

BOARD REPORT



CHINOOK
ARCH REGIONAL
LIBRARY SYSTEM

Chinook Arch Library Board Meeting - April 3, 2025

Chinook Arch Library Board Receives Clean Audit Report

Chinook Arch has received a clean audit report for the 2024 fiscal year from auditors Insight LLP. While the Board was unable to bolster its reserve funds in 2024, it did make some significant capital investment in its IT infrastructure (\$160,000) and delivery fleet (\$65,000). The cost of the IT upgrade was defrayed by a \$75,000 grant from the Government of Alberta's CIP program. Chinook Arch continues to find efficiencies in order to address flat revenues. Provincial operating grants continue to be paid based on the 2019 population lists, which is causing increased budgetary pressures.

Annual Reports Approved

The Board approved the 2024 Annual Reports for Chinook Arch and the Sylvia Hirsche Memorial Library (Wrentham). The report shows a slow but steady increase in most indicators, though libraries purchased fewer books and other library materials in 2024, despite spending a higher than average amount. This suggests that the high inflation of the past few years is placing stress on the book purchasing budgets of Chinook Arch member libraries.

Chinook Arch Board Recognizes Longtime Trustee Vic Mensch

Long-time library supporter and trustee Vic Mensch was recognized at the April meeting of the Chinook Arch Library Board. Vic was one of the first people in this area to see the importance of regional library

service. Starting in the mid-1980s, he served on the Steering Committee and has been on the Board and Executive Committee since that time, serving as Chair on several occasions. Vic's contribution to public library services in southwestern Alberta cannot be overstated. Thank you, Vic, for everything!



Board Members Present

Corry Walk – Village of Arrowwood
LeGrande Bevans – Cardston County
Blanche Anderson – Village of Carmangay
Terry Penney – Village of Champion
Lyndsay Montina – Town of Coalhurst
Stephen Pain – Village of Coutts
Doreen Glavin – Municipality of Crowsnest Pass
Jim Monteith (Treasurer) – Town of Fort Macleod
Linda Allred – Village of Glenwood
Jenn Schmidt-Rempel – City of Lethbridge
Tory Campbell – Lethbridge County
Marie Logan (Vice Chair) – Village of Lomond
Darryl Christensen (Chair) – Town of Magrath
Anne Michaelis – Town of Milk River
Amanda Bustard – Town of Nanton
Melissa Jensen – Town of Nobleford
Crystal Neels – Town of Picture Butte
Mark Barber – Town of Pincher Creek
Dave Cox – Pincher Creek MD
Kelly Jensen – Town of Raymond
Chelsey Hurt – Town of Stavely
Justin Davis – Village of Stirling
Merrill Harris – Taber MD
Marilyn Forchuk – Town of Vauxhall
Doug Logan – Vulcan County
Derek Baron – Village of Warner
Morgan Rockenbach – County of Warner
Maryanne Sandberg – Willow Creek MD
Allan Quinton – LPL Resource Centre

Regrets

Marsha Jensen – Town of Cardston
Monica McLean – Town of Taber
Lorraine Kirk – Town of Vulcan

Not Present

Jane Johnson – Village of Barnwell
Ron Gorzitza – Village of Barons
Brad Schlossberger – Town of Claresholm
Vacant – Town of Coaldale
Sue French – Village of Hill Spring
Christopher Northcott – Village of Milo
Vacant – ID #4 Waterton

Policies Approved

The Board reviewed and approved the following policies. All of the Board's policies and by-laws are reviewed on a three-year cycle.

All policies can be found on the Chinook Arch website at

<https://chinookarch.ca/about-us/board-policies>

- Capital Assets Policy
- Accounting Policy
- Value Statement
- Committees and Committee Mandates Policy

Member Satisfaction Survey

Chinook Arch conducts a regular satisfaction survey of its member libraries, with the goal of ensuring that the needs of the members are being met in an effective way. The survey touches on all aspects of the System's service: cataloguing support, online resources, delivery, marketing, training and professional development, consulting, technology, and more. An aggregate score of 4.36/5 shows that members are overall very happy with the service they receive from Chinook Arch.

Contact Us

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