



RED DEER LIBRARY BOARD
5:30 p.m. Thursday, November 26, 2015
Waskasoo-Kiwanis Meeting Room

AGENDA

Welcome & Chair's Remarks

Conflict of Interest Declaration

Organizational Meeting

- Report of the Nominating Committee

Approval of Consent Agenda

42. Approval of Agenda
43. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting (October 29, 2015)
44. Report from the Planning & Finance Committee
 - a. Approval of Financial Statements of October 31, 2015
45. Report from the Personnel & Administration Committee
46. Friends of the Library report
47. Acceptance of the Managers' reports & Library statistics

Items for Decision

44. Planning and Finance Committee
45. Personnel and Administration Committee

Strategic Discussion and Board Development

- Presentation by Ben Smeets, Digital Literacy Coordinator

Adjournment



RED DEER LIBRARY BOARD
6:30 p.m. Thursday, October 29, 2015
****Dawe Branch Library Program Room****

MINUTES

Present: Lionel Lustgarten (Vice Chair), Sylvia Bolkowy, Christina Wilson (CEO), Anita Thomas, Jim Taylor, Leah Tymko, Tanya Handley, Verda Lee Gilchrist, Jackie Ammeter, Mark Waters, Jannie Ypma (Minutes)

Regrets: Lisa Wakefield (Chair)

Welcome & Chair's Remarks

In the absence of the Chair (Lisa Wakefield), Lionel Lustgarten assumed the Chair.

Lionel called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Welcome to our City Council representative, Councillor Tanya Handley.

Thank you to Councillor Lawrence Lee for his valued contributions to our meetings.

Lionel Lustgarten, Vice Chair, congratulated Christina Wilson, CEO, Library staff and the Red Deer Reads committee on a well-organized and enjoyable author event Tuesday night, October 27th. The Red Deer Reads committee is made up of the following staff: Candice Putnam, Manager, Timberlands Branch; Jill Griffith, Manager, Youth Services; Amy Trepanier, Manager, Teen Services; Tatiana Tilly, Manager, Dawe Branch; Nicole Charles, Manager, IT Services; Briana Ehnes, Manager, Adult Services. Board members expressed their appreciation for the entire Red Deer Reads campaign, from start to finish. Board members commented that they particularly enjoyed the number of programs, the variety and the way in which activities reached into the community and resulted in people reading, talking up the book and attending the event on Tuesday night. Christina was asked to pass along the Library Board's great appreciation for the successfully executed, community wide book club.

Conflict of Interest Declaration

There were no conflicts of interest to declare.

Approval of Consent Agenda

37. Approval of Agenda
38. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting (September 24, 2015)
39. Report from the Planning & Finance Committee
 - a. Approval of Financial Statements of September 30, 2015
40. Report from the Personnel & Administration Committee
41. Acceptance of the Managers' reports & Library statistics

Additions to the Consent Agenda:

- Library closure for all three branches for November 12, 2015 for computer maintenance.
- Library closure for all three branches at 12:30 p.m. on Friday, December 4, 2015 for Staff Professional Development.
- Library closure for all three branches at 3 p.m. on Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24, 2015 and New Year's Eve, Thursday, December 31, 2015.
- Transfer of funds out of Library internally restricted funds.
- Meeting of Calgary and Edmonton Library Boards in Waskasoo Kiwanis Meeting Room on Saturday, November 7, 2015.

MOTION: To approve the consent agenda with additions as listed above.
THOMAS / BOLKOWY / CARRIED

Items for Decision

39. Planning and Finance Committee

- a. Approval of the Financial Statements of September 30, 2015

MOTION: To approve the financial statements of September 30, 2015.
BOLKOWY / AMMETER / CARRIED

There was a question regarding some of the budget lines showing over-budget. Some of these expenditures have been approved but the money was placed in internally restricted funds until the projects they were designated for could be completed. The Marketing budget line is also over-budget. All the costs for the community survey and consultation process are taken out of the Marketing budget. Once this process is complete the internally restricted funds designated for this consultation process will be transferred into the Marketing budget. Red Deer Reads expenses are also taken out of this budget. Salaries and benefits continue to show as over-budget due to Timberlands staffing and higher benefits related to full staffing. The Book Sales budget line includes swag items such as book bags, the Centennial Book, but not Friends' book store books.

