

# BOARD REPORT



**CHINOOK**  
ARCH REGIONAL  
LIBRARY SYSTEM

Chinook Arch Library Board Meeting - April 4, 2024

## Chinook Arch Receives Clean Audit Option

Auditors from Insight LLP reviewed the 2023 Audited Financial Statements with the Board. The Statements show that Chinook Arch is in sound financial shape, despite recent funding challenges due to a flat levy rate. In 2023, Chinook Arch invested \$160,000 in reserve funds to replace all member library websites, and upgrade the wireless access points in all member libraries. It was also able to seal coat the Chinook Arch parking lot. The Board's Audited Financial Statements can be found on the Chinook Arch website at <https://chinookarch.ca/about-us/financial-statements>.

## Annual Reports Approved

Municipal Affairs requires that all Alberta public libraries submit an annual report. The 2023 Chinook Arch annual report showed that library services are continuing to rebound in the wake of the pandemic, with most indicators showing modest increases over 2022.



## Strong Support for Public Libraries in Alberta

A recent telephone survey commissioned by Alberta's library systems found that 71% of Albertans agree that convenient access to the public library is important to them, and 81% agree that there is value in public libraries as free spaces to read, learn, have fun, and access the Internet.

# Board Members Present

Arrowwood	Corry Walk
Barnwell	Jane Johnson
Barons	Ron Gorzitza
Cardston	Marsha Jensen
Cardston County	Tom Nish
Champion	Terry Penney
Claresholm	Kelsey Hipkin
Coalhurst	Lyndsay Montina
Coutts	Stephen A. Pain
Crowsnest Pass	Doreen Glavin
Fort Macleod	Jim Monteith
Hill Spring	Suzanne French
Lethbridge (City)	Robin Harper
Lethbridge (County)	Tory Campbell
Lomond	Marie Logan
Magrath	Darryl Christensen
Milk River	Anne Michaelis
Milo	Christopher Northcott
Nanton	Amanda Bustard
Nobleford	Melissa Jensen
Pincher Creek	Mark Barber
Pincher Creek M.D.	Dave Cox
Raymond	Kelly Jensen
Stirling	Gary Bikman
Taber	Daniel Remfert
Taber M.D.	Merrill Harris
Vauxhall	Marilyn Forchuk
Vulcan	Debra Wyatt
Warner	Derek Baron
Warner County	Morgan Rockenbach
ID of Waterton	Lesley Little
Willow Creek M.D.	Maryanne Sandberg
LPL Resource Centre	Brendan Cummins

**Regrets**  
 Coaldale  
 Picture Butte  
 Stavely  
 Vulcan County  
 Ministerial Appointment

Jordan Sailer  
 Crystal Neels  
 Chelsey Hurt  
 Doug Logan  
 Vic Mensch (Chair)

**Absent**  
 Carmangay  
 Glenwood

Blanche Anderson  
 Linda Allred

# Chinook Arch VOIP Telephone System Saves Members \$19,000 Annually

In 2021, Chinook Arch started offering VOIP telephone services on a cost-recovery basis. Many of the 20+ participating libraries saw their bills drop from \$200 to \$15/month. Collectively, this service saves the libraries \$19,000 per year!



# Policies Reviewed

The Board reviews its policy manual every three years. At the April 2024 meeting, the following policies were approved. All policies can be found on the Chinook Arch website at <https://chinookarch.ca/about-us/board-policies>.

- Management of System Funds
- Backup of Financial Data
- Hours of Work and Overtime
- Annual Vacation
- Employee Benefits
- Drugs, Alcohol, and Medication



# Contact Us

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