

# 2016 ANNUAL REPORT



## CHAIR'S MESSAGE

It is my pleasure to present the 2016 Annual Report for Shortgrass Library System. 2016 was a banner year for Shortgrass, as the Bibliographic Services Department accomplished a long-standing goal of completely eliminating the enormous backlog of materials. This was a huge accomplishment that illustrates perfectly the various service improvements that our organization has been making.

Throughout 2016, the Shortgrass office underwent renovations. New flooring and paint have refreshed the look of the building, while new furniture provides better opportunities for networking and productive interaction.

As always, the goal to improve services for member libraries and partner organizations remains at the forefront, while the changes to workflow, the facility and technology have been made to ensure our libraries are able to best serve their communities.

This was a productive and eventful year and we hope you enjoy this summary of our accomplishments for 2016.

**Dwight Kilpatrick**  
Chair, Shortgrass Library System Board of Trustees



Number of physical items  
in the collection

433,922

Number of digital items  
in the collection

55,114



## KEY HAPPENINGS

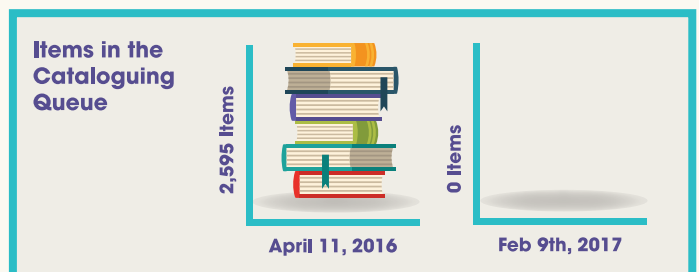
During the summer, the library materials from the Gem Jubilee Library were added to the Shortgrass catalogue. The Gem Library is now a fully participating member library in Shortgrass Library System and we are pleased to have them on board!

Shortgrass partnered with community organizations and Alberta Tourism & Culture to offer two separate training events for library staff and board members: 3 Day Basic Facilitation Training in February and Board Leadership South in March. Both events were a great success, with participants from library organizations and other not-for-profit organizations learning together.

Continued improvement of workflows in the Bibliographic Services area has led to the elimination of the backlog and a significant improvement of turn-around times for all library materials cataloged and processed in our facility. Staff changes in 2016 saw former Processing Clerk Keltie take over the position of

Technical Services Assistant - Acquisitions and Shelley join us in the Processing Clerk role.

Over the last half of the year, our second-ever German Exchange Student Intern, Luisa, joined the organization for a six month duration. During her internship, Luisa provided assistance on everything from conducting a training needs survey and presenting various training opportunities to member library staff, to assisting staff with statistical analysis and spreadsheets and beating Shortgrass staff members during raucous rounds of board games at break times.



Number of items processed

34,746

15% increase over last year



Number of holds placed

98,174

(incl. Irvine library recon)

18% increase over last year



hoopla check-outs

13,328

72% increase over last year



Mango language learning sessions

1,130

42% increase over last year

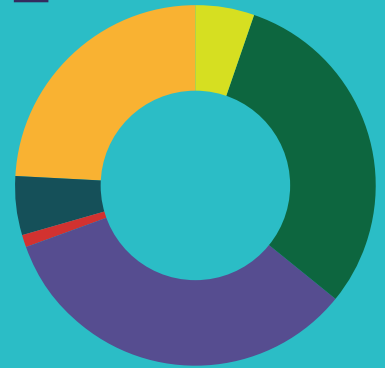


Overdrive titles circulated

60,346

10% increase over last year

## REVENUE



- 6% ● Contracts
- 35% ● Municipal funding
- 31% ● Provincial grants
- 1% ● Other grants
- 5% ● Miscellaneous
- 22% ● Member library materials

Total \$1,807,877

## EXPENSES



- 5% ● ILS/Tech
- 44% ● Staffing
- 24% ● Materials
- 10% ● Building/Capital
- 1% ● Marketing
- 1% ● Postage/Supplies
- 4% ● Grants
- 11% ● Other

Total \$1,817,594

Shortgrass Library System provides quality library support services to member municipalities and partners.

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