- b. Fund Transfers

MOTION: To transfer the following amounts from the Library's internally restricted funds to operating by the end of the year:

- \$25,000.00 (Market Research) to Marketing Revenues in the Operating Budget to cover the cost of the community survey;
- \$22,000.00 from the Marion Smith Bequest to Salaries and Benefits for the Digital Literacy Coordinator's wages and benefits for the period from October 1, 2015 to last payroll of 2015 (December 21, 2015).

BOLKOWY / GILCHRIST / CARRIED

- MOTION:** To close all Library Branches on the following days and times:
- All day Thursday, November 12, 2015 to perform necessary computer upgrades, affecting all library operations;
 - At 12:30 p.m. on Friday, December 4, 2015 for Staff Professional Development;
 - At 3 p.m. on Thursday, December 24, 2015 for Christmas Eve and on Thursday, December 31, 2015 for New Year's Eve.
- BOLKOWY / GILCHRIST / CARRIED

40. Personnel and Administration Committee

- a. Nominating Committee
Mark reported that four positions of the five available are filled with a person from the Board who has agreed to let their name stand for a position. Mark expects that a full slate of candidates will be ready to present at the Organizational Board meeting in November.
- b. Library Board Meeting in November will start at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 26, 2015.
- c. In camera meeting

MOTION: To move to "in camera" at 7:40 p.m.
TAYLOR / WATERS / CARRIED

MOTION: To move out of "in camera" at 8:02 p.m.
THOMAS / TYMKO / CARRIED

Strategic Discussion and Board Development

- Strategic Plan Update
Nine of the eighteen Service Responses were identified as being important for Red Deer Public Library. They are listed in order as follows:
 1. Create Young Readers: Early Literacy.*
 2. Visit a Comfortable Place: Physical and Virtual Spaces.*
 3. Satisfy Curiosity: Lifelong Learning.
 4. Stimulate Imagination: Reading, Viewing and Listening for Pleasure.
 5. Express Creativity: Create and Share Content.
 6. Be an Informed Citizen: Local, National and World Affairs.**
 7. Celebrate Diversity: Cultural Awareness.**
 8. Learn to Read and Write: Adult, Teen and Family Literacy.**
 9. Understand How to Find, Evaluate and Use Information: Information Literacy.

**First two Service Responses are tied in votes for top priority.*

***These three Service Responses had the same number of votes.*

It was suggested that nine Service Responses are too many and that five is a more reasonable number to attempt to achieve. There was discussion regarding the Online Service and Cultural Diversity. Even though Online Service and Cultural Diversity are Separate Service Responses they both are part of, and define how, we provide all library services to our community.

MOTION: To accept the Community Advisory Committee recommendations.
TAYLOR / AMMETER / CARRIED

MOTION: That we make the first five Services Responses as the focus for the 2016-2018 Service Plan.
THOMAS / TYMKO / CARRIED

- The Calgary Public Library Board and the Edmonton Public Library Board are meeting in the Waskasoo Kiwanis Meeting Room at Red Deer Public Library on Saturday, November 7, 2015. Red Deer Library Board members have been invited to join them for lunch and the afternoon session. Please let Christina or Jannie know if you are able to attend.

Adjournment

Verda Lee made a motion to adjourn at 8:03 p.m.

