



Peace Library System

Update to the CITY OF GRANDE PRAIRIE
www.peacelibrarysystem.ab.ca

PLS at a Glance

- Established June 1986
- Official Population: 174,216
- Members: 37 municipalities and 1 Métis settlement
- Serving: 46 public libraries and 34 schools
- Headquarters: Grande Prairie
- Staff: 18 with specialized training
- Chair: Carolyn Kolebaba, Northern Sunrise County
- CEO: Louisa Robison

ROI: \$1=\$7.28 / Benefit: \$4,650,131.46

Population: 67,699
Appropriation: \$452,229.32
Allotment: \$186,172.25
Total: \$638,401.57
Direct return: \$152,322.57

Technology cost avoidance:

- IT Support and Maintenance: \$500,000
- Website hosting: \$4,800
- Supernet: \$25,000

Resource sharing cost avoidance:

- Interlibrary Loan: \$995,362
- Digital Borrowing: \$2,628,450
- Print Acquisitions: \$859,059
- Non-print Acquisitions: \$8,990
- ILL postage: \$121,881
- Tech Services: \$122,117

Marketing: \$800

Training: \$500

2024 Membership Fees

Population: 67,699

- Population figures used are from Municipal Affairs Population Estimates

Appropriation: \$ 452,229.32

- This is the amount the City pays for membership

Allotment: \$ 186,172.25

- This is the amount the Library Board pays for materials purchasing

Total: \$ 638,401.57

- Billed separately to the City and the Library Board

Direct return: \$ 152,322.57 – used for buying resources

Technology

Technology cost avoidance:

- IT Support and Maintenance, going it alone~ \$500,000
- Website hosting, basic service, retail ~ \$4800
- SuperNet, paid by the Province of Alberta ~ \$850
 - But if you had to pay a retail provider, up to \$25000/year and no connection to the library catalogue software

Resource Sharing

Resource sharing cost avoidance:

- Interlibrary Loan: \$995,362
 - In 2024, GPPL brought in 40,627 physical items
- Digital Borrowing: \$2,628,450
 - In 2024, GPPL delivered 87,615 digital items to their patrons
- Print Acquisitions: \$89,059
 - In 2024, GPPL bought 9,566 physical books
- Non-print Acquisitions: \$8,990
 - In 2024, GPPL bought 1,124 non print items

Training and Marketing

- Training: \$500
 - The cost of one externally provided professional development course
- Marketing: \$800
 - The cost of one consultation with a professional marketing firm

PLS Services

Library Collections

- Centralized ordering
- Cost-savings through bulk purchases
- Selection lists
- Cataloguing services
- Specialized collections
- Collection development assistance
- Weeding assistance

IT Services & Support

- Shared costs
- Automated circulation
- Regional IT network & Help Desk
- Tech training
- Coordinated purchasing
- Internet service
- Wireless & Website support

Access to Resources

- Provincial borrowing card
- Request items from across the province
- Choose from over 30 million items
- Information 24/7
- eBooks and other eResources
- Interlibrary Loan
- Delivery Service
- ILL Postage Reimbursement

Training & Programs

- Help with library management
- Professional librarians
- On-site visits
- Workshops & webinars
- Digital media training
- Program support
- Training tools on PLS website
- Library board orientations

Alberta Mid-Sized Libraries

- Grande Prairie Public Library
- St. Albert Public Library
- Wood Buffalo Public Library (Fort McMurray)
- Strathcona County Public Library (Sherwood Park)
- Red Deer Public Library
- Medicine Hat Public Library
- Airdrie Public Library
- Lethbridge Public Library

Alberta Mid-Sized Libraries

(system members)

Name	Population 2025	Municipal Funding	System Fee
GPPL	70,385	\$1.84M	\$638,401 PLS
Medicine Hat	63,271	\$2.6M	\$640,302 SLS
Airdrie	85,505	\$3.0M	\$948,250 MLS
Lethbridge	106,550	\$6.7M	\$1,207,211 CARLS

Alberta Mid-Sized Libraries

Name	Population 2025	Total Funding
GPPL	70,385	\$2.48M
Medicine Hat	63,271	\$3.24M
Airdrie	85,505	\$3.95M
Lethbridge	106,550	\$7.9M
Red Deer	100,844	\$3.95M
St. Albert	72,316	\$4.7M
Strathcona County	109,339	\$11.4M