



THE ALBERTA LIBRARY 2006 Annual Report



Acknowledgements

The Alberta Library (TAL) extends sincere appreciation for the generous financial support, leadership, and vision provided by the Alberta Government. The partnerships with: Alberta Community Development (to mid December) and Alberta Municipal Affairs and Housing (from mid December); Alberta Advanced Education and Technology; and Alberta Education enable collaboration, innovation and resource sharing among all types of libraries through TAL.

Specifically:

- Libraries, Community and Voluntary Sector Services Branch for funds to support the Alberta Public Library Electronic Network (APLEN)
- Alberta Advanced Education and Technology for funds to support the Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library (LHCADL)
- Alberta Education for funds to support the Online Reference Centre (ORC)
- Industry Canada for the fund to support APLEN and the Community Access Program (CAP)

TAL also gratefully acknowledges the generous support of:

- University of Alberta Libraries for facilities use by Information Technology Services
- University of Calgary Library for facilities use by Licensing Staff
- Edmonton Public Library for the provision of network connectivity services

Message from the Chair

Since 1997, The Alberta Library (TAL) has grown from a library community-wide desire for “a better way of doing things” to an integral part of delivering library service to Albertans. The importance of TAL and the services it provides was never more evident than in 2006.

Significant work occurred in a number of areas. Work began in earnest for the development of the 2007 – 2011 Strategic Plan. The input from the Board, various focus groups, staff and other stakeholders was gathered to begin to create a plan that will facilitate growth for both TAL and its members.

APLEN participated in inter-provincial discussions of the creation of a possible future direction for all libraries with the investigation of social networking software integration. Development of the Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library (LHCADL) was started following the submission to government of the Business and Implementation Plan early in the year.

The corporate structure of TAL underwent a re-organization in 2006. To streamline the organization, positions were grouped into functional areas. The net result was that TAL is better equipped to provide even better service to members. A new functional area, Information Technology Services, was created to better reflect the high-level of technological support that TAL provides.

TAL continued to enjoy a strong relationship with its government stakeholders: Libraries, Community and Voluntary Sector Services Branch; Alberta Advanced Education and Technology; and Alberta Education. Jointly the ministries demonstrated that they are strong allies in working towards our goal of providing barrier-free access to information to all Albertans.

Thank you to the larger Alberta library community for its strong support of TAL. Overall, member library staff volunteered 2700 hours at over 60 meetings confirming that the TAL membership also sees TAL as an essential part of the Alberta library community. Thank you also to the TAL staff for all their hard work in the previous year.

As we look to the future, I know that the Alberta library community will continue to be strengthened by the collaborative work done in and through TAL.



CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Alberta Library

Vision, Mission, and Values

Vision

Universal barrier-free access for all Albertans to information and ideas delivered in a dynamic model of cooperation extending beyond walls and beyond current levels of performance.

Mission

The Alberta Library, as a province-wide multi-type library consortium, enables resource sharing, actively initiates and facilitates cooperative activity, coordinates communication and advocates on behalf of its members.

Values

Lifelong Learning

The Alberta Library assists its members to provide their staff with the training needed in delivering excellent service in the new information environment.

Leadership

The Alberta Library is a change agent, taking a lead in providing members with the information and ideas they require to meet the information and service demands of their users.

The Alberta Library will continuously seek, evaluate and take advantage of opportunities to introduce innovations in library service delivery.

Respect

The Alberta Library acknowledges the diversity of its member institutions in working toward equitable results.

Inclusion

The Alberta Library encourages the active participation of all members in the decisions that affect them and values an atmosphere of respect and candor.

Openness

The Alberta Library is a responsive and open organization accountable to its members.

Core Businesses

Core Business 1: Resource Sharing

The Alberta Library (TAL) facilitates sharing collections among Alberta libraries by giving better access to both existing and new content, and sharing human resources.

Core Business 2: Content Enhancement

TAL coordinates the acquisition and creation of electronic information resources on behalf of member libraries, thereby improving access to quality content.

Core Business 3: Professional Development and Training

TAL coordinates and provides professional development and training opportunities focusing on TAL's programs and services.

Core Business 4: Infrastructure

TAL encourages and provides the technical infrastructure and support for the delivery of collaborative services.

Core Business 5: Advocacy

TAL provides support to and partnering with libraries and provincial library associations in advocacy for libraries.

Core Businesses

Resource Sharing

The Alberta Library (TAL) Card

The TAL Card is a reciprocal borrowing program among over 270 public, post-secondary and special member libraries across the province. In 2006, there were two new participants in the TAL Card program: Bow Valley College and Prairie Bible Institute.

Information Technology Services (ITS)

The Information Technology Services Team was given the mandate in mid 2006 to develop plans to create a robust infrastructure able to support both current and future applications requirements across TAL, and particularly for the Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library.

Three major applications are supported for public, special and post-secondary libraries and library systems: Site Search provides access to a virtual union catalogue for member libraries (TAL Online), allowing patrons to locate resources and where available submit interlibrary loan requests; EZ-Proxy provides IP based and remote access to electronic resources for member libraries; and SFX provides an OpenURL based linking functionality to allow patrons to locate and access electronic resources and library services. The ITS Team also supports the development and maintenance of Ask a Question.