Approved _____
Lionel Lustgarten (Vice-chair)

CEO Report – October 2015

Planning for Results: Update

The community consultation portion of our strategic planning process continued throughout October with Library staff and Board members providing feedback on the preliminary recommendations of RDPL's Community Advisory Committee (CAC). Four sessions were held, with two involving staff, one with Managers and another for Board members. They resulted in a request for the CAC to reconsider the priorities for 3 service responses: "Visit a Comfortable Space", "Connect to the Online World" and "Be an Informed Citizen". Anne Smith facilitated the staff sessions and the final meeting of the CAC. At this meeting the CAC recommended that RDPL address nine service responses, appreciating that the library would identify how many of them would be addressed, due to resources available. Notably, "Create Young Readers" and "Visit a Comfortable Space" tied as the highest priorities. The Committee recognized that to provide these services, RDPL must invest in technology, so "Connect to the Online World" was assumed as an important and needed investment. With the Board's approval of the CAC's recommendations, Managers began work developing the goals and objectives for the three-year plan of service.

Visit a Comfortable Place: Downtown Branch Renovations

Downtown renovations continued with the replacement of the air conditioning unit onto the roof of the Centennial Library, once this roof was replaced. Although the work was to be completed in September, the contractors were fortunate that the weather held, allowing them to complete the project. The delay in installing the 2nd Centennial Library AC unit affected the interior comfort of the Library throughout October as the HVAC system requires this unit to ensure fresh air flow. Staff coped with fans, water, light clothing and good humour, however, we have a better appreciation of the complexity of the Downtown Library's HVAC system.



This photo indicates just one of the many aspects of our complex project as the AC unit was delivered to the Centennial Library roof during the early hours of a fine October morning. City of Red Deer staff engineered the street closings, as part of this project.

Community

On October 5 and 6, I attended the Fall meeting of the Canadian Urban Libraries Council (CULC), hosted by the Central Branch, Vancouver Public Library. Red Deer Public Library is the newest and 45th member of CULC, eligible to join now that the City's population has exceeded 100,000 residents. The two day meeting was well attended by public library CEO'S from across all provinces and proved to be an excellent networking opportunity. Many large urban libraries have new CEO's who also viewed the CULC meeting as useful to their new roles. The agenda featured a "show and tell" section, in which members shared initiatives, trends and challenges. Areas of advocacy included the future of the Canadian Library Association (Canada's national voice), the changing role of Libraries and Archives Canada, the progress of the Fair Ebook Pricing campaign and the state of the Freedom to Read campaign without Canada Council funding support. Noah Genner, President & CEO, Booknet Canada (CULC is a member) reported book and Ebook purchasing trends, including the impact of libraries on sales. Library promotion is hugely helpful in selling books and although online sales are increasing, overall sales of physical and Ebooks is flat. "Flat is the new black", though and is considered to be better than declines. Ken Roberts presented a report on the buying power of CULC libraries and suggested ways that CULC could leverage its influence in many sectors to improve public library service.

One of the highlights was a tour of VPL's digital maker space, branded as their "Inspiration Lab". Just opened in May, 2015, it's still a work in progress but is well used. VPL received a generous donation from the McBride family and re-purposed public space in the Central Branch to allow for sound and recording booths and an instruction lab, all in the public area.



Note the presence of book stacks amid the digital makerspace. In addition to providing instruction and "cheat sheets", library staff refers people to the books and databases as aids in learning to use the digital devices! VPL's foray into creating a digital lab in the middle of the library is a potential model for a similar space on Level 2 of RDPL's Downtown Branch.

