



Friends of the Regina Public Library

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May 23, 2018

Sean Quinlan
Chair, Regina Public Library Board
Regina Public Library
2311 12th Avenue
Regina SK S4P 0N3

Dear Mr. Quinlan,

The Friends of the Regina Public Library (FRPL) would like to discuss the points noted below at the Regina Public Library (RPL) Board meeting at 4:30 PM on Tuesday May 29, 2018.

1. The joint Canadian Federation of Library Associations and Saskatchewan Library Association (SLA) conference earlier this month was well-organized and full of valuable and inspiring presentations. The SLA and RPL staff involved are to be congratulated for their work on the conference.
2. The editors of *Biblio Files: A History of the Regina Public Library* made an interesting and well received presentation on the community involvement and process of producing the book on May 3 at the SLA conference. The presentation included photos from the history of the RPL and video clips from interviews with RPL retirees. Following up on an item raised in our last letter, discussion with the U of R Press had indicated that a PDF version of the book that could be used with magnifying viewers could be obtained from the U of R Press but would require licensing/purchasing arrangements with the RPL.
3. A presentation by RPL staff at the SLA conference highlighted the information gathering processes of the RPL and discussed the Inspires survey. We look forward to seeing the results of the survey.
4. There has been no further news on the potential meeting with the Saskatchewan Minister of Education. While an increase in budget for libraries across the province would be beneficial, at least this year the provincial funding was maintained at current levels.
5. With the new Community Librarian in place, we look forward to future dialog about the role of the Prairie History Room.

6. We hope to follow-up on some of the items raised in our last letters to find out more about the current organizational structure of the RPL, handling of service questions related to Outreach Services, the balance of keeping patrons and staff feeling safe with continuing to provide a welcoming and open atmosphere at the branches and plans for communicating planned changes.
7. It was good to see the return of the flyer format for advertising the Film Theatre. People who have further refinements they would like to see to the layout have been encouraged to provide their specific suggestions through the e-mail address or Comments sheet. Previously we stated our concerns about the removal of the Film Theatre programmer and clerk positions. However, the plan in place went ahead. Now that a new arrangement is in place we hope that the film theatre programming and operation of the film events will be successful. Are there any of the programming or other aspects that have been transferred out of province?
8. It will be interesting to see the extent of usage of the new digital media studio and the Thrive walk-in counselling services recently introduced to the RPL.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this presentation.

Sincerely,

Joanne Havelock
Friends of the Regina Public Library