



Parkland Update

Thursday, February 6, 2025

Get the latest Parkland updates, library news, training, events, and more!

Stay up to date by visiting our [support site](#).

Welcome Valerie! New Accounting Technician at Parkland

We are excited to announce that Valerie Schellenberg has joined the Parkland team as an Accounting Technician. We are thrilled to have her on board!

Valerie grew up in Ontario, dreaming of moving back to the family farm in Alberta. She obtained her Library Technician diploma from Niagara College, and worked in public libraries and regional media centres in both Ontario and Alberta before expanding "doing books" to bookkeeping and accounting in British Columbia. Moving back to Alberta, she continued doing books with school libraries and various accounting businesses. Coming back into full-time library services work doing financial services fulfills both sides of the dream job! Her favourite things to read include mystery, historical fiction, and non-fiction. When not reading, her spare time is filled with seed catalogues and gardening. Welcome Valerie!

Cremona Municipal Library Wins Read for 15 Challenge



The Cremona Municipal Library won the 2025 Read for 15 Challenge with a remarkable 67.03% of their population participating by reading at least 15 minutes on January 27, 2025. Amazing work and congratulations to the Cremona team! An honourable mention also goes out to Camrose Public Library, with a total of 3,426 readers reporting their reading! Great job readers!

Plan of Service Training now Live on Niche

Parkland has recently published [Plan of Service Training on Niche Academy](#). With plenty of our member libraries needing to re-do their Plan of Service this year and in the coming years, this is an excellent resource to get you started. For further help, please reach out to your consultant.

LIBRARY NEWS

Find out about important deadlines and see what's happening at other Parkland Libraries!

Upcoming Grant Deadlines

- [Community Foundation Grant \(Canada Post\)](#) - Deadline February 28
- [Literacy Fund Grant \(Indigo Love of Reading *for school libraries only*\)](#) - Deadline February 28
- [Canada Cultural Spaces Fund](#) - Ongoing
- [Donald Hamilton School Library Advocacy Fund](#) - Ongoing

Notable Upcoming Dates

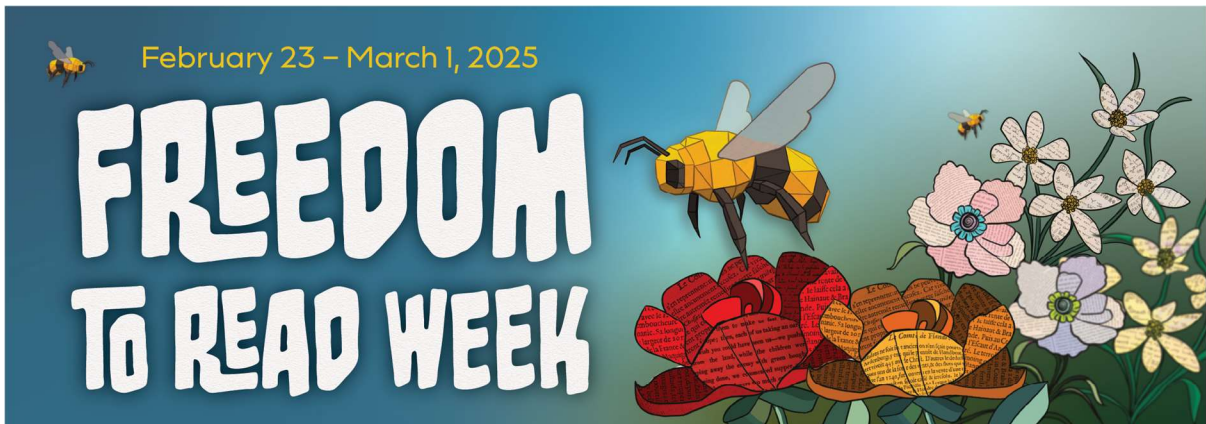
- [Black History Month](#) - February
- [Library Lovers Day](#) - February 14
- [Family Day](#) - February 17
- [Freedom to Read Week](#) - February 23 - March 1
- [Pink Shirt Day](#) - February 26

Big Talk from Small Libraries Conference

Have you ever wished you could attend a free virtual conference tailored just for smaller libraries? You're in luck! [Register now](#) for the Big Talk from Small Libraries Conference on **February 28** to get insight into everything there is to know about running a small library. All presenters are from libraries with fewer than 10,000 people and the event will really dive into

the things that make small libraries great. Join us for this engaging conference to learn more!

Freedom to Read Week



[Freedom to Read Week](#) is an annual event that encourages Canadians to think about and reaffirm their commitment to intellectual freedom. As of 2024, Freedom to Read Week entered a new phase led by Library and Archives Canada, the Canadian Urban Libraries Council, and the Ontario Library Association in partnership with the Book and Periodical Council. These organizations are coordinating to enhance Freedom to Read Week for years to come. [You can find digital and print marketing materials online here.](#)

Polaris Reports Subscription Option

Parkland has utilized usage data for the various Polaris Reports to make the most frequently used reports subscribable! To subscribe, simply go to the Subscriptions folder and click the three dots in the upper right of the report you'd like to subscribe to, then click 'Subscribe'. Edit the delivery schedule to the frequency you need, enter your email address, select your library in the 'Value/field', and click 'Create Subscription' and the report will be emailed to you. For more information and screenshots on this process, [check out this blog post!](#)

Helping Patrons Access TRAC - And More Resources!

