

# Shortgrass clippings

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## Message from the CEO

I am so excited about the “rebirth” of the Shortgrass Clippings Newsletter! It has been almost a full year since the last issue of the newsletter was published. This new issue means that we finally have a Client Services Librarian, a position dedicated to engaging our public library managers and providing programming support. Rei Kitano joined Shortgrass in March and hit the ground running, visiting member libraries and meeting with library managers to become familiar with our system, the member libraries and their needs.

The Shortgrass Board of Trustees has approved the 2016 operating budget and was able to build in a \$20,000 boost for hoopla, which is quickly becoming one of our member libraries' most used e-resources.

We are looking forward to a very busy summer, during which we will be adding the library materials of the Gem Library to the shared catalog. When the project is completed, the Gem Library will become a fully participating member within our regional library system and its patrons will have access to the full slate of services and resources, both physical and digital, available in all Shortgrass member libraries.

Amanda and Richard, who were our summer students last year, will be returning to work with us again this summer. Additionally, we have hired a 3rd student, Bailey, to provide assistance with the recon project we will be undertaking for the Gem Library this summer.

Executive Assistant Dyan has started her maternity leave, and had a baby boy on April 27th. Janice Montgomery has been hired to fill in for her during her year long absence. I look forward to working with Janice and wish Dyan all the best with her new family member.

Please join me in thanking Rei for taking on the task of putting together this newsletter. I hope you enjoy the content and I look forward to regular publications in the future, to allow us to share Shortgrass news.

## News in Brief

### Updates

See what's been happening at Headquarters.....Pages 2 and 3

### Cloud Burst

Updates from Shortgrass Systems Administrator Aaron.....Page 4

### News from SLS Member Libraries

See the latest from Brooks, Duchess and District, Redcliff and Tilley and District libraries .....Pages 5 and 6

### Ideas and Resources

Go “Wild” with the Summer Reading Club, explore accessibility options and weblinks.....Page 7

### Important Dates

For you to note in your calendar.....Page 8

Shortgrass Library System // w: [shortgrass.ca](http://shortgrass.ca) // p: 403.529.0550 // f: 403.528.2473

- |                                     |                               |                                    |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Bassano Memorial Library          | • Foremost Municipal Library  | • Tilley & District Public Library |
| • Bow Island Municipal Library      | • Gem Jubilee Library         | • Graham Community Library         |
| • Brooks Public Library             | • Irvine Library Association  | • Redcliff Public Library          |
| • Duchess & District Public Library | • Medicine Hat Public Library | • Rolling Hills Public Library     |
|                                     | • Alcoma Community Library    | • Rosemary Community Library       |



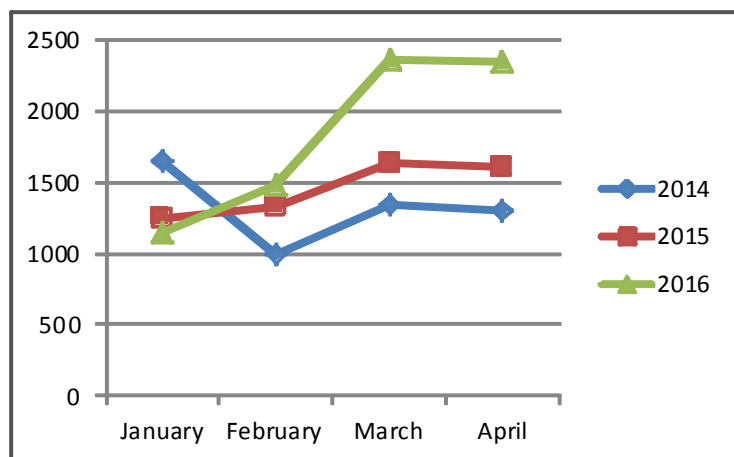
## Shortgrass updates



### Cataloguing Stats are in!

The Bib Services team has been working hard to increase output!

	January	February	March	April	Total
<b>2014</b>	1652	991	1340	1302	<b>5285</b>
<b>2015</b>	1245	1330	1634	1616	<b>5825</b>
<b>2016</b>	1146	1490	2367*	2352*	<b>7355</b>



\*469 titles in March 2016 were from the ULS Backlog project.

Total items catalogued at SLS, not including the backlog project titles = 1898

\*336 titles in April 2016 were from the ULS Backlog project.

