



PRESS RELEASE

August 4, 2004

\$13,000 RAISED BY THE FRIENDS OF RED DEER PUBLIC LIBRARY!

This week, the Friends of Red Deer Public Library presented the Library with a total of \$13,000 to support a variety of important Library programs and purchases.

The money these hardworking volunteers have raised will be partially designated for new audiovisual shelving, and more DVDs. "The Library needs a DVD collection," says Dean Frey, Director, "but we're always trying to balance our purchases of new technologies with the continuing need for literacy programs, books and other resources. The Friends' donation will allow for some much-needed expansion of our current DVD collection."

Part of the Friends' funding will also go toward the purchase of six individual TV/DVD machines for the new Downtown Rotary Club Teen Area, which is scheduled to open in February, 2005. "These machines are very popular with teens," Frey says, "and will go a long way toward bringing them into the library, where teens will then find some amazing, expanded teen collections."

More funding from the Friends has been designated to the Family Literacy Program, and to the Summer Reading Program. Money for the Family Literacy Program will go toward re-printing *The World of Words*, a free literacy book that is offered to parents and literacy professionals by the Family Literacy Program at Red Deer Public Library. The funds for the Summer Reading Program will ensure that every child or teen taking part is given a book as one of several rewards for the reading they do through the summer.

The Friends of the Red Deer Public Library are a group of volunteers who raise money throughout the year for the Library. Their Spring and Fall book sales are highly anticipated. The Friends also stock book sale carts all year, which are a great source of revenue; one can't enter the Downtown Library without seeing customers happily browsing through a selection that changes weekly.

Membership in the Friends of the Library costs \$15 per year for individuals, or \$20 for a family, and entitles the purchaser to attend Preview Book Sales before they open to the general public. All proceeds raised by the Friends go to support programs and collections at both branches of Red Deer Public Library.

For more information on the Friends of Red Deer Public Library, or to obtain a membership, please call:

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