Sharing as a Focus

The Shortgrass Library System works for its member municipalities to:

➢ Improve resources available to municipal residents through **sharing**

➢ Make cost-effective use of community resources by **sharing**

➢ Reduce duplication of services by **sharing**

➢ Help rural municipalities have access to information services equal to their large urban counterparts by **sharing**

➢ Support individuals, communities, economic growth and quality of life by **sharing**

Who Do We Serve?

Member municipalities (11)
➢ Town of Bassano
➢ Town of Bow Island
➢ City of Brooks
➢ Village of Foremost
➢ City of Medicine Hat
➢ Town of Redcliff
➢ Village of Rosemary
➢ Village of Tilley
➢ Cypress County
➢ County of Forty Mile No. 8
➢ County of Newell No. 4 (Divisions 1,2,4,5,6,7,10, Rolling Hills & Alcoma in Rainier)

Other contracted partners
➢ Medicine Hat School District No. 76
➢ Prairie Rose School Division No. 8

Population served
➢ 97% of the population in the SLS region now served by Shortgrass Library System

Plan of Service

2005 - 2007

The Plan of Service for 2005 - 2007 details the **Key Directions** for Shortgrass Library System. The key directions define the most important actions the System must accomplish in order to be successful in fulfilling its Mission. Key Directions focus the resources of the Shortgrass Library System on *doing the right things at the right time, and doing them well.*

➢ Leadership and Governance
➢ Advocacy and Public Relations
➢ Member Services
➢ Staff Development and Training
➢ Service Expansion

Key Statistics

➢ Items purchased for libraries	14,868
➢ Items catalogued and processed for libraries (includes donated items)	27,584
➢ Items added or re-catalogued for libraries joining the system	71,820
➢ Total items in system catalogue	793,204
➢ Annual per capita materials allotment	$3.83
➢ Total items circulated to patrons	748,819
➢ Total items moved among all member libraries	126,466
➢ Total virtual visits to SLS	412,253
➢ Total holds placed on items (from home and library computers)	76,363
➢ Electronic database resources	31

"Libraries are the same size when connected"

Key Progress Indicators for 2005

➢ Significant System growth was achieved with Cypress County, the Village of Tilley and the County of Newell area surrounding Tilley (Division 2) becoming members of the SLS. This means that the Graham Community Library in Ralston is now a member library rather than a contracted library. We welcome our new members.

➢ The completion of the SuperNet project was a major challenge this year but the effort was certainly worth it. This provincial service means high-speed, broad-band internet service is now provided to each library and the service results are outstanding, especially for our rural libraries.

➢ A significant event was the signing of a co-ownership agreement with the Chinook Arch Library System (southwest AB) to share an Integrated Library System (ILS). The implementation of this project will occur over the next year and will improve system service and stability.

➢ The Prairie Rose School Division No. 8 project continued with a great amount of time and effort to add the many schools' library records to the SLS catalogue. When this is complete in September 2006, the school system students and staff will have the ability to search the total collection in all the school libraries, place holds, and have the requested items delivered to their school.

➢ SLS intrasystem loans resulted in the movement of 126,466 items between the public libraries in 2005, compared to 119,000 items in 2004–a 6% increase.

➢ Professional development activities for staff at SLS and member libraries focus attention on improving services to patrons. A system-wide P.D. day was held in November and a portion of every Library Managers' Meeting was devoted to professional development.

➢ Library patrons' training in the use of computers to access library services on a 24/7 basis was provided through a Community Access Program (CAP) Intern position.

➢ The key SLS role of the year was the provision of effective day-to-day services to our member libraries, which are our prime customers. Our satisfaction surveys indicated the SLS continues to provide highly satisfactory services to the libraries.

Board of Trustees

Leadership Team

The implementation of the Board of Trustees Plan of Service and the Board's policies, which establish the direction and goals for SLS, are the responsibility of the leadership team composed of:

Harold Storlien.......................................CEO/Director

Bob Batchelder................................Assistant Director and Technical Services Coordinator

This team was supported by a capable staff of 14.5 FTE members.

"Libraries build communities"

"Sharing is our Game"

Financial Summary

How Are We Funded?

➤	Provincial Grants	24.76%	$ 318,052
➤	Municipalities/Member Libraries	50.84%	$ 653,032
➤	Contract Revenue	11.32%	$ 145,418
➤	ILS/Data Communications Reimbursement	3.10%	$ 39,825
➤	Other Revenue	9.98%	$ 128,178
	TOTAL	**100.00%**	**$ 1,284,505**

How Do We Direct Our Funds?

➤	Purchase of Lib Materials	25.60%	$ 328,847
➤	SLS Services to Member Libraries	45.59%	$ 585,653
➤	Resource Sharing /Rural Services Payment	3.43%	$ 44,000
➤	Advertising/Promotion	.88%	$ 11,294
➤	Board Services	.99%	$ 12,683
➤	Contract Expenses	11.32%	$ 145,418
➤	Building Expenses	3.87%	$ 49,764
➤	Capital Expenditures	2.13%	$ 27,420
➤	Other	6.64%	$ 85,266
➤	Excess/Deficit	<.45>%	$ <5,840>
	TOTAL	**100.00%**	**$ 1,284,505**

SHORTGRASS LIBRARY SYSTEM

2005
ANNUAL REPORT

To The Partners

Celebrating 17 years of Library and Information Partnership in Southeastern Alberta