

Hardisty Public Library

Plan of Service (2026–2030)

Introduction

The Hardisty Public Library Board is committed to providing responsive, relevant, and accessible library services to the community. This Plan of Service outlines the strategic priorities for 2026–2030 and is based on findings from the 2026 Community Needs Assessment Survey, along with ongoing community feedback and usage trends.

This plan will guide decision-making, resource allocation, and service development to ensure the library continues to meet evolving community needs.

Community Profile & Needs Assessment

Survey feedback highlights several key trends:

- Strong membership (76% of respondents have a library card), but infrequent use, with most visiting monthly or less
- The main barrier to use is lack of time (58.6%), followed by limited hours
- High value placed on:
 - Reading for pleasure
 - Free public internet access
 - Literacy and lifelong learning opportunities
- Strong interest in:
 - Creative programming
 - Community resources and services
 - Local history and cultural awareness
- Awareness gaps exist for digital resources, audiobooks, and teen services

These findings indicate a need to improve accessibility, increase awareness, and expand flexible and relevant programming.

Mission Statement

The Hardisty Public Library provides inclusive access to resources, services, and spaces that support literacy, lifelong learning, and community connection.

Vision Statement

A welcoming and responsive community hub where everyone can discover, learn, and connect.

Core Values

- Accessibility
- Lifelong Learning
- Community Engagement
- Inclusivity
- Responsiveness

Service Priorities & Goals

Goal 1: Accessible and Convenient Library Services

The library will reduce barriers to access by offering flexible and convenient services that reflect community needs.

Objectives:

- Review hours of operation by 2027 and pilot small adjustments where feasible
- Introduce 1–2 convenient service options annually (e.g., grab-and-go collections or kits)
- Provide at least 3 opportunities per year (workshops or one-on-one support) to promote and teach patrons how to access eResources through Parkland Regional Library (PRL)
- Monitor visitation and circulation trends annually to guide service improvements

Goal 2: Adult Literacy and Lifelong Learning

The library will support adult learners in building literacy, digital skills, and everyday knowledge.

Objectives:

- Offer 3–4 digital literacy sessions per year (e.g., email, internet basics, accessing PRL eResources)
- Provide 2–3 adult learning programs annually through workshops, guest speakers, or partnerships
- Promote job and career resources and provide **basic support as needed** (e.g., resume help, online applications)

Goal 3: Awareness and Promotion of Library Services

The library will improve awareness of its services and encourage greater community use.

Objectives:

- Maintain regular communication through at least 2 channels (e.g., social media and in-library displays)
- Highlight one service or resource each month, with a focus on underused collections
- Track program attendance and adjust promotion efforts annually

Goal 4: Community Engagement and Inclusive Services

The library will strengthen its role as a welcoming community space and partner.

Objectives:

- Offer 3–4 community-focused programs per year (e.g., creative, cultural, or social events)
- Maintain 1–2 active partnerships with local organizations, schools, or groups
- Provide access to community information and ensure inclusive, welcoming service for all patrons

Evaluation and Accountability

Progress will be reviewed annually using:

- Program attendance
- Circulation and digital usage
- Membership and visitation trends
- Informal feedback and future surveys

Conclusion

This Plan of Service reflects the realities of a small rural library while setting clear, achievable priorities. By focusing on access, learning, awareness, and community connection, the Hardisty Public Library will continue to provide meaningful and responsive service to its community.