



Jasper Municipal Library

## **PLAN OF SERVICE 2020-2024**

**Prepared by: The Jasper Municipal Library Board**

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## COVID 19 PANDEMIC IMPACT

Starting in March 2020, the global coronavirus pandemic has had a huge impact on the library and its operations.

The library was closed to the public March 17, 2020 by order of the Provincial government. The Municipality of Jasper closed the building on the same day to all but essential staff. Due to a large cut in our Municipal Grant, most library staff were temporarily laid off. On June 26, the library began offering scheduled library item pick ups, although the library remained closed to the public. In August 2020 permanent regular staff were reduced to 3. September 2 the library reopened to the public. The library hours have been reduced to 29 hrs per week. Visitors are limited to 1 hour in the library, with a maximum of 25 people in the library at one time. Staff levels have increased to provide library service as well as maintain high levels of sanitizing.

In light of the ongoing global pandemic we recognize acting as a community gathering space must be done in a safe manner for both visitors and staff. In person programming has been stopped until such time as the Library Board, staff and participants feel it can be done safely. Safe for both physical and mental health.

The Municipality of Jasper Library Board has, and will continue to, follow directives from the Municipality of Jasper, Alberta Health Services, the Medical Officer of Health and other bodies as required.

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## PLAN OF SERVICE 2020-2024

The Jasper Municipal Library is the hub of the town and a vibrant community connector. It is comfortable and inviting with large windows, showcasing the mountains and providing many interesting areas to inspire creativity and engage minds, allowing us to meet and interact.

At our library, providing early childhood development opportunities and connecting to school-age children and teens are important priorities.

The library is proud to play a role in the development of a community dedicated to lifelong learning, maintaining and enhancing community health. The Jasper Municipal Library's Plan of Service 2020-2025 recognizes the importance of library services to individuals and the community as a place that welcomes everyone, and offers an opportunity to discover the world through lifelong learning. In this place, we can connect with each other to build community.

Imagine,  
Discover and Connect

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### Community Profile

Jasper is a unique community located in a national park which is a world heritage site, home to people from all over the world. The Jasper Municipal Library serves all sectors of the community, a diverse and mobile population, including approximately forty six hundred permanent residents of Jasper, hundreds of seasonal workers and millions of visitors each year.

### Library Profile

The library is a safe and welcoming space, learning centre and communication hub for our community and visitors. The library is open 54 hours per week and is staffed by four regular staff, one director and four casual staff. Additionally, there are nine regular volunteers who provide 40 hours per month. The Library is a member of the Yellowhead Regional Library System and participates in resource sharing through TRAC. The Library is also part of The Alberta Library (TAL) which allows access to additional resources for Alberta residents with a valid library card.

The community looks to the library for print and electronic media, internet access, computers, local information, reference services, and as a gathering space. We share space with L'Association Canadienne Française de Jasper and as a Cultural Centre, the building currently includes the Habitat for the Arts, Jasper Artists Guild, Municipal Offices and Council Chamber. Our community includes the Grande Yellowhead Public School Division and the Centre-Nord Francophone School Division.

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## LIBRARY HISTORY

1942 - A group of volunteers organized to establish a library.

1975 - The library moved to the old RCMP headquarters, which was a recognized historical building.

1995 - The library invested \$75,000 in renovations and completed electronic cataloguing of the library's collection.

1998 - The Jasper Library joined the Yellowhead Regional Library.

2009 - After much consideration, the Municipality of Jasper decided to expand on the Jasper Municipal Library Board's original project to include space for local arts organizations, and accessed \$4.5 million through Municipal Sustainability Initiative funds available from the Province of Alberta. The Jasper Municipal Library Board applied for and received a Canada Builds Grant that included \$1.5 million from the Federal Government and 1.5 million from the Provincial Government. The Board also provided \$300,000 from fund-raising.

2016 - The Jasper Library and Cultural Centre opens.

2020 - Global Pandemic

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## VISION STATEMENT - WHERE WE ARE GOING.

The Jasper Municipal Library is recognized as a welcoming and inclusive destination that engages, strengthens and enhances our community's quality of life.

## MISSION STATEMENT - WHAT WE DO.

The Library will strive to be the community's information and cultural centre; a stimulator of new ideas; a centre for lifelong learning for people of all ages; and a hub of the community that welcomes residents, newcomers, seasonal workers and tourists.



## PRIORITY ONE: COMMUNITY GATHERING SPACE

**The Jasper Municipal Library is a place with welcoming, accessible and safe spaces to meet and interact.**

### **Goal One**

To provide a safe and comfortable space for our community.

Objectives:

- Be welcoming and professional
- Encourage interaction and social gathering in a safe and caring way
- Continue with accessibility for all users
- Ongoing staff training and professional development

### **Goal Two**

Increase community awareness and provide opportunities for interaction, engagement and social interaction.

Objectives:

- To be a source of local information
  - Work in partnership with organizations and within the community
  - Encourage engagement/interaction through programming at the library
  - Showcase a multitude of opinions, views and subject matter
  - Increase social media presence
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## PRIORITY TWO: ENGAGE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

**Be a community where children are given an opportunity to read and develop listening skills.**

### Goal

Support caregivers and their preschoolers in developing literacy and social skills.

### Objectives

- Collection development to support these skills
- Find resources with community partners to develop programming
- Children's activities, resources and programming will be developed and offered to encourage engagement between children and their caregivers.





## PRIORITY THREE: ENGAGE SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN AND TEENS

**Be a community where children and teens connect with the library.**

### **Goal One**

To develop a strategy to empower teens to have a voice in the library.

#### Objectives

- Enhance our partnerships
- Teens to survey teens about collection development and programming
- Encourage teen leadership

### **Goal Two**

To offer opportunities for children and teens to develop and strengthen their literacy skills.

#### Objectives

- Develop programs & resources that are fun and meaningful
  - Enhance our partnerships
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## PRIORITY FOUR: PURSUE PERSONAL INTERESTS AND SELF-DEVELOPMENT

**Be a community dedicated to lifelong learning.**

### Goal

The library will have collections, programs, services and spaces designed for lifelong learning.

### Objectives

- Provide technology education and information regarding electronic resources provided by the library
- Develop and offer drop-in or off-site sessions
- Collection development
- Offer a variety of opportunities for people to engage and learn
- Utilize partnerships to enhance programming



## **THE PLANNING PROCESS AND PURPOSE**

Public libraries in Alberta are required to file a plan of service with the Public Library Services at least once every five years. Our plan of service helps to guide the library and the board, ensuring alignment with the municipality's goal of community health.

## **COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

Over a six month period, we gathered information through a variety of surveys, and attended community events, including the Welcome Event and High School Wellness Fair.



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## JASPER MUNICIPAL LIBRARY BOARD 2020

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**We would like to acknowledge the contributions of these individuals for their assistance in developing this Plan of Service.**

Dale Karpluk - past board member

Gloria Kongsrud - past board member

Angie Thom - Library Director

Stephanie Thero - Yellowhead Regional Library

Jordan DeSousa - Alberta Public Library Services

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