

2010

Electronic Resources Reporting

YRL will now be offering statistics of how much time patrons and staff spent in your library using specific electronic resources, such as NovelList or the EBSCO Do-It-Yourself E-Resources.

This information will assist when filling out Annual Reports for the Province of Alberta. It will also help libraries target specific resources to train or advertise if they find usage to be below expected levels.

TRACpac Portal Page

www.tracpac.ab.ca will undergo a complete redesign in early 2010. This page will be integrated with the OverDrive portal page so that the patron experience is seamless between the two sites. The look and feel of the site will be updated, reflecting a modernized and updated look while improving navigation and ease of access to library resources.

iPhone/iPod Touch Application

In March 2010, TRAC will unveil an iPhone/iPod Touch application that will enable patrons to search, check their account status, and request materials right from their Apple mobile device. The application will be among the first of its kind in North America and will be available as a free download in the iTunes store.

Volume Control

2010 will see the current version of Polaris updated and with this users will be able to place holds in TRACpac for serial issues and multi-disc sets. Behind the scenes processing will use existing data in the records to find the first available copy to fill the request. This should alleviate some of the frustrations patrons have requesting DVD series.

Telephony

With automated outbound calling, busy staff no longer have to spend time notifying patrons about holds or overdue items because the system can be programmed to automatically alert patrons for these notices, saving patrons unnecessary trips to the library. Telephony will:

- * Reduce costs associated with printing, stamps, and mailing invoices
- * Increase patron satisfaction with instant notification
- * Allow you to control call times and cope with answering machines
- * Free up staff time that can be applied elsewhere in the library
- * Reduce the number of materials that are returned late

TumbleBooks

Look for TumbleBooks to be available in downloadable format for mobile devices and portable computers in 2010. In fact, they have iPhone applications available in the Apple store for \$5.99. Libraries can look forward to the release of TumblePad, a downloadable reading software for computers, allowing access to the entire TumbleBook collection offline - a great resource for libraries that cannot afford dedicated early literacy computers!

... and that's just the beginning of it!

Make it your New Year's Resolution to keep up to date on all the wonderful services Yellowhead Regional Library offers. Read and share updates with staff and board members, participate on listservs, and take advantage of training opportunities.

We are looking forward to 2010 - let's make it a success together!