Site Search – The TAL Online service had a 3% increase in the total number of visits to its site reaching 188,669. There was a 3.1% increase in all searches totaling 369,135 for 2006. Interlibrary loans initiated through the systems dropped by 2.8% to 24,155 requests.

EZ-Proxy – The EZ-Proxy service grew to support 28 libraries and was used by 55,626 unique users a total of 140,255 times.

SFX – TAL supports SFX for 13 post-secondary institutions. The service had 102,341 hits in 2006 with resulting in 62,944 clickthroughs. Of the 62,944 clickthroughs, 26,389 were for full-text articles, 14,031 for interlibrary loans, and 16,746 catalogue searches.

Ask A Question

Ask A Question (AAQ) is a collaborative e-mail virtual reference service coordinated by TAL and provided by public and post-secondary libraries. APLEN continues to subsidize the costs of participation for the public library sector. Sixteen public Node libraries and nine post-secondary libraries participate in the AAQ service.

In 2006, 7547 questions were submitted to AAQ, 94% of which were answered by public libraries. The results of a user survey showed that 88% were satisfied with the response they received and 95% will use the service again.

Core Businesses - cont.

The AAQ Service Committee provides advice and direction on the development of the AAQ service. In 2006, the Committee oversaw the redesign of the AAQ logo, and the public and staff webpages pages. The Committee provided advice into the development of an Instant Messaging module that will work with AAQ.

Content Enhancement

Licensing

TAL negotiates and administers licenses for electronic resources for its member libraries. As a benefit of membership, TAL offers access to Wilson's Library Literature database to all member library staff. TAL also works with other consortia across Canada to collaboratively license electronic resources.

The current Subscriptions Alberta Universal Core will expire at the end of 2007. Ninety-eight percent (98%) of member libraries currently participate in the initiative, ensuring transparent user access to the same resources, regardless of location or library affiliation. To further facilitate access, APLEN subsidizes costs for providing the Core to public libraries. In fall 2006, the Core was offered through the LHCADL resulting in 10 additional post-secondary libraries having access to the electronic resources. Vendor training related to the Core resources was provided for 35 public and post-secondary library participants in Edmonton in October.

Two new products were offered through TAL resulting in new subscriptions to Alexander Street Press: Music Online and Thomson Gale: Chilton Library.

During 2006, the APLEN Standing Committee decided to support a licensed database product beyond the Core. Upon the recommendation from TAL licensing staff, the product chosen was Novelist (EBSCO) effective January 2007.

The Licensing Service Committee provides advice and direction for TAL's licensing program, with specific emphasis on the Subscriptions Alberta initiative. Given the current Universal Core subscription period expires at the end of 2007, the Committee's main focus for the year was to evaluate the existing Core. To help plan for the content in the next anticipated Universal Core suite, an evaluation survey was distributed and feedback solicited from the membership.

Online Reference Centre

The Online Reference Centre (ORC), part of Alberta Education's LearnAlberta.ca website, provides a unique collection of online reference and information resources. Available in

Core Businesses - cont.

both English and French for Alberta students, teachers and parents, the ORC supports the K-12 Alberta Education curriculum. TAL receives a grant-in-aid from Alberta Education to administer licensing of the online databases that make up the ORC.

In 2006, usage of resources increased 35% over the previous year. Thirty four in-service sessions on the ORC were presented to approximately 650 teachers and school library support staff. Continual research and evaluation initiatives help to increase efficiency and accessibility of the databases and the project in general, resulting in positive feedback from users of the service.

Visunet

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) Visunet Canada Partners Program provides the ability for persons with print disabilities to access resources in alternative formats through public libraries. APLEN supports a provincial license for this service, which covers both public libraries, and those academic libraries who choose to participate. Training content developed by APLEN now forms the basis of the CNIB's national training program.

Bibliocommons

In 2006, TAL was invited to participate in a project investigating the use of social software trends as they apply to the library public access catalogue. As the initial phase of this work focused on public library catalogues, APLEN became the lead contact for this work. After an organizational meeting in May, 2006 hosted by the BC Provincial Library, three provinces (Alberta, BC and Ontario) agreed to continue this work in an inter-provincial, collaborative way. This project has now become known as Bibliocommons, and APLEN provided funding in the amount of \$50,000 for the first phase, anticipated to be completed by early 2007.

Professional Development and Training

Netspeed 2006

TAL once again hosted Netspeed, the annual library technology conference for librarians, technical staff and trustees. Netspeed 2006 featured plenary speakers: Catherine de Rosa, VP, Marketing and Library Services, OCLC; Beth Jefferson, Founder, Bibliocommons; David Singleton, Deputy State Librarian, Georgia Public Library Service; and Bill Singleton, Public Information Network for Electronic Services (PINES) Software Developer. Sessional speakers included provincial, national and international leaders in technology and related topics. Over 425 delegates from all library sectors participated in the two day conference held in Edmonton that included 44 speakers and 33 sponsors/exhibitors.

Core Businesses - cont.

Federated Search Symposium

In February the Federated Searching Symposium was held in Calgary. The two day symposium focused on federating (also known as meta-searching or cross-database) searching and the realities and practicalities of providing seamless search and retrieval for patrons. In addition to plenary speakers Roy Tennant, Manager, eScholarship Web & Services Design, California Digital Library, and Cathy Gordon, Director, Google Scholar, panelists discussed their experiences with implementing and using federated search products in their libraries. Vendors were on hand to share information about their products and participants had an opportunity to experiment with and evaluate these products.

