and VIP meat fundraisers. In addition, there is a large amount of support from individual donators.

Library Board of Directors

Joanne Rarick (Chairperson)

Lana Teers (Secretary)

Jean Frost

Tyrion Rosiechuk

Sylvia Burden

John Johnsen (Village Rep)

Carol Clarke

Maggie Anderson

Library Staff

Barbara McConnell (Library Manager)

Currently, the Lougheed Library offers a variety of services to the community. This includes access to three public computer stations, with high-speed and wireless internet. At present, we have a large collection of books including audio books (adult and children), adult, junior, early and young adult non-fiction and fiction, large print material, DVDs, Nordic poles, snowshoes, a croquet set, TELUS Smart Hub, Fortis Power Monitor and magazine and puzzle swaps.

We offer delivery of all material to home bound patrons. We have access to material for print disabled through CNIB. Through Libby and Overdrive our patrons are able to download e-books, e-audiobooks, and e-magazines. Each year we participate in the Toronto Dominion Reading Club, offering an opportunity for school, preschool children to come do crafts, games, win prizes and continue to read throughout the summer.

We offer our library space for Parkland Regional Library workshops and partner with various organizations such as Alberta Children's Rehabilitation Service, and Alberta Health Services. Our biggest partnership is with the Flagstaff Community Adult Learning center for caregiver workshops, and health and wellness sessions and accommodate them to facilitate the Building Blocks Family Literacy Program at the library. This is a well-attended program and is a tremendous asset to the community.

Brief Summary of Annual Report Statistics

2021/2022

Library Memberships 2021 – 113 2022 - 121

Library Visits 2021 – 1500 est. 2022 – 2250 est.

Total Collection 2021 – 9,934 2022 – 10,031

Resource Sharing

Items Borrowed from other libraries 2013 – 1,312 2018 – 554

2021 – 982 2022 - 792

Items Loaned to other libraries 2013 – 1,887 2018 – 2,748

2021 – 3,482 2022 – 3,756

Plan of Service Process

On May 1/2023, a number of interested members of the district and community came together to form the development of a new five-year plan of service for the Village of Loughed Library.

Before this meeting, a survey was sent out to all our patrons, posted on social medias, left in various spots around town as in the Village office, and the post office so that we could get good feedback from the community. We had 31 surveys filled out electronically and 5 surveys done in person.

At the meeting on May 1/2023, participants brainstormed, to determine the strengths, weaknesses and challenges that the Village of Loughed and district face. We were very pleased to have two facilitators from Parkland Regional Library help us with this project. They guided the meeting, collected necessary data and provided us with the compiled information.

It was decided that this data, as well as a look at the library's resources and organizational capacity, would determine the best library service responses needed. After consultation, it was determined that the following Library Services Responses be selected for our five-year plan.

1. Visit a Comfortable Physical Place

2. Community Health & Wellness: Resources and Services

3. Express Creativity: Create & Share

Visit a Comfortable Physical Space

Goal:

Residents of the community will have a safe and welcoming space for relaxation, socialization, and enjoyment.

Objective:

By the end of 2029, there will be an increase of total annual visits to the library by 10% from our current 2023 total of 2250 visits.



To encourage people in our community to visit our library, we will offer free one-year memberships, for a one-year trial.



The library will provide a comfortable atmosphere and physical place for patrons. We will put in a coffee nook, so patrons can socialize. Depending on funds, new furniture, refresher paint job, and new rug could be in the future plans.



The library board and manager will seek ways and opportunities to create new and welcoming areas in the library. We will create a cozy adult reading area, and provide more passive programming like jig-saw

puzzles, diamond dot painting to encourage gathering.

*Community Health & Wellness:
Resources and Services*

Goal:




Residents will have the ability to access programs, services, and activities provided by community agencies and organizations in partnership with the library regarding their health and wellness.

Objective:

Each year, at least four programs will be offered to enhance the community's need for information on health, wellness, nutrition or mental health issues. These programs may be offered in partnership with Flagstaff Adult Learning or Alberta Health Services or other avenues that are available for partnership.



Make partner organizations aware that the library welcomes user groups' access to our facilities.

-  Contact organizations on a regular basis to ensure they are aware of our desire to share in planning and preparation of programs within the community. This has been started in late 2023, with numerous agencies involved in Zoom meetings collaborating to present different programs of need.
-  Present more opportunities for the community and especially the seniors to socialize and interact with each other, such as Village Pot Luck night. This helps with their mental health and decrease their feelings of isolation from family and community.
-  Get volunteers to deliver books to the seniors, especially in the winter and visit with them. We already do house delivery but we would try to spend some quality time with them.

Express Creativity: Create and Share

Goal:

To be able to offer programs and services in our community that would increase their

creativity, while enhancing their leisure time.

Objective:

The library will offer a minimum of four different programs offered annually, whether it's a weekly or monthly endeavor. Participants will be asked to do an evaluation, and at least 50% will agree it was a great time and experience.



Offer craft night, whether it be knitting, crocheting, or other crafts for adults, and children. Get someone to teach knitting or crocheting.



Star gazing evening, bonfire and treats.



Lego club after school for the children.



Games night, board games or video games.



Bring in a teacher/local expert to do showcases on different topics, for example photography, home repair, gardening, mechanics.



The library will strive to keep our non-fiction current in areas of interest such as crafts, hobbies, and current trends.

Approval by Board

The Lougheed and District Library Board in accordance with Alberta Regulation AR141/98 have prepared the Plan of Service for the Lougheed Public Library for 2024-2029. The board and staff of the library are committed to implementing this plan of service, reviewing it regularly to monitor progress in achieving goals, and updating the plan as needed.

The Library Board met on January 8/24. A motion was made to approve the Plan of Service; the vote for approval was unanimous.