

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Friday, November 3, 2017



**SHELLEY ROSS NAMED CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
OF RED DEER PUBLIC LIBRARY (RDPL)**

Red Deer Library Board is pleased to announce the appointment of Shelley Ross as its new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) effective January 2, 2018.

Ms. Ross is currently the Chief Librarian (CEO) of Medicine Hat Public Library (MHPL), a position she has held for the last seven years. Prior to that she was a librarian at the University of Lethbridge and at the Environmental Law Centre in Edmonton. She has 25 years of experience in librarianship and management in public and academic libraries.

At MHPL, Ms. Ross developed significant expertise over a range of competencies. She negotiated collective agreements with their CUPE local, is currently completing her third Plan of Service and is a strong advocate for the library using community engagement to foster participation. She supported library boards and contributed to other boards as a member; she has strong strategic planning, community engagement, and financial management expertise. She worked closely with the Public Library Services Branch (PLSB) and served as an elected public library representative to The Alberta Library (TAL) executive, and as secretary to the Alberta Public Library Administrators' Council (APLAC).

She was appointed by the City of Medicine Hat as a Director for the *City Centre Development Agency*, a business revitalization zone board looking at downtown revitalization and promotion.

Ms. Ross models a belief in lifelong continuing education; in addition to her Masters Degree in Library and Information Science, and Masters of Education Degree in Adult Education, she has continued to take courses through Athabasca University and other institutions to continually upgrade her skills and knowledge.

In conducting its search for a new CEO, Red Deer Public Library engaged Pekarksy and Co. an executive search company with a proven track record of recruiting executives for Alberta libraries.

“They brought us five high quality candidates to interview,” said Red Deer Library Board Chair Jim Taylor, in making the announcement, “and through our two interview process, we think we have chosen the candidate who is the best fit for the future of RDPL. Shelley has an impressive record of accomplishment and a great personality as well. We are delighted that she has accepted the position and look forward to benefiting from all the expertise and ideas she has to offer.”

For further information, contact

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