APLEN Continuing Education and Training

Training on a diverse range of topics was provided to member libraries in 2006. Topics included: technology, updates on APLEN initiatives, advocacy, Visunet, Web Awareness, Web Awareness for Adults, Technical Core Competencies, databases, SuperNet, broadband in the library, the Service Alberta and Service Canada websites. Sessions were held throughout the year at various library system conferences, meetings, Netspeed and the annual Alberta Library Association Conference.

Purchased with CAP funding, APLEN obtained an additional training lab in 2006, capable of wireless internet access. This new lab and the Gates Mobile Training Lab was provided to facilitate adult computer training on the internet, databases, and productivity software in libraries across the province.

The APLEN Technology Training Team is responsible for advising the APLEN Technology Training Coordinator on the development and delivery of training initiatives and opportunities for public library staff. In 2006, the committee continued to develop the learning objectives for each of the sections in the Technology Core Competencies and recommended that the 'Becoming a Master Instructor' program from NAIT be offered to those staff at the Node library level responsible for planning and conducting training. This initiative received strong support and is scheduled for early 2007.

Web Awareness

Web Awareness training continues to be offered by APLEN to public libraries throughout the province. The program teaches librarians and library users how to make wise and safe online decisions, such as how to distinguish fact from opinion, recognize online marketing techniques, protect their personal privacy and handle inappropriate or illegal content. An additional module was developed by APLEN on 'web awareness issues for adults' focusing on identity theft, phishing, online banking.

Core Businesses - cont.

Infrastructure

SuperNet Project

In 2006, the focus of the SuperNet project shifted from physically connecting sites to how the SuperNet connections can best be used. The SuperNet Advisory Committee (SNAC), an APLEN committee, took a leading role in facilitating technical decision making with the Node library technical staff around concepts for videoconferencing. APLEN coordinated videoconferencing training across the province and coordinated the receipt and installation of Videoconferencing Edge Devices for the Node libraries.

APLEN continued to be involved with the SuperNet Users Group (SNUG), an external government group comprised of the primary stakeholders in the SuperNet, including libraries, health, education and municipal government. Through SNUG, APLEN was involved in provincial discussions surrounding the development of a potential videoconferencing solution running over SuperNet. This solution offers a method to administer and manage a videoconferencing session.

In order to address the remaining build issues, APLEN with the agreement of Alberta Community Development and with the advice of Restructuring and Government Efficiency expended \$150,000 to obtain engineered quotations for 10 sites that did not yet have a SuperNet connection. The quotations will be completed in 2007.

Community Access Program (CAP)

APLEN administered the Industry Canada CAP program for 2006/07. The amount of available funding decreased in 2006 to \$351,804; however, the number of sites was restored to the original 285. To maximize the return on the available funding, APLEN brokered an agreement with Industry Canada and with the Node libraries to coordinate a centralized purchase of accessibility and adaptive technologies, along with specified hardware and software.

APLEN Grants

The APLEN Local Library Participation Grant provides financial support to those libraries ready to connect into the resource-sharing network in Alberta. To be eligible, a library must not have received any previous APLEN grant funding. The amount is capped at \$5000 per site. In 2006, 4 libraries received grants for a total expenditure of \$20,000.

Grant recipients:

Wrentham Public Library – \$5,000
Flatbush Community Library – \$5,000

Mundare Public Library – \$5,000
Big Valley Municipal Library – \$5,000

Core Businesses - cont.

The funds were used to purchase high-end telecommunication equipment, additional workstations and associated software, to set up access accounts on integrated library system software and for training.

Network Development, Capacity and Training Grants

Funds are made available to the Node libraries to assist with the purchase and maintenance of high-end network and telecommunications equipment necessary to continue to support their branches and Node partners or member libraries. In 2006, grants were paid to:

Grant recipients:

Calgary Public Library: \$300,000	Chinook Arch Library System: \$47,857
Edmonton Public Library: \$230,000	Fort McMurray Public Library: \$33,571
Grande Prairie Public Library: \$33,571	Lethbridge Public Library: \$33,571
Marigold Library System: \$47,857	Medicine Hat Public Library: \$33,571
Northern Lights Library System: \$47,857	Parkland Regional Library System: \$47,857
Peace Library System: \$47,857	Red Deer Public Library: \$33,571
St. Albert Public Library: \$33,571	Shortgrass Library System: \$47,857
Strathcona County Library: \$33,571	Yellowhead Regional Library System: \$47,857

Special Projects Grants

Funds were made available for Node libraries interested in investigating new and emerging technologies. Three projects received funding. Approval was granted to one other recipient to reallocate unused previously granted funds to a new project.

Grant recipients:

Red Deer Public Library – Podcasting
Strathcona County Library – WiFi Dog (community wireless access in rural locations)
Calgary Public Library – Internet privacy issues and networking technologies

A videoconferencing project involving five Node libraries received approval in principle in 2006.

Advocacy

Library Renewed Campaign

The APLEN Library Renewed campaign is an integrated marketing-advocacy campaign designed to assist and support the public library community highlight services and to support local advocacy initiatives.

