



## ***Parkland Update***

**Thursday, April 17, 2025**

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

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

### **Financial Training by PRLS**

Are you feeling unprepared or anxious about managing the ongoing financial responsibilities of your library? Do you or your board have questions about budget, policy, role of the treasurer, Alberta employment standards, or reserve funds?

If so, this training will help shed light on many of these common responsibilities for public libraries. We will also cover ROE, GST, WCB, charity status and funding streams for public libraries in Alberta. Please bring your financial questions, we will be providing a quick Q & A at the end of the training.

This training will be offered **in person** on the following dates:

**May 5th from 1 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.** at the Parkland HQ (4565 46 Street, Lacombe)

**May 21st from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.** at the Olds Public Library (5217 52 Street, Olds)

**May 27th from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.** at the Sedgewick & District Municipal Library (4806 47 Street, Sedgewick)

**New Digital Content Coming Soon**



We hope that you have been using and enjoying the PRLS Content Bank created for our member libraries. The next drop of new content will be on **April 25, 2025** and going forward, the new content will be released on the **last Friday of every month**. If you have ideas for content you'd like to see created, or run into any issues with using the bank, please reach out to Paige at [pmueller@prl.ab.ca](mailto:pmueller@prl.ab.ca). To jog your memory, all Content Bank information lives in the Q:Drive Marketing folder. Happy posting!

## LIBRARY NEWS

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

### Upcoming Grant Deadlines

- [Donald Hamilton School Library Advocacy Fund](#) - Ongoing
- [Provincial Operating Grant](#) - June 15
- [Research in Librarianship Grant](#) - August 15

### Notable Upcoming Dates

- [National Poetry Month](#) - April
- [Earth Day](#) - April 22

- [Canada Book Day](#) - April 23
- [National Volunteer Week](#) - April 27 - May 3
- [Canadian Children's Book Week](#) - April 27 - May 3
- [Asian Heritage Month](#) - May
- [Free Comic Book Day](#) - May 3
- [World Press Freedom Day](#) - May 3
- [Star Wars Day](#) - May 4
- [Red Dress Day](#) - May 5
- Orders for Hotlist (Fiction & Non-Fiction) are due - May 7

### **Programming Training in Stettler - Magic, Balloons, and Stories Galore!**



The Stettler Public Library is facilitating a workshop with a local balloon artist/magician/storyteller and inviting other library staff to join them! Ricardo (pictured above) will be giving a workshop at the **Stettler Public Library on May 14 from 1-3pm** and will share tips and tricks on all things magic/balloons/stories. This training is perfect for anyone who does library programming, including Summer Reading Club staff. They are asking for \$10 per person as a thank you to Ricardo for sharing his knowledge. If you are interested in joining the Stettler folks for this workshop, reach out to Rhonda at [spl@prl.ab.ca](mailto:spl@prl.ab.ca). We look forward to seeing everyone's balloon animal skills afterwards!

### **Updates to the Library Operating Grant Webpage**

[The Library Operating Grant webpage](#) has been updated for the 2025-26 grant year and is now accepting grant applications. On the page you can now download the 2025 Application for Financial Assistance and access the 2024 Statement of Receipts and Disbursements & 2025 Budget templates (plus the corresponding direct payments forms). Applications will be processed in the order in which they are received. No payments can be issued until the 2025 Provincial Budget has received legislative approval.

The deadline for grant applications is **June 15**. Applications will still be accepted after June 15, but processing and payment may be delayed. For all grant related questions, and to submit grant applications electronically, please email [libgrants@gov.ab.ca](mailto:libgrants@gov.ab.ca).

### **Big Library Read Title Announced**



# Libby.

## Uncommon Measure

May 15-29, 2025



This season's featured title is an insightful and lyrical memoir that explores music, time, and self-discovery. [\*Uncommon Measure\*](#) will be available for simultaneous use in eBook and audiobook formats between May 15-29. The title, along with a promotional spotlight on Libby, will be added at no cost. We look forward to having you participate and to help you bring your community together through the joy of reading!

If you would like help marketing this title to your patrons, make sure to check out the [Marketing Kit on Libby](#).

### TRAINING & EVENTS

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Dates and registration information for upcoming library training and events.

