

2019-2023

Sedgewick Public Library



Plan of
Service

Greetings from the Board

On behalf of the Board of the Sedgewick and District Municipal Library, with eager anticipation I am forwarding to you our 2019-2023 Plan of Service. Building on our previous plan and responding to the current community needs assessment, we believe that we are positioned to offer effective and appropriate library services to our community.

We are especially appreciating the commitment of the Town of Sedgewick and the County of Flagstaff. With their support we are able to achieve a high level of service to our patrons and those in the surrounding area.

We are thankful to the members of our community, the Library Board, the Library Staff and Parkland Regional Library representatives who provide their time and valuable assistance with this process. We look forward to providing our community with professional library service far into the future.

Sincerely,

Carol Williams

Chair of the Sedgewick and District Municipal Library

Sedgewick Public Library

Mission Statement

Sedgewick Public Library will provide an accessible, welcoming facility with programming and resources which encourage our community members to read.

Town of Sedgewick Community Profile

The Town of Sedgewick, population of 857 is located in East Central Alberta, along Highway 13 and Secondary Highway 869. While Sedgewick remains agriculturally based, the oil and gas sector activity has impacted the community as it has throughout the province. We have a variety of businesses ranging from automotive service, oil and gas service, restaurants, groceries, health and beauty aids, veterinary office and medical assistance which provide the town's everyday needs. We have to offer Central High Sedgewick Public School which has grades 1-12 with a private Kindergarten classroom and playschool housed in the recreation center.

Recreation plays an integral part in the community of Sedgewick. The town has the pleasure of having a beautiful, large recreational facility recently branded the Wild Rose Co-op Recreational Center housing hockey, curling rinks, bowling alley, lacrosse surface, and library as well as ball diamonds, a football field and rodeo grounds. Last year was a pivotal year, with Sedgewick bringing in well-known musical talent, for large sold-out crowds. Alongside all these attractions, we have our Sedgewick Lake Park, which is a popular place for camping, picnicking and bird watching. The Sedgewick Lake Park boasts of the outdoor wading pool and a brand-new community funded Splash Park. Combined with our Sedgewick Golf Course, these facilities make Sedgewick an appealing location to live.

Along with recreation venues, we have lots of culture and arts service groups. We have an active theatre group, art club, Scottish Club, Lion's Club, Historical Society and Agricultural Society and the main street museum is a focal point of Sedgewick's past and growth through the years.

Library Profile

The first Sedgewick Public Library was started by the Women's Institute in 1947. In 1978 it became a municipal library serving the community of Sedgewick and surrounding area within the County of Flagstaff. In 1998 we joined the Parkland Regional Library System. We are located on the second floor of the Wild Rose Co-op Recreational Center, which is located across from Central High Sedgewick Public School and five blocks from downtown Sedgewick. Our facility includes 180 square meters of modern, up to date shelving, comfortable seating, separate children section and three public access computer workstations.

We work in partnership with the Flagstaff County Library Board. This allows us to participate in the Flagstaff County Book Kit Exchange every six months. Our continued partnership with the Flagstaff Community Adult Learning has given us the ability to provide computer courses for seniors and a wide variety of personal interest courses. Our partnership with the Wild Rose Co-op Recreational Center has allowed us to plan an annual community event which will continue and develop in the coming years. One of the most valued partnership has been with the Sedgewick Public School where we have been able to provide a mature, autistic student the opportunity to volunteer his time at the library, assisting with tasks such as stamping discarded books, filing books and DVDs on shelves.

Our "Friends of the Library" Society primarily provide fund-raising support for maintaining our book collection, facility enhancement, and utility costs, but of equal importance, this society supports and allows us to offer child-focused entertainment and programming such as the Toronto Dominion Summer Reading Program.

We continue with our commitment to create awareness of the library and service available in order to keep literacy strong and the Sedgewick Public Library viable.

