



SHORTGRASS CLIPPINGS

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529-3121

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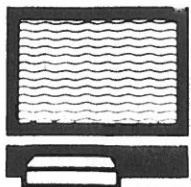
June 16, 1987

SHORTGRASS GOAL ACHIEVED!

- The village of Foremost and the County of Forty Mile gave approval to the Shortgrass Plan of Service at their respective council meetings on May 19th and May 22nd. With their acceptance in principle, the Shortgrass Steering Committee will begin winding down its operation to make way for the interim board. Selected as interim board members are Larry Robinson for the village and Nanko Dubbelboer for the county. They, along with Wanda White from Brooks, Margaret Dutton of Redcliff, John Vandenburg from Medicine Hat and Inez Kosinski of Bow Island will make up the interim board who's job it will be to make decisions on personnel, headquarters, policies and procedures and to develop the System agreement.
- If all goes well and funding is readily available from Alberta Culture and other sources, Shortgrass will become a System on January 1, 1988 and the System board will become effective.
- The interim board members, who are selected by their respective municipal councils are invited to the next executive meeting on June 25th.
- The executive of the Steering Committee will be sending a request to the Minister of Culture to establish an interim board. Upon this approval the process of handing over some of the responsibilities of the Steering Committee to the interim board will begin. In the meantime the Steering Committee continues to function in its capacity to obtain the acceptance of boards and councils in southeast Alberta of the plan of service for the Shortgrass System.

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NATIONAL FILM BOARD VIDEO SELECTION



Librarian members of Shortgrass are reviewing the collection of NFB programmes available to the Project and selecting the first 100 video cassettes for distribution to member libraries.

The video cassettes will consist of complete one-subject programmes ranging

from 30 minutes to 90 minutes and programmes consisting of a compilation of subjects from 60 minutes to 90 minutes in length. Preparations are presently being made to have the NFB cassettes catalogued at the Shortgrass office and then distributed to the participating libraries for the use of the public.

Future purchase of video cassettes from the National Film Board will take place over the next three years, allowing the System to provide a wide range of subjects.

N.F.B. VIDEO SELECTION

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LARGE PRINT BOOK DISTRIBUTION



One of the many services provided by the Shortgrass System will be the distribution of large print books to libraries in the System. At present the Shortgrass office is expecting a shipment of

about 300 titles.

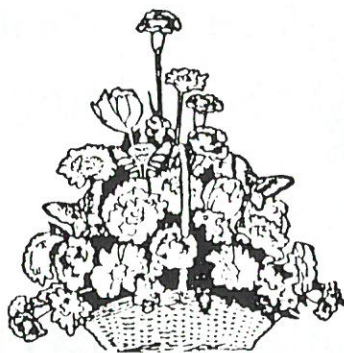
Large print books have proven to be an asset to any library and the demand for more and more titles is ever increasing. With the inclusion of the Shortgrass large print books exchange, it is anticipated that it can help in providing a much needed service to the libraries participating in the Shortgrass Library Project.

These books are being provided to member libraries at no extra cost --this is one of the advantages of becoming a member of the Shortgrass Library System. If your board or library staff is interested in the large print books or other services like the NFB cassette programme, give the Shortgrass office a call at 529-3121. You may use the R.I.T.E. telephone number in your area.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING SEPTEMBER 12

The Shortgrass Steering Committee will meet in Redcliff at the library on Saturday, September 12th. The results of the proposal to the Minister of Culture will be first and foremost on the agenda. Steering Committee members are asked to keep the date in mind and to be sure to make an effort to attend this most important meeting.

FOREMOST LIBRARY & SENIORS CENTRE OPENS



At the official opening of the Foremost Library and Seniors Centre, the Shortgrass Steering Committee was invited to attend on May 3rd. The complex is a roomy inviting building which is an asset to the village. It should provide many leisure hours of pleasure for one and all.

The library has a fine selection of reading and listening material for everyone to enjoy, and with the inclusion of large print books and N.F.B. cassettes from the Shortgrass Project, this will provide a varied selection of materials for Foremost and area residents.

The Shortgrass Steering Committee congratulates the Foremost board on the completion of its library and wishes it success in future operations and programmes at the library.