Library Statistics - October, 2015

	Oct 2015	Oct 2014	% Difference	2015 YTD	2014 YTD	% Difference
CIRCULATION						
Total Circulation	76,824	72,692	5.7%	726,501	677,814	7.2%
Adult Materials	37,526	35,230	6.5%	362,840	347,693	4.4%
Paperback	1,784	2,355	-24.2%	20,521	25,028	-18.0%
Fiction	6,090	5,201	17.1%	56,312	52,716	6.8%
Non-Fiction	3,228	3,288	-1.8%	33,753	34,749	-2.9%
Large Print	1,146	1,518	-24.5%	12,056	12,222	-1.4%
Teen	2,777	2,846	-2.4%	28,800	29,358	-1.9%
Audio-visual	17,866	16,147	10.6%	169,069	154,918	9.1%
Magazines	943	897	5.1%	9,107	10,793	-15.6%
Other Languages	24	21	14.3%	213	285	-25.3%
Daisy CDs	28	36	-22.2%	629	577	9.0%
eBooks	3,640	2,921	24.6%	32,380	27,047	19.7%
Children's Materials	18,689	19,808	-5.6%	191,745	187,031	2.5%
Paperback	1,436	1,520	-5.5%	17,240	17,217	0.1%
Non-Fiction	1,389	1,678	-17.2%	16,246	16,161	0.5%
Other Languages	361	469	-23.0%	3,254	3,439	-5.4%
Fiction	1,719	1,334	28.9%	15,628	12,487	25.2%
Easy	7,621	6,977	9.2%	72,308	67,294	7.5%
Audio-visual	5,526	6,482	-14.7%	55,908	59,228	-5.6%
Magazines + Comics	398	496	-19.8%	4,811	5,139	-6.4%
eBooks	239	852	-71.9%	6,350	6,066	4.7%
Timberlands Circ	6,993	4,190	66.9%	50,212	7,511	
Dawe Circulation	13,616	13,464	1.1%	121,704	135,579	-10.2%
Visits-Timberlands	5,548	5,390	2.9%	40,673	10,385	
Downtown	26,828	22,610	18.7%	222,287	226,775	-2.0%
Dawe	13,488	16,145	-16.5%	127,088	131,569	-3.4%
Website Visits	57,986	38,940	48.9%	475,001	363,897	30.5%
Total Visits	98,302	83,085	18.3%	845,252	732,626	15.4%
Interlibrary Loans						
ILL In	306	314	-2.5%	3,247	2,813	15.4%
ILL Out	255	210	21.4%	2,116	2,053	3.1%
Total	561	524	7.1%	5,363	4,866	10.2%
New Memberships	731	1017	-28.1%	9,036	8,203	10.2%
Renewals	187	177	5.6%	1,929	3,487	-44.7%
Total	918	1,194	-23.1%	10,965	11,690	-6.2%

	Oct 2015	Oct 2014	% Difference	2,015 YTD	2014 YTD	% Difference
REFERENCE						
Adult Total	5,318	5,215	2.0%	62,104	50,278	23.5%
Juv Total	1,600	1,748	-8.5%	17,648	16,220	8.8%
Timberlands Total	601	536	12.1%	5,470	860	
Dawe Total	1,477	635	132.6%	12,482	7,929	57.4%
Total Ref Questions	8,996	8,134	10.6%	97,704	75,287	29.8%
Database Queries	1,281	2,374	-46.0%	17,583	19,723	-10.9%
Total Questions	10,277	10,508	-2.2%	115,287	95,010	21.3%
PROGRAMS						
Adult Programs	17	6		161	232	
Attendance	381	131		2,230	1,496	
Youth Programs	46	52		446	399	
Attendance	1,125	1,280		11,767	10,365	
TL Programs	125	97	0	664	97	
Dawe Programs *	86	92		631	636	
Attendance	1,632	1,741		13,365	11,740	
TL Attendance	2,640	2,434		13,551	2,434	
Library Programs	274	247	10.9%	1,902	1,364	39.4%
Attendance	5,778	5,586	3.4%	40,913	26,035	57.1%
VOLUNTEER HOURS						
Friends	124	122		549	656	
Library *	811	746		6,484	6,284	
Library Board	54	63		499	606	
Total	989	931	6.2%	7,532	7,546	-0.2%
PUBLIC INTERNET						
Timberlands	406	420		3,121	462	
Adult Sessions	2,998	2,969		27,399	24,600	
Youth Sessions	641	556		3,317	4,410	
Dawe Sessions	1,291	1,031		11,942	7,732	
Total Sessions	5,336	4,976	7.2%	45,779	37,204	23.0%
* Includes						
Adult Literacy Stats						
Tutors	98	98	0.0%			
Hours	747	699	6.9%	5,792	6,346	-8.7%
Students	130	118	10.2%			
Hours	558	599	-6.8%	5,410	5,609	-3.5%