#### Upcoming Parkland Training

- **Polaris Training (Virtual)**
  - April 17 from 1-3pm
- **Travelling Financial Training (In-Person)**
  - May 5 from 1:30-3:30pm @ Parkland HQ

- May 21 from 6-8pm @ Olds Municipal Library
- May 27 from 6-8pm @ Sedgewick & District Municipal Library

## **Summer Picks from Overdrive Librarians**

**April 22  
1pm**

[Join OverDrive's staff librarians](#) to hear about the best books landing on your digital shelves this summer. We're sharing can't-miss titles with highlights in romance, genre-blended titles, family reads and listens, and more! We'll send you a link to shop all the titles mentioned so you can easily add them to your collection.

## **How to get your board to fundraise**

**April 24  
11am**

Join fundraising master trainer, Chad Barger, ACFRE, ACNP for a workshop focused on equipping and motivating your board members to be great fundraisers. You'll learn how to help them get over their fear of fundraising and develop the fundraising habit. Accountability and follow through will also be discussed. [The session](#) includes tools and samples that you can use to start building a fundraising culture within your board.

## **Board Roles and Responsibilities**

**April 23  
1:30pm**

What is governance? What are the board's roles? What are the board's responsibilities? The truth is, there is no one answer to any of these questions. [Join us](#) as we help you understand governance from different perspectives. We will start with governance and what it means to the board. Then we will take you through how governance touches the entire organization, the structure of the organization, and the volunteers and staff that work in the organization. You will also have many opportunities to speak directly with others and share your experiences, test your knowledge, and ask your questions from the presenters.

## **Marketing for a mission**

**April 28  
9am**

The digital landscape is as crowded as ever, so how do mission-driven nonprofits stand out to reach new donors, volunteers, and other supporters? In this session, we will explore how nonprofits can develop and improve online communication plans that drive results. Make sure to [register to the session](#) in

## **Demystifying Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Non-profit Organizations**

**April 29  
10am**

[In this session](#) with guest presenter, Amanda Henry and hosted by the Community Development Unit, you will deepen your understanding of what artificial intelligence (AI) is and how it's used as well as receive information and insights on governance and risk management considerations for AI adoption in non-profit volunteer sector organizations. Further, some common myths and misconceptions about AI will be addressed and a curated list of resources for participants of where to learn more will be provided. The presentation is not a technical deep dive and does not include legal, insurance, or cybersecurity advice.

## **Legal Responsibilities and Conflict of Interest**

**April 30  
1:30-3pm**

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 the Community Engagement Branch for a live and

order to learn more!

## **Graphic Empathy: Using Graphic Novels to Elevate Excluded Voices and Connect Communities**

**April 29  
2pm**

As library workers, we are ever more challenged to ensure that our increasingly popular graphic literature collections are curated to reflect and serve the diverse identities, experiences, and voices of our communities. [This webinar](#) will explore the importance of depicting diversity in graphic literature collections and programming, offering practical strategies for building a more inclusive selection. Participants will learn how to create a thoughtful collection development plan, discover recommended selection aids, and reflect on exemplary titles that successfully showcase diversity.

## **AI and public libraries: Panel and discussion**

**May 1  
1pm**

The adoption and advancement of AI technologies has been swift, extensive, and...overwhelming. After assessing community interests and needs around AI in a recent poll ([summarized here](#)), WebJunction is bringing together a group



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.

## **Organizational Purpose and Planning**

**May 7**

**1:30-3pm**

How is planning connected to the board's roles and responsibilities? How are an organization's vision, mission, and values connected to organizational plans? What is included in the plan? The Community Engagement Branch will introduce to you why planning is needed, what it includes, and give you some ideas on how to get started. Make sure to [register for this live webinar](#) to secure a spot!

of library leaders and technologists with AI expertise to discuss some of the main themes identified in the poll results, and their professional perspectives on the questions and opportunities that AI presents. Attendees will come away with a deeper understanding of AI and its applications in public libraries, and strategies for addressing AI with the public. Make sure to [register for this informative webinar](#).

### **PARKLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY SYSTEM**

4565 46 Street  
Lacombe, AB T4L 0K2

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