

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
Barnwell
Barons
Cardston
Cardston County
Champion
Claresholm
Coalhurst
Coutts
Crowsnest Pass
Fort Macleod
Hill Spring
Lethbridge (City)
Lethbridge (County)
Lomond
Magrath
Milk River
Milo
Nanton
Nobleford
Pincher Creek
Pincher Creek M.D.
Raymond
Stirling
Taber
Taber M.D.
Vauxhall
Vulcan
Warner
Warner County
ID of Waterton
Willow Creek M.D.
LPL Resource Centre

Corry Walk
Jane Johnson
Ron Gorzitza
Marsha Jensen
Tom Nish
Terry Penney
Kelsey Hipkin
Lyndsay Montina
Stephen A. Pain
Doreen Glavin
Jim Monteith
Suzanne French
Robin Harper
Tory Campbell
Marie Logan
Darryl Christensen
Anne Michaelis
Christopher Northcott
Amanda Bustard
Melissa Jensen
Mark Barber
Dave Cox
Kelly Jensen
Gary Bikman
Daniel Remfert
Merrill Harris
Marilyn Forchuk
Debra Wyatt
Derek Baron
Morgan Rockenbach
Lesley Little
Maryanne Sandberg
Brendan Cummins

Regrets

Coaldale
Picture Butte
Stavely
Vulcan County
Ministerial Appointment

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

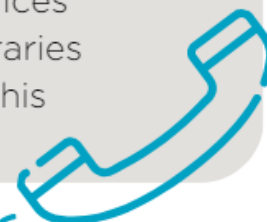
Absent

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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