SHORTGRASS INTERIM BOARD

The interim board members for Shortgrass have been chosen by their respective member communities. Three of these board members are also on the Steering Committee, one is a library board member, and one is a member of a municipal council. Here then are the Shortgrass interim board members:

Wanda White-Brooks library board, Steering Committee member

Margaret Dutton-Redcliff library board

John Vandenburg-Medicine Hat library board, Steering Committee member

Inez Kosinski-Bow Island library board

Larry Robinson-Foremost town councillor

Nanko Dubbelboer-County of 40 Mile library board, Steering Committee member

The interim board will be jointly meeting with the Shortgrass executive on June 25th where their duties will be explained.



have a
nice weekend...

The Shortgrass office is participating in the Federal Government's SEED programme. This employment programme will enable Shortgrass to update its files, catalogue the large print books which have been received from Alberta Culture, Library Services and catalogue the N.F.B. video cassettes when they are received later this summer. Craig Wilson has been hired to do these jobs and to also set up the necessary shipping and distribution schedule for the books and video cassettes. Craig will also be assisting in the Summer Reading Programme in which the member libraries are participating.

In the very near future, Colleen Swift, who has been hired as RECON Co-ordinator, will be making her presence known to area librarians, particularly Medicine Hat and Brooks. She will begin preparing these two libraries for the catalogue conversion of their respective collections.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETS IN FOREMOST

The Shortgrass Steering Committee met on May 30th in Foremost to update the members of the progress of the Project. The highlight of the meeting was the announcement that the village of Foremost and the County of Fory Mile had approved the Plans of Service for the Shortgrass System. With these two councils making up the required six along with Brooks, Redcliff, Medicine Hat and Bow Island, the Steering Committee has fulfilled its goals and is preparing to turn over its responsibilities to the interim board when approval has been received by the Minister.

Concern was expressed by all present at the meeting that there is no guarantee that funds for establishment would be available to Shortgrass in 1988. This information was received in a letter from the Minister after a meeting with him by members of the executive in April. The purpose of the meeting was to obtain assurance that funds could be available in order for the System to become established in 1988, and to enable the System board to obtain headquarters space and the necessary equipment and supplies for the operation of the System. A further proposal will be presented to the Minister from the Shortgrass Steering Committee requesting establishment funds. The Steering Committee has informed the Minister that it is willing to look to alternate sources of funding in order to become established in 1988, but it stressed that without financial assistance some of the proposed services could be delayed.

The meeting in Foremost was held in the Foremost Library, which, along with the Senior Citizen's facility was officially opened four days later. The people of Foremost who were involved in the construction of these facilities are to be commended on their efforts and the foresight in improving the leisure hours of the people of Foremost and area.

I SPY



The complete kit for the Summer Reading Programme had been distributed to the participating libraries and everything is in readiness for an exciting summer for the kids. Included in the kit are bookmarks, posters, colouring posters, stickers, certificates and a series of mysteries to be solved. There are also plans to have special mystery entertainment at each of the participating libraries during the summer months.

This type of programming is annual and will be offered to the participating libraries in the Shortgrass Region in future years. This year the libraries in Brooks, Redcliff, Bow Island and Foremost are taking part in the programme.

FALL AUTHOR TOUR

Information received from the Young Alberta Book Festival Society shows that 350 libraries and schools took in the author tours last November. Shortgrass was one of the participants when John Charyk toured the Shortgrass region.

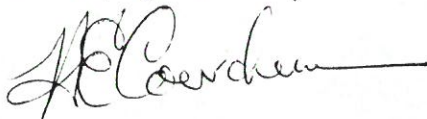
This year the society is again offering the services of authors, illustrators and publishers who will be invited to visit libraries, schools and book stores in November.

This years' Festival Kit, with a science theme will be available to assist in the promotion of the fall festival and will consist of a full colour poster, bookmarks, a science poster, a bibliography of science books available in English and French and a science activity mini-book. Plans are now being made by the Shortgrass librarians sub-committee to participate in the festival. More information will be forwarded to member libraries at a later date.

HAROLD COURCHENE, ALBERTA CULTURE REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

As regional Cultural Consultant for Field Services of Alberta Culture, I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate the Shortgrass Steering Committee on reaching the goals set, by acquiring the needed support from Library Boards and Municipal Councils.

I look forward to working with this committee and the future interim board as they now strive for completion of this project.



Harold Courchene

GOPHER IT!



SHORTGRASS

Shortgrass Clipping is published by the Shortgrass Library Project six times annually--February, April, June, August, October and December.

"Shortgrass Clippings" purpose is to keep library trustees, libraries and all interested parties informed of the development within the boundaries of southeast Alberta. The opinions expressed are not necessarily endorsed by the Shortgrass Library Project.

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