Did you know that you and your patrons can access TRAC's (The Regional Automation Consortium) digital collections? With their Parkland member library card, your patrons can access TRAC's eBook and eAudiobook collections through our eReading platforms - Overdrive/Libby and CloudLibrary! Patrons can check out up to 10 digital TRAC collection items at a time. CloudLibrary will automatically connect to TRAC's collections once they've logged in and it's just a few quick and easy steps for them to access TRAC's Overdrive/Libby collections. [Click here for more information.](#)

Basic Legal Research Webinar from Alberta Law Libraries

Do you get legal questions? In this webinar, librarians from Alberta Law Libraries will provide a review of basic strategies to understand and research the law as well as the best free legal information resources and databases to recommend to your patrons. We will touch on:

- Basic functions of the Courts
- Common Law - the importance of caselaw in Canada
- Primary vs. secondary sources
- Where to find legislation
- Where to find caselaw
- Where to find court forms
- Where to find secondary sources
- Where to find help with legal research
- Where to find legal help

Please join us **Wednesday February 26 at noon** for an overview. [You can register for this webinar here.](#)

Alberta Library Trustees' Association Coffee Chat

[ALTA](#) has an amazing network of members, so grab a coffee and let's talk! This is an opportunity to engage with fellow library board members to discuss this ever-changing landscape. This is an informal 45-minute virtual chat on ZOOM hosted every month. Attendance is limited to 20 trustees and available on a first-come first-served basis. Please know you must be a current ALTA member to participate. If you're interested in registering for the next open chat on **February 12, 2025 at 7:00pm**, [click this link and enter your information](#).

Read Alberta Book Blast



Are you looking to learn more about new, quality, local books? Do you need new titles for library programs or to add to your collections? Presented by the [Book Publishers Association of Alberta \(BPAA\)](#), the “Read Alberta Book Blast” series will showcase the latest and greatest in Alberta-published books. Through a series of bite-size presentations (we won’t take up too much of your time), library staff can learn about what’s new in the world of locally published titles. Register for the free event on **February 13, 2025 from 1:30-3:00pm** by [clicking this link](#).

TRAINING & EVENTS

Dates and registration information for upcoming library training and events.

Legal Responsibilities - Board Development Program

February 12
1:30pm

Where do the board's duties and responsibilities come from? What do board members need to know in order to meet their legal responsibilities? What actions can board members take to help them meet their legal responsibilities? [This course](#) will also examine conflict of interest including tips on how to effectively manage it. Join us for a live and interactive webinar to find out the answers to these questions, hear what other Not-for-Profit board members are experiencing and test your knowledge of the information that is shared.

Financial Responsibilities - Board Development Program

February 26
1:30pm

What are the board's financial responsibilities? How can the board fulfill these responsibilities? What is Financial Management and what does it include? To put it simply, the board has to know what is going on, and ask questions if they don't! [Join us for more details](#) and a few activities that will introduce your financial responsibilities.

Spring Picks from OverDrive Librarians

February 19
12pm

[Join OverDrive's staff librarians](#) to hear about the best books landing on your digital shelves this spring. We're sharing can't-miss titles for adult audiences, plus highlights in Thriller, Mystery, Fantasy, Poetry, and Cookbooks. You'll receive a link to easily shop all the titles mentioned!

Fundraising with Grant Connect

February 20
10am

Join us for a comprehensive introduction on Grant Connect, including identifying and qualifying good prospects using Grant Connect, an walk-through of various features such as Search, Gift Explorer, Contact Explorer and Pipeline, and an overview of our subscriptions. This is a great introductory webinar to increase your chances of successfully receiving grants. [Make sure to register to learn more!](#)

Turn Strategy Into Action With Theory of Change

Elements of Indigenous Style: Insights and applications for the book industry

**February 28
12pm**

From acquisitions and editorial to marketing and sales teams, every team member plays a role in accurately, respectfully, and ethically championing Indigenous and traditionally underrepresented voices. This session, led by Warren Cariou, Lead Editor of the second edition of Gregory Younging's [Elements of Indigenous Style](#), is for book industry professionals eager to learn and apply Indigenous teachings to their work. Using *Elements of Indigenous Style* as a foundation, this session delves into its mind-opening content, which goes beyond the scope of a traditional style guide. [Register for this webinar here.](#)

Readers' Advisory: Ideas & Practice 2025

**March 12
12pm**

Booklist is back with a new series of free readers' advisory workshops designed to keep you up to speed on both the ideas and practice that will enhance your RA game. Learn from experts in the field about how genres relate to each other, how to talk to patrons about their leisure reading, and how to write an effective book annotation. Participants should have an understanding of the basic

**February 26
1pm**

You're getting ready to implement a change at your library, from a new strategic plan to a major project. How do you get your staff, partners, or community to understand and align with this new direction? Theory of Change is a powerful tool to help you define a shared vision that everyone can strive for together, while allowing flexibility and autonomy in how they get there. In this webinar, you'll learn how one library is using Theory of Change to drive strategic alignment while reducing bureaucracy. [Register for this webinar here.](#)

Meeting Procedure and Effectiveness Training for Library Boards

**March 1
9:30am - 4pm
Leduc Public Library**

Public Library Services Branch (PLSB) invites you to participate in a training seminar on board governance, effective meetings, Robert's Rules of Order and parliamentary procedure. Registration is open to all municipal, intermunicipal, and library system board members and must be completed by February 22. For more information on this training and [to register, click here.](#)

readers' advisory concepts of appeal elements (character, pace, storyline, tone, and writing style). [Make sure to reserve your seat today!](#)

The Social Media Marketing Conference

Multiple Dates in March

This conference was designed to help you navigate the "first tier" and "second tier" platforms, boost your social media marketing savvy, and discover how to reap the many benefits that go hand in hand with a smart, well-thought-out social media marketing campaign. Explore the latest trends in social media, take a look at exciting new marketing techniques, and gain a social media "toolbox" chock full of tools, tips, tricks, and how-to's. To see the available dates and register for this conference, [visit this site](#). There is a fee for this conference.

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