In 2006, the Library Renewed Campaign was in the second of a three year program. Two new posters were distributed to libraries that complemented the four that had been provided in 2005. A series

Core Businesses - cont.

of six fridge magnets depicting the Library Renewed posters and two Library Renewed related postcards were created and supplied to libraries. Two new television public service announcements were developed. Newsprint advertising was expanded from Edmonton and Calgary and included Grande Prairie, Fort McMurray, Cold Lake, Red Deer, Lethbridge, and Medicine Hat.

For the first time, a special advertising feature promoting libraries was distributed throughout the province. Entitled “Libraries Come Alive”, the eight page tabloid style insert was distributed in over 360,000 daily newspapers in 11 urban centres. The tabloid featured province-wide library success stories and stories that related to the use of TAL services. For locations that did not have distribution through their local newspaper, copies of the tabloid were provided to be supplied to library patrons.

The Library Renewed Action Team met in April and August. In April, the team took part in a daylong media relations workshop provided by Calder Bateman Communications. In August, the team reviewed best practices and discussed the distribution of the Libraries Come Alive tabloid.

Lois Hole Library Legacy Program

The Lois Hole Library Legacy Program facilitates donations and bequests directly to public, post-secondary and school libraries. TAL provides promotional materials to libraries to promote the program to patrons on a cost-recovery basis. Over 130 public and school libraries are now registered in this program.

In May, TAL helped facilitate the distribution of three new books from Hole’s Greenhouse. A province-wide media release was done to thank the Hole family on behalf of Alberta public libraries.

Canadian Library Month

To facilitate the number of activities that take place to celebrate libraries, the Canadian Library Association announced that the entire month of October would be designated as “Canadian Library Month”. The “Libraries Come Alive” tabloid was distributed at the beginning of October to coincide with this celebration of libraries.

TAL participated on the Canadian Library Association National Library Month Committee and provided input to the poster campaign that was developed to promote Library Month nationally. Posters were distributed to public libraries by Libraries, Community and Voluntary Sector Services Branch.

Core Businesses - cont.

Promotion

TAL, its services and Alberta libraries were promoted at numerous conferences, trade shows and through participation in professional associations. Presentations were made at: the Digital Library Odyssey (Toronto); Canadian Library Association Conference (Ottawa); Alberta North 2006 Access Symposium (Lac La Biche); Calgary Regional – Alberta School Library Council (Calgary); Three-Hills SuperNet Conference (Three-Hills); Parkland Library Trustees Workshop (Lacombe); and the Alberta Library Conference (Jasper) among others.

TAL Tales and Website

TAL Tales was reintroduced with a new look at the beginning of January. In total, five issues were distributed covering a broad range of TAL related issues.

At the April Board Meeting, the new TAL website was launched. The major feature of the new site is the capability to provide members with IDs and passwords allowing them private access to a range of documents.

Partnerships

TAL provides administrative support to the Strategic Alliance for Library Advocacy (SALA). SALA is an alliance of provincial library associations advocating on issues of provincial and national scope. The group discussed issues facing each organization and ensured that advocacy activities have the support from each of the member groups.

Strategic Planning

The Strategic Planning Team was appointed in February. Toni Lashbrook and Associates, Inc. was hired to assist the team in designing and managing the process. Focus groups were held in seven locations throughout the province from April to May as part of the environmental scan. Standing Committees, Service Committees, and TAL staff were provided with opportunities to provide input. One on one interviews were held with funders and vendors. Small group discussions were held at each Board meeting to review the input received to date and make further contributions. Over the course of the process, almost 200 individuals participated, demonstrating their commitment to the continued success of The Alberta Library. The resulting documents were founded in the input received from the membership. The Vision, Mission and Values and draft Goals and Strategies were reviewed by the Board at its Fall meeting. A survey to verify the input was sent to all Board members in December. Performance measures and key initiatives will be completed in 2007.

Governance

Membership

The Alberta Library has 45 members and seven affiliate members, representing 282 libraries and associations. The Alberta Library welcomed two new members: Bow Valley College Library and Prairie Bible Institute Library.

Board of Directors

The Alberta Library is governed by a Board of Directors composed of one representative from each of its member libraries. The focus of the Board meetings during the year was the development of the Strategic Plan for 2007 – 2011. Board members reviewed the Vision, Mission, Values, as well as proposed goals and strategies. In addition, the Directors approved the 2007 budget, approved policies, approved the LHCADL Business and Implementation Plan, and appointed members to the Nominating/Elections, Finance and Governance Standing Committees.

Nominating/Elections Committee

The Nominating/Elections Committee oversaw the election of Executive Committee positions at the Spring Board Meeting. Keith Walker was elected Chair of the Board and Executive Committee, replacing Linda Cook. Linda Cook remained on the Executive as the Public Library Representative. Helga Kinnaird and Marinus Swanepoel joined the Executive Committee, representing College and Technical Institute Libraries and University Libraries respectively. Margaret Law was appointed as the representative for library consortia/associations. Continuing members of the Executive were Rowena Lunn, Clive Maishment and Punch Jackson.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee held five meetings during the year. During this time, the members reviewed and recommended acceptance of the 2005 audit, monitored the finances of the organization and recommended approval of the 2007 budget. The LHCADL Business and Implementation Plan was recommended to the Board for approval. Membership applications from Bow Valley College and Prairie Bible Institute libraries were approved. Policy revisions were reviewed and forwarded to the Board for approval. The Committee also approved the plan for celebrating TAL's 10th anniversary.