Managers Reports – October 2015

A. Learning and Literacy

- Two Adult Services staff members (Kim Whiting & Donna Stewart) attended the lecture given by Nancy Pearl in Calgary on October 5, 2015. Lucinda Sheardown from the Dawe Branch attended this professional development session on Readers' Advisory as well.
- Lois Prostebby, Adult Literacy Manager, attended a two day training session hosted by Innovation and Advanced Education on the new curriculum being developed.
- Adult Literacy staff members, Lois Prostebby and Carolyn Simard, attended the national TESL (Teachers of English as a Second Language) conference in Lake Louise Oct. 30 and 31st. With 800 delegates, there was a wide range of sessions to choose from.
- The Adult Literacy Program posted, interviewed and selected a new program assistant to replace Sandra Erdman who retired Oct. 30th after 15 years with the program. Nirupama Raghavan was selected from the 17 applications received.
- Youth Services staff toured 2 of Edmonton Public Library's newest branches - Millwoods and Meadows - as well as Strathcona County Library in Sherwood Park, as professional development, to observe programs and see best practices in Alberta libraries.
- Our new Digital Literacy Coordinator, Ben Smeets, started work for us on October 1. He will be picking up where our previous DLC left off, providing training for staff in areas of digital literacy and planning for the library's Digital Learning Center space for the public.
- November marks the second month of our new Teen CARE-RDPL co-sponsored Homework Help Hangout for new English language learners, in the mezz. Teen Services staff members assist new immigrant youth with comprehension of homework assignments and connect new immigrant youth to one another, within the community, every Wednesday night, in the mezz.

B. Access and Inclusion

- Kim Whiting, Library Assistant (Adult Services) is in the process of creating a presentation about the services and resources we offer at RDPL, and the options available for homebound customers & extended care facilities. This was brought about by a request from both Victoria Park and Villa Marie residences, who expressed interest in having a visit from the library and possibly starting a program for their residents. Kim is hoping the availability of WiFi at Villa Marie might make it a great location to pilot a tablet program.
- Work on the installation of a new air conditioning unit, as well as the replacement of the roof of the Downtown Library was completed in October.
- Donna Stewart, Library Assistant (Adult Services) and Priscilla McLaughlin, Library Assistant (Adult Services) ran two successful programs in October - Travel Memories & Daytime Documentaries. Travel Memories had 35 attendees, and Daytime Documentaries had 18 attendees. Daytime Documentaries was held in the Waskasoo (as opposed to the Snell) this month due to a scheduling conflict; however customers left midway through the program due to the heat on Level 3.

- Amy Trepanier (Manager - Teen Services) attended “Creating Safe Spaces”; a workshop for school administrators, at the Red Deer Public School Administrative Office, hosted by Dr. Kris Wells (University of Alberta Director of Programs & Services, Institute for Sexual Minority Studies and Services, Co-Director, Camp fYrefly) and returned with a report to the management team, regarding steps RDPL can take to make the library a safer, more inclusive space for our LGBTQ+ community. This information will inform the ongoing facilitation of our LGBTQ+ youth PRIDE group (which runs in the mezz, from 3-5:30 p.m., every second Friday, year-round).
- RDPL is now a designated community “Safe Space” for LGBTQ+ youth, with Amy Trepanier acting as the Central Alberta Youth Pride contact.
- Read-To-Me-Story dog started listening to stories read by struggling readers from St. Pat’s school at the Dawe Branch. Lucinda Sheardown, the Dawe’s Reading Pals program coordinator identified last year that many students who would benefit from the Reading Pals program could not attend the afternoon program as they live far from the library and have working parents who cannot take them to the program in the afternoon. Having a Reading Dog available to students during the school hours removes this barrier to the essential literacy program. The pilot Sit, Stay, Read program started on Wednesday, October 27th, 2015 and will end on Thursday, December 17, 2015.