Total items catalogued at SLS, not including the backlog project titles = 2016



### Congratulations Keltie!



Keltie McGregor, our Processing clerk, got married on Saturday, April 23rd! Her last name is now Turner.

#### Please note:

Your Interlibrary Loan private notes, previously initialed KLM (for Keltie Lee McGregor), will now be initialed KLT (for Keltie Lee Turner).

### Welcome Gem Jubilee Library!

We are excited that Gem Jubilee has decided to become an actively participating member library with Shortgrass!



The first batch of their library materials have been transported to Headquarters and cataloguing work is underway. Stay tuned for progress updates!



Hello  
my name is



Janice

Hello. My name is Janice and I am taking over for Dyan Bryksa, while she is on Maternity Leave. I have experience in Municipal Administration and Career and Employment Counselling. My last job was with the Canadian Cancer Society, as an Administrative Assistant.

I was raised on a farm northeast of Lethbridge and went to school in Turin, Alberta and high school in Picture Butte. My husband and I moved to Medicine Hat 10 years ago from Carbon, Alberta, a little village west of Drumheller. We are very familiar with the communities of Shortgrass, as my husband's favourite pastime is to take back roads and see where we will end up. Sometimes it is a dead end, sometimes

it is a slough, and sometimes we actually end up in a community and stop for a treat or lunch, or take a walk along a street to stretch our legs. We have a daughter who has a dam job with the government. (Really, she is a dam operator working in the Dam Safety Division of Alberta Environment).

I knit, crochet, sew, quilt, and have recently learned how to do pottery. Throwing a pot on a wheel is not as easy as it looks. I also like to cook and have recently taken up baking sourdough bread, thanks to Michael Pollan and his Cooked series on Netflix. I garden and enjoy growing heirloom tomatoes. I do yoga. I also volunteer as an usher for the Esplanade.

I really enjoy reading books written by Canadians. We have so many amazing writers in this country. Right now, I am reading "The Orenda" by Joseph Boyden. I find that I have to read a couple of chapters and then put the book down and digest what I have read, as it is such an intense book.

Libraries have played a role in my life, and continue to do so. They have become much more than buildings full of books. They are hubs of the community. I look forward to working with Shortgrass this year.



Dyan and Janice at Headquarters — April 7th

Hello  
my name is



Rei

Hello! My name is Rei (pronounced Ray). I am happy and excited to be on board with Shortgrass Library System as Client Services Librarian.

While I studied and got my library degree at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, I am originally from Coquitlam in British Columbia. I also taught English as an Assistant Language Teacher (ALT) in Japan for 4 years. It has been a bit of an adjustment so far. I am grateful for your warm welcome into this community!

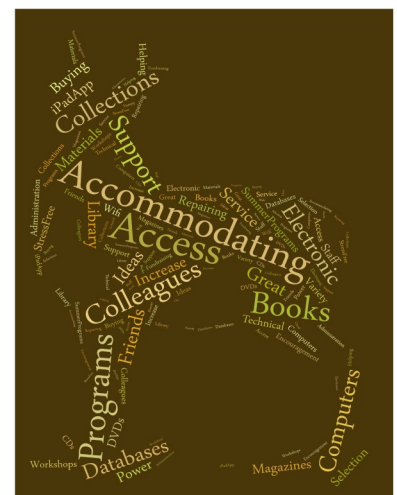
Seeing the Pronghorn Word Cloud on the cover of the 2013 Annual

Report (pictured on the right) attracted me to this role, with its description of Shortgrass. Helping people is something I thrive on and I'm excited to be providing support as part of this service-oriented team!

I have really enjoyed meeting the staff at each library and look forward to collaborating with you to develop and provide programming support.

Outside of work, I enjoy reading (especially picture books and graphic Novels), cooking/baking and playing "Neko Atsume," a game where I take care of digital cats on my phone.

I look forward to getting to know more about you all!





# Cloud Burst

By: Aaron



Hello everyone!  
Welcome back to  
Cloud Burst.

Two major new pieces of technology have been put in place since last November:

## 1. Microsoft System Center was rolled out.



This software allows Headquarters to keep member library computers configured and up-to-date, remotely. It also comes with its own powerful anti-virus solution, called System Center Endpoint Protection.

Automated installation and configuration of the entire Windows operating system, through Microsoft System Center, also frees up time to build computers from their base parts, saving money should your library have a need for new computers.