A formal Personnel Committee was established, and Terms of Reference for the Committee approved. On recommendation from the Personnel Committee, the Executive Committee approved the Compensation Plan, as well as the recommendations of the Organizational Structure Review. The Committee monitored progress in implementing the recommendations.

Governance - cont.

The Chair, along with the Chief Executive Officer, conducted orientations with new Board members from St. Mary's University College, Bow Valley College, Prairie Bible Institute, and the University of Calgary.

Chair Keith Walker, along with Clive Maishment and the Chief Executive Officer, met with the Hon. Denis Ducharme, Minister of Community Development.

Governance Standing Committee

As part of an on-going schedule of policy review, the Governance Standing Committee recommended the following policies be revised and/or consolidated: Resource Sharing Principles, Information Services to Secondary Customers, Interlibrary Loan/Document Delivery, and Continuing Education and Training Activities. The policies on Terms of Office for the Board Executive Committee and Policy-Making were also reviewed. Other policies scheduled for review were referred to the appropriate committee. The members continued to develop a framework for risk management assessment and policy.

Finance Standing Committee

The Finance Standing Committee oversaw the 2005 audit and the 2007 budget preparation. The members began a comprehensive review of the Finance Policy and Procedures.

The Advocacy Standing Committee

The Advocacy Standing Committee took the lead on the creation of staff and committee recognition policies, and guided the development of a document outlining the "Benefits of TAL". As well, the Advocacy Committee encouraged all member libraries to plan local activities for "Focus on Libraries" day on October 25. All TAL members were encouraged to contact their funders on that day to talk about the benefits of libraries. The committee was also involved in discussions and activities surrounding TAL's strategic plan, communications planning, Canadian Library Month, and the APLEN Library Renewed campaign.

APLEN

The Alberta Public Library Electronic Network (APLEN) is funded by Alberta Community Development (to mid December) and Alberta Municipal Affairs and Housing (from mid December) through TAL. The APLEN Standing Committee provides on-going leadership and direction for the implementation of APLEN programs and services including: Training, the Community Access Program (CAP) through Industry Canada; the SuperNet Project (Government of Alberta); Library Renewed Campaign; and the Ask A Question (AAQ) virtual reference service. Providing valuable support for technology-based services and initiatives implemented by public libraries, APLEN coordinates activities through 16 Node libraries. In 2006 the APLEN Standing Committee oversaw and awarded grant funds, participated in the TAL strategic planning process, and set the 2006 budget and priorities.

APLEN enhances Albertan's access to information through public libraries, facilitates resource sharing between multi-type libraries and promotes the benefits of libraries to Albertans.

Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library

The Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library (LHCADL) is a virtual library that will provide electronic resources to the learners of Alberta to provide learning opportunities regardless of location or what stage they are at in the life-long learning process. Funded by Alberta Advanced Education and Technology and delivered through TAL, there are 35 participating institutions including the four universities and 31 college and technical institutions. Included in the participating institutions are six First Nation colleges which marks the first time, First Nation colleges are included in a major provincial library initiative.

With the initial announcement made in 2005, work in 2006 focused on the creating the foundation for the ongoing delivery of service. The LHCADL Business and Implementation Plan was submitted and accepted by Alberta Advanced Education early in 2006, followed by receipt of the first year's funding.

The primary purpose of the LHCADL to provide access to digital resources and support life-long learning in Alberta. The amount and complexity of the materials licensed on behalf of the province's post-secondary sector called for significant expertise and the technical capacity to manage the resources. Negotiations to ensure that the best possible complement of resources would be offered were ongoing throughout the year. Staff was added to the LHCADL Team. To ensure that both students and instructors take full advantage of the new resources as they become available, information literacy tools and workshop are constantly being development. The LHCADL exemplifies the vision of The Alberta Library by offering unprecedented access to resources for all Alberta post-secondary learners and preserving Alberta material for future generations. At the same time, it furthers the goal of the Alberta government to position our province as a "Leader in Learning".

Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library - cont.

The creation of new digital material of interest and importance to Albertans is an important component of the LHCADL initiative. The province's four universities have taken the lead on prioritizing materials from within their own collections and from the communities they serve. In 2006 many thousands of theses and dissertations, complete runs of rare local newspapers, audio files from First Nation elders and important historical material were digitized. Everything that is digitized becomes available not only to all Albertans, but to interested learners throughout the world.

Two service committees that were instrumental throughout 2006 were the LHCADL Resource Selection Committee (RSC), chaired by Helen Clarke of the University of Calgary, and the LHCADL Information Literacy and Awareness Committee (LILAC), co-chaired by Meagan Bowler of Mount Royal College and Shauna Rutherford of the University of Calgary. Both committees actively solicited feedback for decision making from all member libraries through written surveys and person contacts.

The RSC was instrumental in determining the content to be included in the LHCADL Foundation Resource Collection. Based upon member feedback, the subscriptions for the resources in the TAL Universal Core were upgraded and extended to all member libraries in September. Xrefer was added to the Foundation Resources Collection in the early fall. In November, the RSC issued a content expansion RFP to four vendors. Negotiations are underway with the intent of completing the foundation collection by March '07.