C. Community

- Staff of Adult Services continues to offer tours for CARE classes, with several completed in September and October. Tours run smoothly, with students enjoying their visit to the library and many signing up for library cards.
- Amy Trepanier (Manager - Teen Services) represented RDPL at the Central Alberta Poverty Reduction Alliance October literacy initiative meeting and expressed RDPL’s interest in participating in a potential “Books on the Bus” program (which would be launched in partnership with Red Deer Transit and CAPRA).
- The Teen Services Department has made a new connection with Shining Mountains centre for Red Deer’s Metis community and will launch outreach programs at the centre in the new year.

- The Bag of Books Project, which provides bags of donated books to women and their children in the Central Alberta Women's Emergency Shelter, was a success again this year thanks to the team of Maureen Miller - a Red Deer teacher and coordinator of the project, Laural Grimes - Children's Services Coordinator who collects the books all year and helps put the bags together, and Janet Pierce - Promotions Assistant who provided the bags for the books. 400 bags were filled and will be distributed this year thanks to the efforts of these ladies and their young helpers.

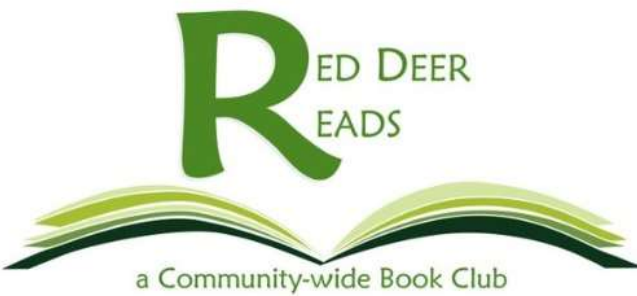


- Briana Ehnes (Manager, Adult Services) ran two federal candidate election forums on October 7 (Red Deer Mountain View) and October 8 (Red Deer Lacombe). Both nights were well attended, with 38 & 42 people in attendance (respectively). We also had 10+ people streaming the program from our website from home both nights as well. Dr. David Baugh from Red Deer College volunteered as our moderator. A full report on the forums will be compiled and saved to our corporate shared drive for future reference.
- Our Red Deer Reads Community Book Club program continued throughout the month of October, with a variety of programs for Red Deerians to enjoy, all based around *Station Eleven*. This included a Philosopher's Cafe hosted by Dr. Guillermo Barron, two Personal Disaster Preparedness programs put on by Certified Emergency Managers from Alberta Health Services and the Canadian Red Cross, an Apocalyptic Movie Night, and, of course, the main event: An Evening with Emily St. John Mandel, author of *Station Eleven*. Emily's engaging and insightful talk centred on the process of writing this award-winning novel and the research that went into it. Following her presentation, she answered many questions from the audience and signed copies of the book in the lobby. The audience of over 150 was buzzing with excitement! We were also very fortunate to have Mayor Veer, who is a proud supporter of Red Deer Reads, introduce Emily.

- Here are some tweets that came in during and after Emily St. John Mandel's author event:

Parkland Library Retweeted

Lindsay McFarlane @lmcfarlane29 · Oct 28
Congrats @rdpl on a fabulous #RDReads event! @EmilyMandel was engaging, inspiring, and all kinds of wonderful!



