

# Community Survey Summary

The Delburne Municipal Library conducted a community needs assessment survey in 2026 to better understand how residents use the library and what services they would like to see in the future. Overall, responses showed strong appreciation for the library and the services it provides, while also identifying several areas where the library could expand or improve.

## Key Themes Identified

### 1. Library Hours and Accessibility

Several respondents indicated that the current library hours make it difficult for them to visit. Some community members expressed interest in longer hours, morning access, or hours outside of typical work schedules to better accommodate families, daycare providers, and residents who work outside the community.

### 2. Interest in Expanded Programming

Many respondents expressed interest in more programming opportunities, particularly for adults and seniors. Suggested programs included craft nights, book clubs, workshops, guest speakers, and intergenerational activities. There was also interest in more toddler-focused activities and tutoring for school-aged children.

### 3. New Types of Lending Collections

Survey participants suggested expanding the library's collections to include non-traditional items such as board games, toy lending collections, tools, and maker-style resources. These types of collections were seen as opportunities to support learning, creativity, and community engagement.

### 4. Digital Resources and Technology

Several responses mentioned the importance of digital resources, including eBooks and eAudiobooks. Community members also expressed interest in basic computer courses and technology support to help build digital literacy skills.

### 5. Communication and Promotion

Respondents suggested that the library could improve awareness of its services and programs through more online engagement and social media promotion, particularly on Facebook and local community pages.

## Overall Feedback

Overall, the survey responses indicate that the community values the library as an important local resource and gathering space. Respondents expressed appreciation for existing services, particularly children's programming and digital borrowing options, while encouraging the library to continue expanding programs, resources, and accessibility to meet evolving community needs.

## Planning Process

The Delburne Municipal Library Board developed this Plan of Service using feedback gathered from the community through a 2026 needs assessment survey, along with circulation statistics, program participation data, and community input.

The survey invited residents to share their experiences with the library and identify services, programs, and resources they would like to see expanded or introduced. Responses reflected a strong appreciation for the library as an important community resource.

Survey responses highlighted several key themes, including:

- The importance of accessible library hours that accommodate families and working residents
- Interest in expanded programming for adults, seniors, and young children
- A desire for new types of lending collections such as toys, games, and activity kits
- The need for stronger communication and promotion of library services
- Continued interest in digital resources and technology learning opportunities

Using this feedback, the Library Board identified priority areas and developed goals and objectives to guide library services for the next planning period.

Needs assessments for libraries within the Parkland Regional Library system are conducted every five years to ensure services continue to reflect community needs.

# Delburne Municipal Library Needs Assessment 2026

Our needs assessment identified the following priority areas within the community:

1. Improved Access to Library Services
2. Strengthening Community Engagement
3. Expanding Collections and Lending Services
4. Enhancing Digital Services and Communication

These priorities reflect the community's interest in maintaining the library as a welcoming and accessible space while expanding services, programs, and resources that support learning, connection, and creativity for residents of all ages.

Based on the feedback received through the 2026 community survey, the Delburne Municipal Library Board has established four strategic goals that will guide library services and development over the next planning period. These goals focus on improving access, strengthening community engagement, expanding collections and lending opportunities, and enhancing digital services and communication.

Together, these goals will help ensure the library continues to evolve alongside community needs while providing inclusive, accessible, and meaningful services for Delburne residents.

# **Delburne Library Strategic Plan – Proposed Goals & Objectives**

## **Goal 1: Improve Access to Library Services**

Ensure library services are accessible and convenient for community members with different schedules and needs.

### **Objectives**

1. Expand service hours by adding at least 2 additional public service hours per week (including a morning or evening option) by the end of 2027.
2. Increase physical library visits by 10% within three years through improved access and programming.
3. Review hours of operation annually and adjust based on community feedback and usage statistics.

## **Goal 2: Strengthen Community Engagement**

Position the library as a welcoming community hub that offers programs and activities for all ages.

### **Objectives**

1. Introduce at least 6 new programs annually that serve different age groups (children, teens, adults, and seniors).
2. Launch at least one intergenerational program each year that brings together youth and seniors.
3. Increase average program attendance by 20% within three years through expanded programming and partnerships with community organizations.

### Goal 3: Expand Collections and Lending Services

Provide diverse resources that meet evolving community interests and learning needs.

#### Objectives

1. Pilot one new non-traditional lending collection (e.g., toys, board games, tools, or maker kits) by 2027.
2. Increase circulation of physical and digital collections by 10% over three years through targeted collection development.
3. Introduce book club kits or themed resource kits to support community reading groups by 2026.

### Goal 4: Enhance Digital Services and Communication

Improve awareness of library services and support digital literacy within the community.

#### Objectives

1. Maintain an active online presence with at least two social media posts per week promoting programs, services, and hours.
2. Offer at least two digital literacy or technology workshops per year (e.g., basic computer skills, using eBooks or Libby).
3. Increase digital resource usage (eBooks and audiobooks) by 10% within three years.