To facilitate the procurement and management of electronic resources, the LHCADL began the process to source an Electronic Resource Management System (ERMS). A joint Request for Information (RFI), issued by TAL and incorporating input from the University of Calgary Library and the University of Alberta Libraries was sent to eight potential vendors. Four vendors were selected to do on-site demonstrations of their product's capacity. Based upon information from the RFIs, site visits and reference checks, it was determined that TAL would move to the RFP stage. A joint Request for Proposal (RFP) was sent to four vendors and at year's end the evaluation was still in process.

As content has been licensed, LILAC investigated training needs, professional development opportunities, and the development of a Toolkit of material to help library staff optimize their institution's use of the new resources. Committee members have provided workshops on the use of resources in August, one in Calgary and one in Edmonton.

Administration

An organizational review was undertaken to ensure TAL's internal structure is as effective as possible in light of the growth and changes over the past few years. Recommendations proposing that the structure be aligned more closely along functional lines were accepted. As a result, responsibilities for specific services were re-allocated among the program Directors. In addition, recommendations were made to increase administrative support for the programs. These resulted in the addition of an Executive Assistant position. A Management Team was established composed of Program Directors.

The Compensation Program Design study, begun in 2005, was completed. All position descriptions were reviewed and revised. A Compensation Survey was distributed to selected benchmark organizations and the results used to develop The Alberta Library compensation plan.

An assessment of current and future office space requirements was completed. Plans were submitted to the landlord, Edmonton Public Library, to begin the renovations process in late Fall. The goal of consolidating all of the staff at the main offices, however, remains elusive. The office space at the University of Alberta's Information Technology Services was expanded in preparation for hiring of additional staff.

New staff in 2006 included: Christa Foley, Licensing Coordinator, replacing David Larsen; Terry Romaniuk, Licensing Assistant, replacing Martina King; Natalka Strilesky, Manager, Finance and Human Relations, replacing Lori Melanson; Stephen Thornton, Director, Information Technology Services; and Tina Best, Executive Assistant.

Financial Statements

BELOW IS A SUMMARY OF THE KEY FINANCIAL INDICATORS FROM THE 2006 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT. A FULL COPY OF THE AUDITED STATEMENTS IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST FROM THE ALBERTA LIBRARY

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006

	Externally Restricted					Internally Restricted			Total
	Unrestricted	APLEN Fund	APLEN CAP Fund	Online Reference Centre Fund	Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library Fund	Capital Asset Fund	General Reserve Fund		
Revenue	\$ 3,154,080	\$ 1,590,245	\$ 957,394	\$ 1,561,115	\$ 5,417,190	\$ 3,873	\$ 10,720	\$ 12,694,617	
Expenses	3,471,702	2,100,605	779,704	1,539,949	2,026,513	44,724	-	9,963,197	
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	(317,622)	(510,360)	177,690	21,166	3,390,677	(40,851)	10,720	2,731,420	
Fund balance, beginning of year	126,021	1,725,953	6,677	175,265	2,833	166,635	449,960	2,653,344	
Interfund transfers									
Purchase of equipment	(8,914)	-	(12,972)	-	(23,100)	44,986	-	-	
Other transfers	200,515	(225,000)	-	(52,500)	(85,000)	161,985	-	-	
Fund balance, end of year	\$ -	\$ 990,593	\$ 171,395	\$ 143,931	\$ 3,285,410	\$ 332,755	\$ 460,680	\$ 5,384,764	

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION DECEMBER 31, 2006

	Externally Restricted					Internally Restricted			Total
	Unrestricted	APLEN Fund	APLEN CAP Fund	Online Reference Centre Fund	Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library Fund	Capital Asset Fund	General Reserve Fund		
Current Assets	\$ 100,843	\$ 1,124,224	\$ 171,395	\$ 156,406	\$ 3,838,169	\$ 260,856	\$ 460,680	\$ 6,112,573	
Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	71,899	-	71,899	
	\$ 100,843	\$ 1,124,224	\$ 171,395	\$ 156,406	\$ 3,838,169	\$ 332,755	\$ 460,680	\$ 6,184,472	
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES									
Current Liabilities	\$ 100,843	\$ 133,631	\$ -	\$ 12,475	\$ 552,759	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 799,708	
Fund Balances	-	990,593	171,395	143,931	3,285,410	332,755	460,680	5,384,764	
	\$ 100,843	\$ 1,124,224	\$ 171,395	\$ 156,406	\$ 3,838,169	\$ 332,755	\$ 460,680	\$ 6,184,472	

2006 Board of Directors

University and College Libraries

Sandy Ayer – Alliance University College/ Nazarene University College

Christine Sammon – Alberta College of Art and Design

Steve Schafer – Athabasca University

Colleen McPhee – Bow Valley College

Jennifer Thomas – Grande Prairie Regional College

Joanne Kemp – Grant MacEwan College Learning Resources Centre

Wanda Philipow – Keyano College

Susan Bansgrove – Lakeland College

Fiona Dyer – Lethbridge Community College

*Keith Walker (Board Chair) – Medicine Hat College

Ross Thrasher – Mount Royal College

Joan Morrison – NorQuest College

*Helga Kinnaird – Northern Alberta Institute of Technology

Helen Prosser – Northern Lakes College

Robin Minion – Olds College

Barbara Palmer – Portage College

Wayne Wicks – Prairie Bible Institute

Alice McNair – Red Deer College

Brad Neufelt – St. Mary's College

Susan Brayford – Southern Alberta Institute of Technology

Karen Adams – University of Alberta

Darlene Warren – University of Calgary

*Marinus Swanepoel – University of Lethbridge

Regional Libraries

Maggie Macdonald – Chinook Arch Regional Library System

*Rowena Lunn – Marigold Library System

Mircea Panciuk – Northern Lights Library System

Ron Sheppard – Parkland Regional Library

Linda Duplessis – Peace Library System

Julia Reinhart – Shortgrass Library System

*Clive Maishment – Yellowhead Regional Library

Public Libraries

Janine Jevne – Airdrie Public Library

Gerry Meek – Calgary Public Library

*Linda C. Cook – Edmonton Public Library

Craig Shufelt – Fort McMurray Public Library

Angela Kublik – Fort Saskatchewan Public Library

Laurie Harrison – Grande Prairie Public Library

Elizabeth Rossnagel – Lethbridge Public Library

Rachel Sarjeant-Jenkins – Medicine Hat Public Library

Dean Frey – Red Deer Public Library

Pamela Forsyth – St. Albert Public Library

Sharon Siga – Strathcona County Library

Special Libraries

James Rout – The Banff Centre: Paul D .Fleck Library and Archives

Sandra Perry – Legislature Library

Province of Alberta

*Punch Jackson – Alberta Municipal Affairs and Housing, Libraries, Community and Voluntary Sector Services Branch

Library Organizations

*Margaret Law – NEOS Library Consortium

Affiliate Members

Alberta Association of College Librarians

Alberta Association of Library Technicians

Alberta Library Trustees Association

Alberta Public Library Administrators Council

The Business Link

Canadian National Institute for the Blind

Library Association of Alberta

Honorary Life Members

Ernie Ingles, University of Alberta

Hazel Fry

Pat Jobb, Edmonton Public Library

** Denotes Executive Committee Member*

2006 Committee Members

Standing Committees

Advocacy Standing Committee

Helen Prosser, Chair – Northern Lakes College

Rowena Lunn – Marigold Library System

Nicolle Lemay – Grant MacEwan College

Shelley Sweet – St. Albert Library

Marinus Swanepoel – University of Lethbridge
Library

Kimberly Frey (Staff Liaison) – The Alberta Library

APLEN Standing Committee

Clive Maishment, Chair – Yellowhead Regional
Library

Julia Reinhart – Brooks Public Library
(to April 2006)

Kelly Huxley – Onoway Public Library
(from April, 2006)

Gerry Meek – Calgary Public Library
(to April, 2006)

Ellen Humphey – Calgary Public Library
(from April, 2006)

Joanne Griener – Edmonton Public Library

Sheila Bertram – Alberta Library Trustees
Association

Carol Cooley – Fort McMurray Public Library
(to April, 2006)

Sharon Siga – Strathcona County Library
(from April, 2006)

Patricia Silver – Parkland Regional Library
(to April, 2006)

Linda Duplessis – Peace Library System
(from April, 2006)

David Bahnmler – Medicine Hat Public Library
Trustee

Bonnie Gray – Libraries, Community and
Voluntary Sector Services Branch

Karla Palichuk (Ex-Officio) – The Alberta
Library

2006 Committee Members - cont.

Finance Standing Committee

Margaret Law, Chair – NEOS Library Consortium
Rachel Sargeant-Jenkins – Medicine Hat Public Library
Natalka Strilesky (Staff Liaison) – The Alberta Library

Governance Standing Committee

Barbara Palmer, Chair – Portage College Library
Linda Duplessis – Peace Library System
Karen Adams – University of Alberta Libraries
Helga Kinnaird – NAIT

Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library Standing Committee

Ernie Ingles, Chair – University of Alberta
Steve Schafer – Athabasca University
Joanne Griener (APLEN) – Edmonton Public Library
Jennifer Thomas – Grande Prairie Regional College
Ross Thrasher – Mount Royal College Library
Bedford Wells – Red Crow Community College, up to August 2006
Mary Weasel Fat – Red Crow Community College, after August 2006
Alice McNair – Red Deer College Library
Karen Adams – University of Alberta
Mary McConnell – University of Calgary, up to September 2006
Thomas Hickerson – University of Calgary, after September 2006
Marinus Swanepoel – University of Lethbridge Library
Dean Wood (Ex-Officio) – Alberta Advanced Education and Technology
Kit Wilson (Ex-Officio) – The Alberta Library

Nominations/Elections Standing Committee

Laurie Harrison – Grande Prairie Public Library
Julia Reinhart – Shortgrass Library System

Service Committees

Ask A Question Service Committee

Harriet Arnold, Chair – McNally Library, NAIT
Karen Mark – Calgary Public Library
Linda Slater – John W. Scott Health Sciences Library
Patricia Silver – Parkland Regional Library
Sue Colp – Strathcona County Library
Karla Palichuk (Ex-Officio) – The Alberta Library
Dyan Perley (Staff Liaison) – The Alberta Library

APLEN Technology Training Committee

Reneé Reaume, Co-Chair – Marigold Library System
Julia Reinhart, Co-Chair – Shortgrass Library System
Vivyan O’Neil – Airdrie Public Library
Scott Stanley – Calgary Public Library
Barb Godkin – Chinook Arch Regional Library System (also representing Lethbridge Public Library)
Patricia Nelson – Edmonton Public Library
Aileen Diefenbach – Ft. McMurray Public Library
Shelley Ross – Medicine Hat Public Library
Leanne Drury – Northern Lights Library System
Marquita Bevans – Parkland Library System

