

DATE: January 6, 6:30 pm 2026

Attendees: Marina Appel, Glyn Evans, Richard Poole, Ray Olfert,
Starr Sinclair, Peter Gomes, Nicole Rice, Brenda Dennis, Aaron Hoyte

Regrets: Vincent Wolfe

Land Acknowledgment

In the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation, the Town of Blackfalds acknowledges that we are on Treaty 6 territory, the ancestral lands of Cree, Saulteaux (So-toe), Blackfoot, Métis, Dene (De-nay) and Nakota Sioux (Sue). We acknowledge all the many First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and non-status peoples whose footsteps have marked these lands since time immemorial.

We recognize the inherent relationships Indigenous communities have with this land and its creatures and commit to supporting reconciliation and healing. We honour the resilience, culture, and contributions of Indigenous peoples, past and present.

As we gather, we pledge to listen, learn, and take meaningful action toward a future based on mutual respect and understanding as we continue on our journey of truth and healing. We recognize that reconciliation is not a single act but a lifelong journey—one that requires accountability, humility, and the centering of Indigenous voices.

1. Introduction of new Board Members: Marian Appel, Brenda Dennis, and Aaron Hoyte
 2. Organizational Meeting: Board Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer & Bank Signing Authority.
 3. Acceptance of Agenda items
 4. Acceptance of the Consented Agenda
 - 2.1 Minutes of the December 2025 Meeting-
 - 2.2 Administrator's update for December 2025 –
 - 2.3 Programmers' update for November 2025 –
 - 2.4 Statistics for November 2025
 - 2.5 Board Basic Workshops- None
 - 2.6 Plan of Service – None
 - 2.7 Bylaw –
 - 2.8 Emergency Planning-
 - 2.9 Policy to be Reviewed-
- 3 Old Business
- 4 New Business
- 4.1 Acceptance of Income Statement, Budget Update & Direct Bill Payments for November 2025
 - 4.2 Acceptance of Ann Sifford's resignation from the Blackfalds Public Library Board-

- 4.3 Policy Committee- We have lost one of our policy committee members and would like to see if anyone else would be willing to join the committee.
- 4.4 Staff CPR training- All of the staff's CPR training has lapsed. In order to keep their training on track and organized, the Library Administrator has opted to have all staff (who need the training) to come to a locally led, 2 day CPR training session. This will enable staff to get their CPR training together, and will help the Library Administrator ensure that training is kept updated so that all staff will only need the single day training in the future. The Library Administrator asks that the board allow the library to be closed for two days on February 9th and 10th 2026 to facilitate our staff's First Aid Training.
- 4.5 Winterfest- Blackfalds Winterfest falls on February 16,th Family Day. We have remained open for four hours for this event in the last two years as requested by the Town of Blackfalds. The Town has not contacted the Library Administrator about remaining open this year, but if we remain open we will need to see if staff will volunteer to work on that long holiday, and any volunteering staff (who normally work on the holiday) will be paid their normal wage plus 1.5 X their basic rate of pay for all additional hours worked as per the employee policy manual under "General Holidays". The Library Administrator asks for confirmation on whether or not the library will remain open on February 16, Family Day Holiday, from 12-4:00 pm.
- 4.6 Communication between Library Board and Library Administration/Staff- Now that we have our new members in place, this is a good time to review our channels of communication. According to best practices by the Alberta Library Trustees' Association, online, in-person, or telecommunications between the Library Board and Library Administrator should always come through the Library Board Chair. As such, the agenda and board package will be sent to the Board by the Library Board Chair and responses to these items can also be sent to the Library Board Chair, who can bring these responses to Library Administration if needed. On committees or sub-committees, communications between the Library Board and Library Administration can be made directly so long as these communications stay focused on the committees' topics. Library Board members are not permitted to give direction to any staff member regarding library work, and all communications from the Library Board to the Library Staff must be made through the Library Chair, who will bring those to the Library Administrator, and it is the Library Administrator's job to decide how those communications will be brought to the staff.

10. Round Table Discussion: Book exchange

11. Adjournment

Next Board Meeting is Feb,3, 2026 at 6:30pm

Regrets: