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# *Parkland Update*

**April 2, 2026**

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

Stay up to date by visiting our [support site](#). For programming and collections news, [subscribe to our Libraries in Focus newsletter](#).

## Library News

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

## Notable Dates

- Good Friday (Parkland Closed) - April 3
- Easter Monday (Parkland Closed) - April 6
- [Customer Service Training at Parkland](#) - May 4
- [Customer Service Training at Olds Library](#) - May 11
- [Customer Service Training at Sedgewick Library](#) - May 19
- [ULS Spring/Summer Hot List Cut Off](#) - June 3

For more notable dates, visit our [support site](#).

# Updates

## \*NEW\* Parkland Services Highlight

We received feedback from the 2025 County Forums that library managers would find a services highlight helpful, so we've added this ongoing section to our Update email!



## SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

- Audiobooks
- Large Print
- Professional Development Books
- Cooperative Collection

The 2026 Cooperative Collection sign up is now open - [sign up now!](#)

Parkland purchases, manages, and stores special collections of audiobooks, large print, and professional development books for library staff ([check out something from our latest order!](#)). Library managers can [request blocks](#) of the audiobook and large print to come at an interval of their choosing. Using these collections will not only save libraries money, as these materials are typically more expensive than regular books, but also valuable shelf space. Find more details in [this blog post](#) we created last year.



## Call for Submissions

 **Monday,  
September 21**

 **Lacombe  
Memorial Center**

We are looking for presenters at the 2026 Parkland Regional Library System Conference! [Here are the details on what we're looking for and how to submit.](#)

## Protection of Privacy Act Resources

Parkland hosted a POPA training after the March PLC meeting to help library managers understand what they need to do prior to the June 11 deadline for implementation by the Alberta Government.

You can find more information on the [Government of Alberta website](#). All of the documents referenced in the training can be found here: **Q:\Protection of Privacy POPA**

## Marketing Hub

### Materials Highlight:

- We have some safe space decals for front doors available for any libraries that are interested. If you'd like one, email Hailey at [hhalberg@prl.ab.ca](mailto:hhalberg@prl.ab.ca).
- [Spring Bingo Materials](#)
- [CloudLibrary Quickstart Guide](#)
- [New Book Social Media Post](#)
- [eContent FAQ Social Media Posts](#)



## News and Tips from Alberta Law Libraries

Alberta Law Libraries offers temporary free [remote access](#) to multiple legal databases. Some of these databases are collections of legal e-books: Emond's Criminal Law

Series is a collection of criminal law treatises, and Irwin Law Titles comprises texts on many legal topics, including the Essentials of Canadian Law series. There is also limited time access to Westlaw Edge Canada, one of the most comprehensive legal databases in Canada, spanning legislation, case law, e-books and more. To access these resources, you or your clients can [register](#) with the library to get a temporary account. For hints on which e-resource to use for what type of search, check our [E-Resource Chart](#). Make sure to [Ask a Law Librarian](#) if you have questions. Happy searching!

## Advocacy News

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Keep up with advocacy initiatives happening locally and provincially.

### Current resources:

- [Advocacy webpage](#)
- [Support Site Resources](#)
- Advocacy Resources available on the Q drive for library staff

### Support available:

- Advocacy campaigns addressing specific issues for your library
- Assistance in creation of presentations to your municipal council
- Advocacy training for library boards

If your library board would like any assistance with library advocacy, Parkland is happy to help! Contact Hailey at [hhalberg@prl.ab.ca](mailto:hhalberg@prl.ab.ca) to request training or assistance.

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## Training and Events

Dates and registration information for upcoming library training and events.

[Dealing with Front Desk Realities](#)

[Marigold Library Conference](#)

## **Register by April 7**

### **Self-Paced**

Learn practical strategies for navigating difficult patron interactions, communicating clearly under pressure, and keeping front desk conversations productive, in this [Library Journal Professional Development course](#).

### **Fire Season Preparedness**

**April 9**

**10am**

[This upcoming virtual session](#) will focus on fire season preparedness in libraries. During this session, four library directors (Angie at Jasper Municipal Library, Shannen at Hinton Municipal Library, Robert at Yellowhead County Libraries, and Sarah at Edson & District Public Library) with direct experience managing fire season impacts will practical strategies for preparing their libraries and communities.

### **Symposium on Intellectual Freedom**

**April 16**

**10am - 3pm**

Join library staff, trustees, students, and community partners for a [full-day, in-person, free event](#) focused on

**May 13**

**8:30am - 4:00pm**

The Marigold Library System Conference is an annual, one-day event with sessions for library staff and board members in Marigold and beyond. Collaboration, vital to library work with communities, teams, stakeholders, or other libraries, is emphasized. [Join us](#) to explore working together to tackle challenges and solve problems.

### **Reconciliation in the Workplace**

**May 21**

**9am - 4pm**

Reconciliation in the Workplace - Meaningful Action for Teams is a [practical workshop](#) designed to support social service teams. You'll build shared understanding, strengthen cultural awareness, and explore reconciliation in ways that support real-world practice and respect both the work and the people involved.

### **Four Seasons of Reconciliation**

**Self-Paced**

4 Seasons of Reconciliation offers a [concise primer](#) on the truths and implications of the historical and contemporary relationship between

intellectual freedom in Alberta's libraries.

### [Language Courses for Library Staff](#)

**April 22**

**12pm**

[Join this webinar](#) for a deep dive into three courses designed specifically for library staff. Learn how to sign up for free, see what's covered, and explore cool course features.

- Survival ASL for Librarians
- Spanish for Library Professionals
- French for Library Professionals

Indigenous peoples and those who settled on their lands in Canada. It does this by providing the foundational knowledge on truth and reconciliation that nearly all Canadians missed during their education journey.

### [Non-Profit Basics & Beyond](#)

The Government of Alberta Community Development Branch offers regular, free webinars on a variety of topics including, grant writing, risk management, financial responsibilities, and board development. See their list of [upcoming webinars here](#).



Parkland Regional Library System

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