Library Board of Directors

Carol Williams (Chairperson)

Stephen Levy (Town Council Representative)

Micaela McConnell (Secretary)

Trisha McGowan (Treasurer)

Shelley Wakefield

Cori Lecours

Rev. Lloyd Nyarote

Library Staff

Barbara McConnell (Library Manager)

Kelly McDowall (Library Assistant)

Plan of Service Process

On April 10, 2018, the “Community Planning Committee” meeting was organized by the Sedgewick and District Municipal Library Board and staff. A cross-section of individuals belonging to the town and surrounding municipal district attended and assessed our community needs and the role the library could possibly take in trying to meet those needs. Some of the members participating were the Mayor of Sedgewick, a town councilor, a Flagstaff County board member, members of the Economic Development Board-Flagstaff County, and representatives from various service groups. We were pleased to welcome two consultants from the Parkland Regional Library to facilitate the meeting, collect necessary data and provide us with the compiled information.

On February 26, 2019, a few members of the Sedgewick Library Board and the library manager reviewed the results from the community needs assessment, in order to fulfil our library requirements to the Alberta Public Library Services Branch. This working document will outline our five-year plan, which will provide a layout that can be easily referenced regarding the library’s mission to meet these needs. After evaluating this data and the resources available, the following Library Service Responses have been selected as the priority service areas needed for our Plan of Service 2019-2023.

1. Know Your Community: Community Resources and Services

2. Satisfy Curiosity: Lifelong Learning

3. Make Informed Decisions: Health, Wealth and Other Life Choices

Service Response 1: Know Your Community: Community Resources and Services:

Goal: Sedgewick Public Library, as a local hub engage the community, in order to build community spirit, cultivate partnerships with other community organizations and service groups, promote the library and its resources, and inform members of coming events.

Objective1: The library will work with the Town of Sedgewick, and Flagstaff community adult learning, to help distribute the green Welcome Bags. The Library will also include a brochure in the bags, regarding the resources and services the library has to offer. We will increase the amount of bags given out during the five years by 30%.

Objective 2: The library staff and board members will continue to organize and promote the annual Christmas Extravaganza. Success will be recognized by increase of attendance annually. The library will seek additional opportunities to participate in community events that draw residents together, to learn, celebrate and build community spirit.

Objective 3: Will increase membership by 10% yearly measured by an annual survey.

- We will make the public aware as to when the library is open, by using a sandwich board set up in the parking lot, or invest in some sort of signage that displays open library hours.***
- Will do power point presentations on 42" TV as to upcoming events in the community and new resources purchased for library.***

Service Response 2: Satisfy Curiosity: Lifelong Learning

Residents will have the resources they need to explore topics of personal interest and continue to learn throughout their lives.

Goal: We will encourage community members to explore and expand their personal interests, acquire knowledge and continue to learn no matter of age.

Objective 1: a collection development plan will be implemented to keep the Library's non-fiction book selection focused, diverse, and up to date with current ideas and topics.

- ***By 2023, 75% of users surveyed respond that the Library's collection of materials for lifelong interest purposes is very good or excellent.***
- ***They will be pleased with the information assistance they receive when looking for information or asking about a topic of personal interest.***

Service Response 3: Make Informed Decisions: Health, Wealth and Other Life Choices

Goal: To provide local residents with programs and resources that help them identify and analyze risks, benefits and alternatives before they make decisions that affect their lives.

Objective 1: Residents will be equipped to make informed decisions for themselves, their families, and their community.

- ***The Library will work in partnership with organizations such as Flagstaff Community Adult Learning, or Alberta Health Services to increase its programming on life skills, related topics, such as preventative health care, home and car maintenance, personal finances, personal development, offering a minimum of three workshops or presentations each year.***
- ***Inform residents about online databases and offer to train in use of such resources.***
- ***Continue to pursue grants and fundraising to be able to offer presentations and programs geared to lifelong learning.***
- ***By 2023, 75% of surveyed participants in lifelong learning programs will indicate an increase in their personal knowledge as a result of participating in chosen programs.***

Approval by Board

The Plan of Service for Sedgewick Public Library for 2019-2023 has been prepared by the Sedgewick and District Library Board in accordance with Alberta Libraries Regulation AR 141/98. The Board and Staff of the library are committed to implementing this plan of service, reviewing it regularly to monitor progress in achieving goals, and updating the plan as needed.

The Library Board met on June 11, 2019. A motion was made to approve the Plan of Service; the vote for approval was unanimous.