

# We Deliver!

## 2023 Annual Report



### Message from the Board Chair

**We deliver!** That's the theme of this year's annual report and it fits. The past year was incredibly accomplished, and I am grateful to my fellow board members for their contributions in guiding Yellowhead Regional Library staff. Thank you for your service.

**We deliver on our Plan of Service.** The ambitious plan outlines four pillar goals, and progress was made through 2023 on each.

**We deliver advocacy.** YRL demonstrated significant leadership last year as a key participant in the library systems advocacy committee. Efforts to demonstrate the value of libraries to elected officials resulted in a five per cent increase in Provincial funding and adoption of more current population data. Plus, we gave 11 presentations to municipal councils and 22 presentations to municipal library boards to further enhance their understanding of YRL's return on investment to them.

**We deliver websites.** All member library websites were upgraded to a new platform, providing better cybersecurity and functionality. To help those for whom English is a second language, each website has the ability to be translated into any language.

**We deliver professional development.** The Stronger Together Conference was presented in a unique format, virtual and in-person, with great results. We partnered with Northern Lights, Parkland Regional and Peace Library Systems to present two days of terrific content. A third day, presented by the Alberta Library Trustees' Association, helped library board members make connections and discuss important issues.

**We deliver materials.** With the last of the new library vehicles purchased, the YRL fleet is up-to-date and on the road. More than 2,400 van runs were made, delivering nearly two million resources to member libraries and beyond.



**We deliver value.** Together the collective buying power and resource sharing of the regional library system gives every library in our area access to the world of information, entertainment and knowledge.

**We deliver for good.** Libraries are the heart of our communities. They offer an open, free, welcoming space for everyone.

I'm very proud of the efforts of the entire board and staff of YRL, and look forward to great things in 2024.

**Hendrik (Hank) Smit**

*Chair, Yellowhead Regional Library Board of Trustees*



**"Overall, the staff and board of YRL focused on the deliverables in the first year of this plan of service, with the goal of ensuring supportive services from YRL so that the libraries can support their communities. Priorities shifted as the environment changed, partnerships were grown, and pilot programs developed."**

**Karla Palichuk**  
*Director*

## PUBLIC LIBRARY INTERACTIONS

**41**  
Visits

**110**  
In-person Consultations

**1,295**  
Virtual Consultations

## SCHOOL LIBRARY CONSULTATIONS

**13**

In-person Visits

**206**  
Virtual Interactions



**DELIVERIES**  
**204** Per Month  
**2,448** Per Year  
**1,948,100** Items Moved

## COLLECTIONS



**2,309**

Total Print  
Materials



**32**

eResources



**424**

Total Non-print  
Materials

“The Library Development Services team provided enhanced training and resources, outreach and services to our school libraries, and supported our public libraries, through their celebrations and challenges, as a hub for connection and learning. We are dedicated to the promotion and use of YRL services — from eResources to high-quality training — to be a foundation for the excellent library services offered to patrons within the YRL region.”

Jessica Knoch

Manager, Library Development Services

“With a focus on increased efficiency and community impact, Technology Services spearheaded projects, like new websites that can be translated into the language of your choice, and implemented solutions to position YRL and its libraries for sustained success in an ever-evolving landscape of information access and technology.”

Stephanie Thero

Manager, Technology Services

## NEW ITEMS

Items Ordered:

33,830

Items Added:

35,213

## INDIGENOUS SERVICES



2,221

Program  
and  
Initiative  
Hours



136

In-library or  
Community  
Programs

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Helpdesk  
Tickets  
Resolved:

1,632

Website Visits:

10,858

System Catalogue Visits:

1,661,256

## TRAINING

18

EVENTS  
HELD

1,242

PARTICIPANTS  
TRAINED

“In order to connect library collections to patrons, Collections and Resource Sharing staff facilitated the movement of more than 1.9 million items through YRL in 2023. To strengthen the Coordinated Collection Development tool, we invited two other library systems to share in the tool to generate sustainable funding for future innovations.”

Jocie Wilson

Manager, Collections and Resource Sharing



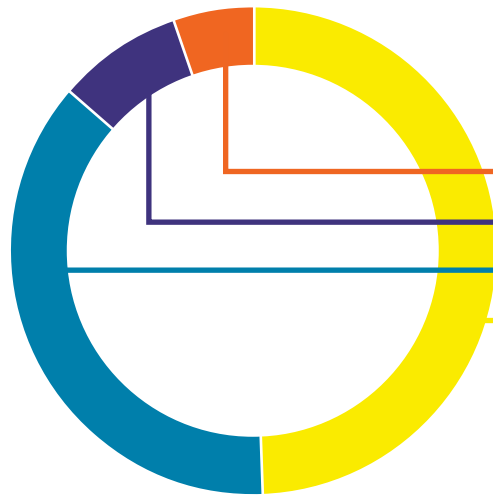
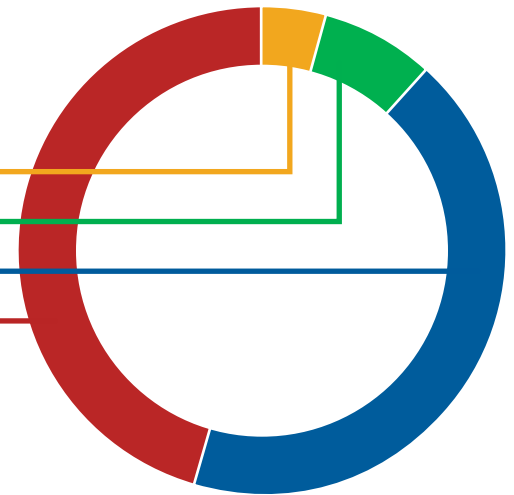
“In Administrative Services, we focused on getting a new vehicle for our fleet and maintaining our building premises to keep our core operations safe and secure.”

*Wendy Sears Ilnicki*  
Deputy Director and  
Manager, Administrative Services



## Revenue

School Levies	\$147,278 (4.2%)
Contract Services	\$261,989 (7.5%)
Provincial Government	\$1,493,214 (43.0%)
Municipal Levies	\$1,574,103 (45.3%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,476,584</b>



## Expenses

Administration	\$197,944 (5.4%)
Building and Capital	\$308,160 (8.4%)
Direct Services	\$1,354,594 (36.8%)
Staffing	\$1,816,505 (49.4%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,677,203</b>

## Yellowhead Regional Library

### Mailing Address

Box 4270, Spruce Grove, AB T7X 3B4

### Building Location

433 King Street, Spruce Grove, AB T7X 2C6

### Phone

780-962-2003

### Toll-free

1-877-962-2003

[yrl.ab.ca](http://yrl.ab.ca)