

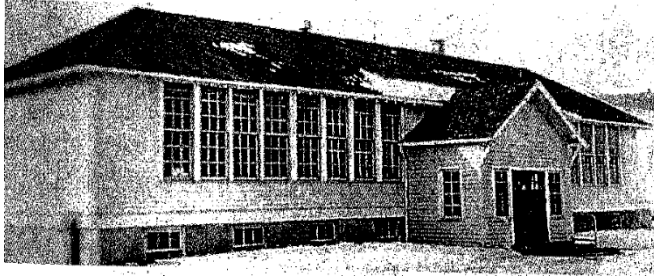


# **SUNDRE MUNICIPAL LIBRARY PLAN OF SERVICE 2022 - 2025**

Approved by the Town of Sundre Library Board on October 20, 2021

## History of the Sundre Library

The Sundre Municipal Library was established in 1949, and was first housed at the Women's Institute Hall. Library volunteers took a three-day course which qualified them to serve as librarians. In its early years the Library was open only one day per week, and it was closed for July and August.



By 1956, the library collection had expanded to over 4,000 books and 500 more were being added every year. When the library outgrew its space, it moved to the old home economics building by the school.

After a time, the library was moved into a building beside the town hall. Due to ongoing issues with flooring and the shelving, which collapsed under the heavy load of books, the library was moved into a small space in the fire hall.



In 1976, a new library was created in the basement of Wild Rose Court, the town's first government-sponsored residence for seniors. Library supporters raised the \$30,000 necessary for this project by selling 'bricks'. In 1980, the library joined the Parkland Regional Library System resulting in increased funding, as well as access to a wider range of books for patrons. With PRL membership came provincial funding in the amount of \$3 per capita.



The library moved to its current home in the Sundre Community Centre in 2006. New features of this facility included a spacious children's area, an expanded adult section, and public computer stations.



The Friends of the Sundre Municipal Library Society was established in 2005 with the purpose of aiding the library in fund-raising and financial support, especially with regards to capital purchases.

Our Library currently employs one full-time Library Manager, two part-time Library Assistants (one of whom is the Library Programmer) and one or two casual workers depending on the Library schedule and requirements. The Library also hires a full-time Summer Reading Club Coordinator each year, from mid-June through August.



Celebrating 70 years in December 2019!

## **Description of Community Engagement Process**

As we began the process of updating our Plan of Service, it became clear that restrictions on group gatherings due to Covid-19 would prevent traditional forms of community engagement. Using a survey format to discern community needs was discussed but as the Library Board prepared to develop a survey, we were invited to participate in an extensive community needs assessment being conducted by the local FCSS (Greenwood Neighbourhood Place).

The preliminary report from this assessment was released in May 2021, reflecting the responses of 422 participants from the Town of Sundre and Mountain View County, local schools and service providers, seniors' supports and community groups.

In preparing our new Plan of Service, the Library Board used the information in the report to consider areas identified as community needs which could be addressed through library services and chose appropriate service responses.

This document was presented to the Town of Sundre Library Board on 20 October, 2021 and adopted at that meeting.

### **Library Trustees, 2021**

Anton Walker, chair  
Laura Skorodenski, vice chair  
Simon Ducatel, secretary  
Jodi Orr, treasurer  
Wendy Botheras  
Lynda Lyster  
Wendy Murphy  
Pat Toone  
Richard Warnock

## VISION

The Sundre Library is a welcoming, inclusive centre for literacy, leisure, creativity and lifelong learning.

## MISSION

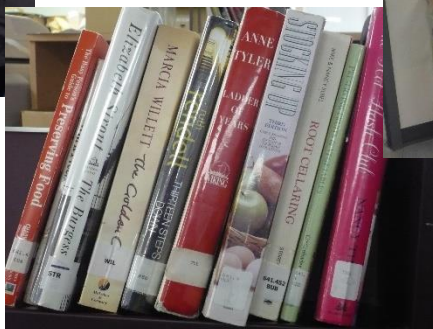
To provide materials, services, programs, information and resource connections which help the citizens of Sundre and area to flourish.

## STATEMENT OF VALUES

The Sundre Municipal Library is a member of the Parkland Regional Library system and fully subscribes to best practices in Library procedures and services as established by the Public Library Services Branch (Alberta Municipal Affairs) and the Library Association of Alberta.

We believe the Library has a part to play in fostering and supporting a healthful, vital community. It is a place where citizens may exercise their imaginations and find the resources to thrive in a challenging and fast-changing world. These goals are achieved through:

1. The facilities of the Sundre Municipal Library which are **open** to everyone, and are **available** for the use of local clubs, groups and non-profit organizations.
2. The materials of the Sundre Municipal Library (print, audio, video, digital, realia) which are **chosen** to **appeal** to the widest possible range of patrons and to **reflect** and **celebrate** the diversity of our community. We take special care in maintaining materials for those who may have a disability which makes the use of traditional materials difficult or impossible. Library materials include those available digitally or online to Library patrons through subscriptions maintained by Parkland Regional Library.
3. The staff of the Sundre Municipal Library who are **dedicated** to **providing** the highest possible level of Library services and **assisting** patrons with accessing the materials and programs offered by the Library. Staff are **committed** to helping determine, organize and deliver appropriate activities and events to meet existing and emerging community needs and to engage users of programs in determining their effectiveness, and collecting and evaluating statistics on program participation.



## SERVICE RESPONSES

### 1. Nurture Young Learners through Early Literacy

Children under 5 will have programs and services designed to equip them with skills necessary to begin a successful educational journey.

#### Strategy 1

Maintain our current programs for children and their caregivers, combining singing, rhyming, story-time and other activities that promote reading readiness and to develop new programs to meet emerging needs. When required, this may include online programs and Take-Home Kits for families.

#### Outcome

A growing number of children and their families participating in our early literacy programs. Parents have an enhanced range of skills to promote literacy at home. Elementary school teachers notice that children who have participated in our programs are well-prepared for school.

#### Timeline

Throughout the course of this Plan of Service.

#### Strategy 2

Endeavor to ensure that Library staff delivering these programs have time and resources for program delivery, as well as for professional development to further expand their knowledge and skills.

#### Outcome

Our early literacy programs reflect best available methodology and current practices.

#### Timeline

Throughout the course of this Plan of Service.



## 2. Be an Informed Citizen: Local, National and World Affairs

Residents will have access to information to assist them to make informed decisions in fulfilling their civic responsibilities at the local, provincial and national levels.

### Strategy 1

In addition to the availability of digital and print media, the Library will seek out opportunities to provide citizens with accurate information on current issues and events and to encourage the involvement of residents in local, provincial and national issues.

#### Outcome

The Library becomes known as a place that offers current and accurate information on civic issues and a neutral location for respectful and informed discussion.

#### Timeline

As required by special events, election cycles and emerging issues.

### Strategy 2

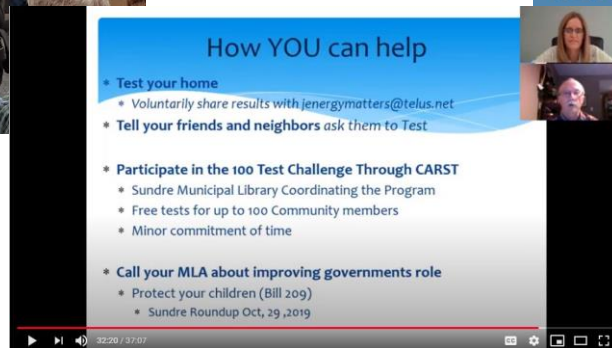
Provide collections and programs to build awareness of and celebrate the histories, traditions and worldview of all the people who make up the evolving Canadian mosaic, with special attention to the First Nations, Metis and Inuit history and culture.

#### Outcome

Greater understanding and appreciation of the diversity of our local and wider communities.

#### Timeline

Throughout the course of this Plan of Service.



### 3. Express Creativity; Explore Literacy; Pursue Lifelong Learning.

Residents will have access to the opportunities and support they need to develop their imagination through creative activities; to explore the widest meaning of the word 'literacy;' to pursue topics of personal interest that promote continuous learning throughout their lives.

#### Strategy 1

The Library will cultivate collections and create and deliver programs (in person and online) that offer patrons of all ages opportunities to explore arts, crafts and other creative activities. The library will welcome suggestions from patrons and the community at large, and will strive to:

- provide courses, programs, or presentations to accommodate their expressed interests;
- expand the collection to reflect community needs and interests
- direct residents to other agencies offering such programs

and

- collaborate with individuals and organizations who may be interested in designing such services and offering them at the Library.

#### Strategy 2

Through programs and activities the Library will help create and support a literate community. This may include not only reading, but also numeracy, financial literacy, cultural and civic literacy, tech literacy, and other topics in response to emerging needs and interests.

#### Outcome

Participation in Library programs continues to increase as residents come to look to the Library as an important source for gaining competence in a variety of literacy-related skills.

#### Timeline

Throughout the course of this Plan of Service.



**4. Know Our Community: Community Resources and Services**

Residents will have at the Library a reliable source of information for the wide variety of programs, services and activities offered in our community.

**Strategy**

The Library will continue to collaborate and support other community organizations and service providers, in order to assist in making community information more easily available to a larger number of residents. The Library will develop a clear procedure for the ongoing sharing of information with Greenwood Neighbourhood Place for the benefit of local residents.

**Outcome**

Town and County residents will know where to find the resources they need for health, education and leisure services.

**Timeline**

Throughout the course of this Plan of Service.



Sundre, Alberta

Photo credit Len Langevin



## 5. Provide a Comfortable Place: Physical and Virtual Spaces

Our community will have a safe and welcoming space for relaxation and enjoyment.

### Strategy 1

With the assistance of Library Manager and staff, Trustees will develop a plan for a reconfiguration of the public computer area, to be completed as funds allow.

#### Outcome

The public computer area will be less intrusive as people enter the library. Seating and keyboard trays will be more ergonomic and PCUs will be better protected.

#### Timeline

Upgrade plan to be completed and funding initiatives begun by the end of 2022.

### Strategy 2

The Library Board, manager and staff will seek forward thinking opportunities to create new and welcoming areas in the library.

#### Outcome

Our community will have welcoming physical places to meet and interact with others.

#### Timeline

Throughout the course of this Plan of Service.