For a refresher course on how Microsoft System Center works, you can refer to the second new item:

## 2. Shortgrass Library System now has an internal wiki! ([wiki.shortgrass.ca](http://wiki.shortgrass.ca))

This wiki is still in its infancy, but we hope to fill it with articles containing quick and easy fixes for common Workflows issues, eBook and eAudiobook issues, instructionals for popular eReaders and devices, and anything else we can come up with.



You can, for example, access the refresher course for Microsoft System Center on this wiki.\*

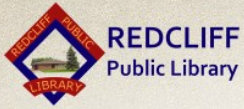
Currently, this is only accessible if you are in a Shortgrass Library System member library. Should you have a suggestion for an article for the wiki, please e-mail Aaron or Chris and we can get it added straight away!

Going forward with these two new additions, we hope to save you time for when any technical issues pop up.

\*On the start page for [wiki.shortgrass.ca](http://wiki.shortgrass.ca), click "Technical Instructionals (Internal Only,)" then click "Microsoft System Center"

For more information contact us : Aaron—[aaron@shortgrass.ca](mailto:aaron@shortgrass.ca)  
Chris—[chris@shortgrass.ca](mailto:chris@shortgrass.ca)

## News from our Shortgrass Member Libraries

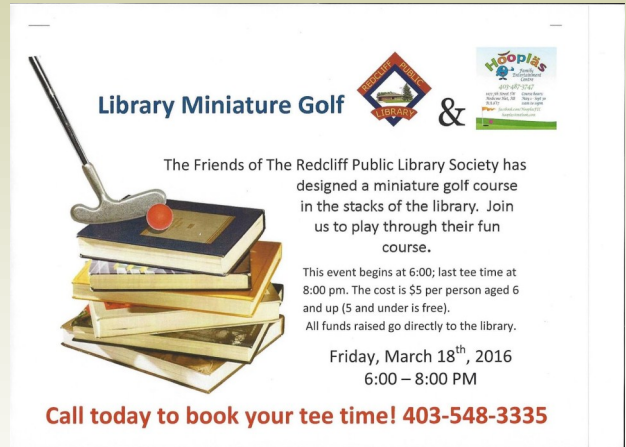


## Library Miniature Golf at the Redcliff Public Library

Friends of the Redcliff Public Library, in partnership with Hooplas Family Entertainment Centre, held their first mini golf event in the library on the evening of Friday, March 18th.

As the doors closed at 5:00 pm, the library was quickly transformed into a 9-hole golf course. Approximately 30 pre-registered patrons came and took part in this fundraiser from 6:00-8:00 pm. All in attendance said they hoped the library would hold the event again.

The event, advertised on the library's Facebook page and flyers, was also showcased in the Saturday edition of the Medicine Hat News (March 19th).

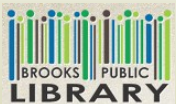


**Photo Credits: Redcliff Public Library**



## RISE: Resume Information Session

A number of SLS member libraries hosted a RISE videoconference session, Wednesday, April 6th, on Resume Information. For Redcliff Public Library, this was their first RISE videoconference session! Congratulations Redcliff!



# Brooks Public Library Professional Development Day

It was a full day of learning at Brooks Public Library on Monday, April 18th. After hands-on learning about book repair and disc cleaning, attendees learned more about add-ons. After lunch, participants engaged with Sinela J. from the CCIS society in Calgary, got a refresher on Zinio and Hoopla, and participated in a tour of the accessibility room!







## Author and Storyteller visits at Tilley & District Public Library

Tilley & District Public Library hosted amazing world-renowned author, Sigmund Brouwer, and storytellers, Mary Hays and Bethany Ellis, at their library right after Easter Break!



Bethany Ellis



In Conversation with Sigmund



Mary Hays and Sigmund Brouwer



## Phonics Storytime Graduation at the Duchess & District Public Library

Thursday, April 14th was a day filled with proud smiles and fun at Duchess & District Library, as it was graduation day for the participants of the Family Fun Phonics Program! Since September, eleven preschool children and their families, who registered in the program, gathered once a week to sing songs, read books and learn a new letter in their phonics booklet. Caps and diplomas, made by Duchess & District staff member Tina, were proudly shown off and library manager, Shannon reported, "It was so much fun!"



# Ideas and Resources



TD Summer Reading Club - “Wild”!  
promotional materials and orders have arrived!



## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORNER

### RECORDED WEBINAR\*:

Collection Development: Managing “Must  
Haves” – Series, Continuations, Awards,  
and Reviewed Titles (<http://bit.ly/23q0nSe>)

From: Library Journal

Originally broadcast: March 11th, 2016  
(61 mins)

Some titles you simply can't do without. While many selection decisions are fairly straightforward, series, continuations, reviewed and award winning titles can be a bit trickier. The webcast offers perspectives from experts in three library systems, as well as the view from a vendor perspective. Join the discussion about what is and isn't a “must have” and the best ways to manage them.

\*TO ACCESS the archived event, register first with Library Journal.

### LEARN ONLINE

[www.gcflearnfree.org](http://www.gcflearnfree.org)

Learn about, review and/or teach others the basics of:

- Career development,
- Computers (Microsoft Office),
- Math
- Technology, and more ...

Access step by step tutorials at GCF (a program of the Goodwill Community Foundation® and Goodwill Industries of Eastern NC, Inc.® (GIENC®))

The Summer Reading Club notebooks are available in:  
**large print, e-text, audio and Braille.**

For more information, please visit the [Plan for Accessibility Page](http://bit.ly/24uAbMn) of the TD Summer Reading Club at: <http://bit.ly/24uAbMn>

### Do you have patrons with Print Disabilities?

A **print disability**, as defined by CELA (Centre for Equitable Library Access), is a learning, physical or visual disability that prevents a person from reading conventional print.



### Curious to know more about CELA Services?

There are two upcoming webinars!

#### CELA Orientation Webinar

An overview of CELA services, including collections, how to order alternative format books (such as DAISY audio books), patron registration and promotional ideas.

**Thursday, June 9th—12:00-1:00 pm (EST); (10:00-12:00 MST)**

#### Frontline Staff Training Webinar

A broad overview of basic CELA service for Frontline Library Staff

**Monday, June 20th—3:00-3:45 (EST); (1:00-1:45 MST)**

*For more information about CELA, print disabilities  
and future training sessions, visit [celalibrary.ca](http://celalibrary.ca).*

**Looking for a training refresher?**

Please contact us!

Questions about : Add-ons and Fast Adds - [chris@shortgrass.ca](mailto:chris@shortgrass.ca)  
eResources (hoopla, Zinio...) - [rei@shortgrass.ca](mailto:rei@shortgrass.ca)

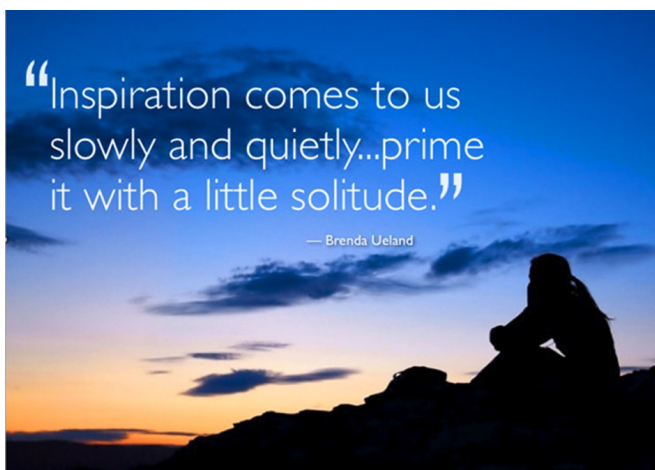


## TAKE A BREAK



**Meet Timothy—**

**Carol Ann's new cat! -MHPL-**



### **Fun Library Jokes:**

What does the librarian say when they have to leave?  
- Time to book!

What does a library book wear whenever it leaves the building?  
- A pager.

## May

**May 12-15:** Alberta Association of Library Technicians Conference in Calgary

**May 16:** Library Managers meeting at HQ

**May 18:** Shortgrass Board of Trustees meeting

**May 23:** Victoria Day—SLS HQ closed, no deliveries

**May 24:** Deliveries resume, missed deliveries made up

## June

**June 1-3:** CLA National Forum in Victoria

**June 8-9:** Public Library Services Branch Consultants and System Administrator Meeting in Edmonton

**June 15:** Strategic Planning Session, Shortgrass Board & Staff, Member Library Managers & Board Chairs

## SHORTGRASS SPRING CALENDAR



### Looking for feedback:

If you have suggestions, photos, stories that you'd like to share and or ideas for a future issue, please contact Rei - Public Services Librarian at: [rei@shortgrass.ca](mailto:rei@shortgrass.ca)