



www.palliserlibrary.ca

For The Record News & Trustee Report

October - December 2007

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What's New at Palliser?



**Free Online Math and Science Tutoring
For Grades 6 - 12
Sunday - Thursday, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm**

Homework Help available from your home computer through library website

1. Uses the Internet, chat and can use headphones/microphones for live conversations.
2. To get on, go to the Palliser website www.palliserlibrary.ca click on Tutor World and then **enter your patron barcode number and pin number**. If you have any questions, please contact your local branch librarian.

Branch Library Christmas Hours

All branches will be closed on December 24th, 25th, 26th and January 1st 2008. Branches were given the opportunity to make up hours and close over Christmas. Please check the following list to see the last date in 2007 that your branch will be open.

Branch	Last Day Open in 2007	Branch	Last Day Open in 2007
Assiniboia	1:45 p.m. December 31st	Loreburn	Thursday, December 27th
Avonlea	Friday, December 21st	Moose Jaw	1:00 pm December 31st
Bethune	Friday, December 21st	Mortlach	Friday, December 28th
Briercrest	Thursday, December 27th	Mossbank	Friday, December 28th
Coronach	Saturday, December 22nd	Riverhurst	Thursday, December 20th
Craik	Friday, December 28th	Rockglen	Saturday, December 29 th
Davidson	Saturday, December 29th	Rouleau	Friday, December 21st
Elbow	Friday, December 28th	Tugaske	Thursday, December 27th
Holdfast	Thursday, December 20th	Willow Bunch	Thursday, December 27th
Imperial	Thursday, December 20th	Wood Mountain	Thursday, December 20th

FALL REGIONAL BOARD MEETING – November 1, 2007

The annual Fall Regional Board meeting was held in the South Meeting Room at Moose Jaw Public Library on November 1, 2007. 21 Regional Board members attended plus 7 guests. The \$1.00 increase to the base library levy was passed unanimously. The new library levy rates, as established in the by-laws, are, as follows:

~ Base Levy (No branch)	\$ 9.51	
~ Towns & Villages with a Branch	\$14.27	(1.5 times the base levy)
~ Towns over 2,000, with a branch	\$19.02	(2 times the base levy)

Many thanks to all who attended the meeting and to all the Councils who took the time to discuss and responded to the June questionnaire. Your opinions were brought forward at the meeting.

The breakdown of the expenditures covered through the rural levy is, as follows:

- ~ **91%** rural salaries (The Province kicks in an additional \$25,000 towards salaries)
- ~ **1.25%** licenses for rural branches
- ~ **2.75%** on rural branch librarian training
- ~ **5%** on local paperback purchases which, thanks to the courier service, benefits both the rural branches and the Moose Jaw Public Library.

Bill C-458 – Library Book Rate Dies on Order Table

The library community serving your constituents was thrilled when Merv Tweed, Manitoba MP for Brandon-Souris tabled Bill C-458 in the House of Commons as it would maintain our right to mail books between branches at a reduced rate plus expand it to include magazines, and audio-visual materials. The basic book rate has been renewed until the end of 2008. The Executive has written and sent petitions to all of our MPs twice this year in support of Mr. Tweed's Bill C-458 which would extend the book rate to magazines and A/V. Canada Post states that this is undoable without more funds from Ottawa. We were concerned this September with the Prorogue of Parliament. Ralph Goodale's reply to our October letter puts the situation the best and it states:

*"While the Harper government's decision to prorogue Parliament this fall effectively killed all outstanding government bills on the Order Paper, Private Members bills actually survive prorogation – according to well established parliamentary rules. Therefore Mr. Tweed's Bill C-458 respecting libraries remains alive. **It is, however, far down the order of Precedence and Mr. Tweed has not taken any steps that I know of to increase its priority.**"*

All ideas on how to raise the profile of this bill are appreciated! All letters of support are welcome. It may even help us make available the inter-regional loan of DVDs her audio-visual materials not currently supported.

How Green is My Saskatchewan - Leveling the Rural Learning field Through Information Literacy

This is the third joint project between Palliser Regional Library and the Prairie South School Division.

Sharon Wagner has been hired as the Teacher Librarian and is working out of the Palliser Headquarters building. She started on October 1st and the contract will end just before the May long weekend in 2008. She will be visiting each school 2-3 times.

Sharon will be teaching the students of Grade 5, 8 and 11 the basics of database searching and information literacy (aka evaluating and citing their online sources). She is approaching it though the "go green" environmental theme (as opposed to the GO Roughriders GO).

