

2017 ANNUAL REPORT



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Over the past 17 years of working in the library world I have learned one thing: it never gets boring! As the needs of our communities evolve, so too do the services offered by libraries, and as a result, we evolve the support services offered to member libraries.

In January, the Shortgrass Library System Board of Trustees purchased a subscription to an online learning resource called Gale Courses, which allows library patrons to enrol in more than 350 courses for free! The Board also funded the development of new websites for all member libraries. The websites went live at the end of 2017, look great, and are compatible with any screen size.

In March, we partnered with Alberta Culture & Tourism and several other community organizations to organize the third annual Board Leadership South event, a one day training event focused on board governance.

In October we held our Professional Development Day, organized as a one day conference with 3 timeslots and 3 sessions in each slot. Shortgrass staff, trustees, member library staff, and board members all shared in a day of learning.

We were delighted to receive a one-time grant from Alberta Municipal Affairs for upgrades and renovations to our facility.

The October municipal election resulted in seven new faces on the Shortgrass Board. We thank the retiring trustees for their service and look forward to working with this mostly new board for a successful future for Shortgrass and its members.

Overall, it was another successful year for the Shortgrass community. We thank all our partners and stakeholders for helping us support libraries in southeastern Alberta.

Petra Mauerhoff
Chief Executive Officer

Increase in eBook collection

35% over 2016

11,841

eBooks available in 2017

Number of physical items
in collection

378,676

Number of digital items
in the collection

771,920



**14 LIBRARIES
WORKING TOGETHER**
INNOVATIVE • FLEXIBLE • SUSTAINABLE

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

New e-Resources in 2017

Read Alberta eBooks
Gale Courses
Gale Primary Sources
Newspaper Source Plus

Gale Courses

Total patrons
registered in courses

408

Total # of
courses taken

1,091

Saving patrons a total of

\$173,469

(@\$159 per course)

Inter Library Loans

36%

increase in # of items lent
over last year



Hoopla

35%

increase in hoopla circulation over last year
Total hoopla check-outs **18,038**



Overdrive

65,068

8%

circulation increase over last year

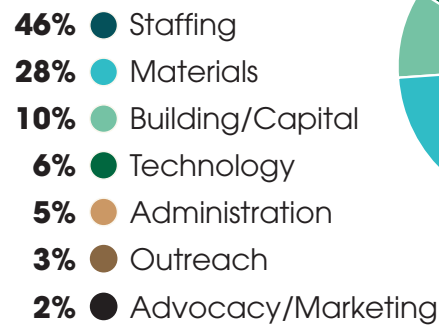


REVENUES

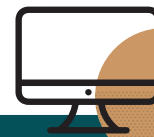


Total Revenues \$1,799,498

EXPENSES



Total Expenses \$1,668,531



New websites
launched

15

Hours spent on
set up and training

183

*Resourceful
by Nature*



SHORTGRASS.CA