2006 Committee Members - cont.

Katherine Wiebe – Peace Library System (also representing Grande Prairie Public Library)

Cory Stier – Red Deer Public Library

Diane Tinnish / Peter Bailey – St. Albert Public Library

Sue Colp – Strathcona County Library

Christa Foley – Yellowhead Regional Library

Patricia McNamee (Ex-Officio) – Libraries, Community and Voluntary Sector Services Branch

Mary Jane Bilsland (Staff Liaison) – The Alberta Library

Licensing Service Committee

Joye Hardman, Co-Chair – Calgary Public Library

Janet Monteith, Co-Chair – Mount Royal College Library

Julia Reinhart (APLEN Rep) – Brooks Public Library

Thea de Vos – Edmonton Public Library

Karen Labuik – Marigold Library System

Susan Brayford – SAIT Library

Barbara Marshalsay – University of Lethbridge

Christa Foley (Staff Liaison) – The Alberta Library

Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library Advisory Council

Carl Amrhein, Chair – University of Alberta

Frits Pannekoek – Athabasca University

Doug Owram – Campus Alberta Quality Council

Richard Kraemer – Concordia University College

Vivian Ayoungman – First Nations Higher Education Consortium

Jim Foote – Keyano College

Wayne Shillington – NorQuest College

Ron Woodward – Red Deer College

Irene Lewis – SAIT

Linda Cook – The Alberta Library

Ron Bond – University of Calgary

Seamus O'Shea – University of Lethbridge

SuperNet Advisory Committee

Pat Fader, Chair – St. Albert Public Library

Scott Stanley – Calgary Public Library

Lachlan Bickley – Edmonton Public Library

Gilbert Bede – University of Calgary

Bob Batchelder – Shortgrass Library System

Bonnie Gray (Ex-Officio) – Libraries, Community and Voluntary Sector Services Branch

Punch Jackson (Ex-Officio) – Libraries, Community and Voluntary Sector Services Branch

Karla Palichuk (Ex-Officio) – The Alberta Library

Lisa Yeo (Staff Liaison) – The Alberta Library

TAL Online Development Service Committee

Susan Beatty, Chair – University of Calgary Library

Anna Linville – Chinook Arch Regional Library

Peter Schoenberg – Edmonton Public Library

Maureen Toews – Red Deer College Library

Peter Binkley – University of Alberta

Stephen Thornton (Ex-Officio) – The Alberta Library

2006 Committee Members - cont.

LHCADL Digitization Team

Ernie Ingles, Chair – University of Alberta
Steve Schafer – Athabasca University
Thomas Hickerson – University of Calgary
Marinus Swanepoel – University of Lethbridge
Kit Wilson (Ex-Officio) – The Alberta Library
Steve Thornton (Ex-Officio) – The Alberta Library

LHCADL Information Literacy and Awareness Committee

Shauna Rutherford, Co-Chair – University of Calgary
Meagan Bowler, Co-Chair, Mount Royal College
Peggy McKenzie – Olds College
Kay Johnson – University of Athabasca
Nancy Goebel – University of Alberta
Judy Vogt – University of Lethbridge
Michelle Edwards Thomson – Red Deer College
Mona Crowe – Melting Tallow – Old Sun Community
College
Karen Hering – Grant MacEwan College
Kit Wilson (Ex-Officio) – The Alberta Library

LHCADL Resource Selection Team

Helen Clarke, Chair – University of Calgary
Denise Koufogiannakis – University of Alberta
Fiona Dyer – Lethbridge Community College
Christine Sammon – Alberta College of Art and Design
Liz Pegoraro – NAIT
Janet Denys – Yellowhead Tribal College
Joan Morrison – NorQuest College
Lynette Toews-Nuefeldt – Concordia University College
Kit Wilson (Ex-Officio) – The Alberta Library
Christa Foley (Ex-Officio) – The Alberta Library

*Note: Lucy Pana, TAL CEO is an Ex-Officio member
of all Committees

2006 Staff

Executive

Lucy Pana – Chief Executive Officer

Tina Best – Executive Assistant

Administration

Natalka Strilesky – Manager, Finance and Human Resources

Communications

Kimberly Frey – Director, Communications

Michelle Kirsch – Communications Coordinator

Information Technology Services

Stephen Thornton – Director, Information Technology Services

Susan Stein – Federated Services Manager

Weiwei Shi – Applications Librarian

Piyapong Charoenwattana – TAL Online Programmer

APLEN

Karla Palichuk – Director, APLEN

Lisa Yeo – IT Manager

Mary Jane Bilisland – Training Librarian

Dyan Perley – Virtual Reference Librarian

Stacey Bissell – Program Assistant

Afton Williams – Administrative Assistant

Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library

Kit Wilson – Director, Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library

Christa Foley – Licensing Librarian

Terry Romaniuk – Licensing Assistant

Diane GallowaySolowan – Program Coordinator, Online Reference Centre





The Alberta Library
6-14, 7 Sir Winston Churchill Square
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2V5
Phone: (780) 414-0805
Fax: (780) 414-0806
admin@thealbertalibrary.ab.ca

www.thealbertalibrary.ab.ca