In the late afternoon or early evening, she will be offering sessions to the general public through the local branch library. For libraries serving municipalities outside the Prairie South School Division (Imperial, Holdfast, Bethune, Davidson, Loreburn) or serving municipalities serving towns where the school has closed (Willow Bunch, Briercrest, Wood Mountain, Riverhurst), Sharon will also be offering 2-3 sessions on database searching for the general public.

SaskSmart Family Literacy Grant: The Storytelling Revival of South Central Saskatchewan

The story sack workshops are in progress and to date we have made 3 story sacks for use in the branches. It is our hope that the attendees will take the skills home and create their own Story Sack Friends groups to haunt local garage sales for the required "toys" and other paraphernalia before they spend an entertaining afternoon together assembling the story sacks. It truly is a fun group activity that helps promote literacy. Palliser is using some of its literacy funds to purchase the books for the kits and we intend to catalogue log so that they will be available to all branch libraries for their story hours.

We are in the process of organizing 3 Storytelling workshops for March of 2008.

SILS – The Single Integrated Library System Update

Dynix, our provider for our online catalogue and circulation system (Dynix Classic) was recently sold and has been undergoing several major shakeups. As a result, all, and I mean all, circulation systems (Saskatoon's and Regina's too) must be replaced. The Library Directors and Provincial Library see this as an opportunity to bring the entire province under one centralized library system.

Provincial Library submitted a Business Case to the government. It has been made a priority of the Department of Learning and we hope that the new government will regard its necessity in the same light. Jan Smith and Karon Selzer are on the Request for Proposal Committee for the SILS Project. They have been receiving branch and public input about what they would like to see in a new system. If you have comments, please pass them on to Jan by contacting webmaster@palliser.lib.sk.ca

REGIONAL NEWS



Davidson has moved into a New Facility

After many delays, the Davidson Branch moved into its new facility in the old school board offices in Davidson. Many thanks to the board members and to the volunteers who helped them move and a special thanks and congratulations to September and Debbie for orchestrating and surviving the move!

Fall '07 Highlights

Reading Revival: Encouraging reluctant readers through graphic novels:

Some issues have arisen re: censorship of materials. One of the main issues revolves around the branches adding the very adult graphic novels into the juvenile section, instead of creating a teen section or integrating the collection into the adult section. We are working on this. Overall they are working well and have attracted a lot of the young male audience back to books in general. As of October 30th we have had a 48% increase in the number of young adult books read over 2006. If the trend continues, we expect to have had 28,815 Young Adult books checked out in 2007 versus the 19,480 books checked out in 2006.

Lost Worlds – the TD Summer Reading Club:

14 branches had performers this summer and rurally 357 people attended the performances. 1,415 children participated system-wide and they read 26,330 books. Total attendance for in-library activities as 2,554. Attendance at the activities held outside the library was 407. Our thanks to our many local sponsors, SaskTel, the Saskatchewan Writers Guild and the TD Bank for another successful summer.

Saskatchewan Library Trustees Association Library Promotion Program

SLTA has bought the rights to several Alberta Library pro-library spots to run on TV. We do not have air dates as yet as Global will be modifying the PSAs to have a Saskatchewan flavour.

Headquarters News

Branch Librarian's CAP Workshop: is tentatively scheduled to be held in Moose Jaw on **February 14-15th 2008**. The hot topics are "Working Alone at Night - Your Personal Security, computer and Internet security, Facebook, MySpace and other web 2.0 social software. The workshop is still tentative as the papers still have not been signed between governments so we are unsure of the monies available.

Staff News

Anne Warriner (Moose Jaw Public Head Librarian) has been off with emergency surgery. She is doing well and is due back to work on November 19th.

Jan Smith (Director) will be off for 6 weeks following her follow-up surgery. She is due to return on January 2nd 2008 but, assuming all goes well, will be in and out for the occasional critical meetings (RFP, Board) and teleconferences (RFP, Director's). In the interval, please address all questions of a fiscal nature to Wanda Burton at 693-3669 or email her at wburton@palliser.lib.sk.ca. Any questions regarding interpretation of the contract, please call Anne Warriner at 306-692-2787 or e-mail her at librarian.smj@sasktel.net. Tiffany will be handling all branch and general computer related questions (tolsen@palliser.lib.sk.ca).

Linda Lintick, Branch Librarian – Loreburn has been off with back surgery. Many thanks to **Sue Anne Abbott** for filling in for Linda during her extended absence.

Have You Visited Magazines and More! @ www.palliserlibrary.ca for

Informed articles from over 7,500 magazines and reference books on:

Arts & Music	Education	Kids & Teens
Automobile Repair	Encyclopedia	Law
Biography & Genealogy	French	Magazines & Journals
Books & Literature	Government	Newspapers
Business	Health	Saskatchewan
Directories	History	Telephone Books



Happy Holidays! From the Staff of Palliser