Tara Veer and 1 other Retweeted

Kareen Lee Lambert @keenlysocial · Oct 27
A huge thank you to @rdpl, @CityofRedDeer, @TaraVeer, and everyone else who helped bring @EmilyMandel 's gifted writing to #reddeerreads

Jill Griffith and 1 other Retweeted

UnlimitedBS.ca @BrendaSarg · Oct 27
@TaraVeer @rdpl they totally need to do that again...it's a cool event for Red Deer 😊 #RDReads #nudgenudge

Sona Macnaughton and 1 other liked

UnlimitedBS.ca @BrendaSarg · Oct 27
.@EmilyMandel says there will be no Station Twelve 🙄🙄 #RDReads @rdpl

Tara Veer @TaraVeer · Oct 27
Welcoming author of Station Eleven @EmilyMandel to our great local library's first community book club. Thanks @rdpl:



SylvanLakeRadio and 58 others follow

UnlimitedBS.ca @BrendaSarg · Oct 27
@TaraVeer @rdpl really enjoyed it! That was my first Meet the Author. It was pretty awesome how engaged the crowd was with all their ?s

Jennifer Blair @FairfieldJen · Oct 27
.@EmilyMandel was an absolute delight. Thanks @rdpl for bringing her to #RedDeer and for sharing #StationEleven with us. #RDReads

- The Timberlands Branch hosted Community Connections with Foundations Program students from St. Francis of Assisi Middle school on Friday afternoons in October. Rachelle McComb, Timberlands Branch Assistant, and Candice Putnam, Timberlands Branch Manager, oriented the students and EAs to the library space, read themed stories, and provided fun crafts and activities for all to enjoy. Now that they are comfortable and familiar with the Timberlands Branch, we hope they will return with their parents after school and on weekends! The Community Connections program will continue at the Downtown and Dawe Branches in the new year.

D. Relationships

- The Teen Services Department welcomes Jessica Dinan as our new LAIII - Teen Services Assistant. Jessica is a former Member Services staff member, and brings a very eclectic background to her work with teens in the mezz! She will be hosting teen books & yoga programs, beginning in the new year.



- 14 men from Nova Chemicals came to the Dawe branch on Thursday, October 1st, to show they care by participating in this year's United Way "Days of Caring" program. The Friends of the Library Reading Garden patio was winterized, new shed installed and the old one teared down, two benches were sanded and primed, all windows and glass doors were washed. The Dawe Programming room was decorated for the Star Wars Reads Day as well. The guys even had time to put on an impromptu puppet show and cut enough crafts for our toddlers to last through a couple of weeks. We felt extremely well cared for at the Dawe Branch and thankful.
- Nicole Charles, Manager of I.T. Services attended an Alberta Users' Group for SirsiDynix in Calgary. SirsiDynix is the company that makes the software we use to keep track of our customers, library items, checkins, and checkouts.

E. Fun

- A Storybook Tree has grown in the Children’s Library downtown! Thanks to a grant from the Piper Creek Optimist Club of Red Deer, we were able to purchase a delightful child-sized tree with a bench where children and families can gather to read together. We will be dedicating the tree at a special Story Fun on November 20th with Optimist Club members in attendance.



- The Halloween Murder Mystery event at the Dawe Branch was enjoyed by the staff and the public. This is what they say: “Thanks to Lucinda and Jennifer at Dawe for a fun evening at the Halloween Murder Mystery event on Saturday night (photo credits to Jenn). I know the "actors" had a great time, and you can see how riveted the party-goers were! “



- The Teen Department hosted a full month of Halloween programming in October; starting with a “DIY Tombstone” event, followed by a pumpkin-painting event, and finishing with a ZOMBarbies event. We saw as many as 16 teens in attendance and a great many gruesomely creative results came out of these programs (see photos)!



- Hotshot Photo Studio joined the Teen Services Manager and Assistant for a fun and funky photoshoot in the mezz (used to update our mezz Facebook page photos), this month.



F. The Arts

- The Dawe branch new program Art and More has been very popular as well as Tell me Story. The programs attracted a large group of 7-11 year old kids who love alternating between literary and visual art activities every week.