

Bibliothèque

Beaumont

Library

Plan of Service 2013 - 2016

Approved May 2013 by the Beaumont Municipal Library Board



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Yesterday

When J. E. Lapointe School and Beaumont Regional Activity Centre were built in 1977, the Town of Beaumont and the School Board decided to share library facilities. The Library opened in 1978 with a donated collection of approximately 4,100 books.

In 1981, the Library Board decided to change the status from a Community Library to a Municipal Library, which allowed the Board to apply for an annual grant from the Provincial Government and made them an autonomous body.

By 1986, the Friends of the Library was formed to raise funds to support the Library Board's mission and vision.

Membership had grown from an initial 61 Family Memberships to 1,190 and the collection to approximately 20,000 items. In 1991, the Library moved to the newly renovated 4,300 sq. ft. space that was the old Town Office. The larger library allowed for an increased focus on children's programming.

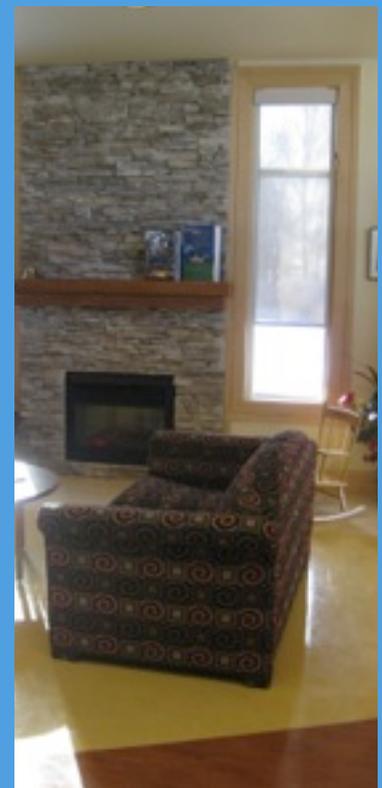
As the town continued to grow, more space was needed. Once again the Board, the Staff, and the Friends of the

Library, in co-operation with Town Council, worked diligently to plan, build and fundraise for the new Library. The 8,000 sq. ft. Bibliothèque de Beaumont Library opened on February 17, 2004. The grand opening ceremony was marked by the distinguished presence of the Lt.-Governor Lois Hole, who summed up the history of Beaumont's public library when she said, "the best way to build a better world for our children is to fight for our public libraries."

With this facility, the people of Beaumont have experienced 21st Century library services. In January 2009, a full-time Program Coordinator was hired which has led to exceptional children's programming.

The ongoing dedication of the Library Board and Staff, together with the contribution of the Friends of the Library and the professional liaison that exists with Town Council, has certainly ensured that *Life is Better in Beaumont*.

What began at the heart of a school and a recreation centre is now precisely that – a hub for all that is enduring in the human spirit.



Plan of Service
2013 - 2016

Today

The Bibliothèque de Beaumont Library is located in an 8,000 sq. ft. building adjacent to the Town Office and in the shadow of St. Vital's Church – the cornerstone of historic Beaumont. Visitors to the Library will notice that the children's section is given a prominence which speaks to the importance that families and young children play in the life of our community. There are dedicated spaces for enjoying quiet study, casual reading, computer use and social gathering. The Library is proud of its Program Room which is constantly in use.

Access

61

The number of hours the Library is open per week.

4,075

The number of hours that our six public computer terminals were used in 2012, by 4,541 patrons.

13,000

The number of hours the 11 staff members work per year.

Collection

26,272

The number of print materials in the collection. There are 53 magazine subscriptions as well.

87,064

The number of items that circulated in 2012. There were also 18,605 items borrowed and 7,738 lent through our interlibrary loan department.

2,893

The number of audio visual items in the collection: including DVDs, music CDs, and audiobooks.

Programs

284

The number of sessions offered ranging from pre-school programs to our Seniors Corner.

4,933

The number of participants in all our programs including: Writers Group, Book Clubs, Scrapbooking, Knitters, Coin Club, Chalk-a-Block ... and so much more.

550

The number of participants for only three of our annual events: The Petting Zoo, The Cow Bus, and Peter Puffin.



Today, one visit to the
Bibliothèque de Beaumont
Library proves that
Life is Better in Beaumont!





Determining Service Priorities



Plan of Service 2013 - 2016

Plan of Service Process

Following the recommendation of Alberta Municipal Affairs, Public Library Services Branch, the Bibliothèque de Beaumont Library utilized Sandra Nelson's Strategic Planning for Results process to identify the service needs best suited to establish a relevant strategic plan. In order to ensure that the future of the Library satisfies the needs of the community it serves, the Library conducted a Community Needs Survey during the months of November and December 2012 and convened a Community Planning Committee (CPC).

The CPC consisted of the Library Director, a member of the Library Board, the chair of the Friends of the Library, and 10 members of the community at large – each representing an important voice in the Beaumont citizenry. The CPC meeting was held on November 3, 2012, and was facilitated by representatives from Alberta Culture.

The CPC meeting sought to define the current reality of Beaumont and the Library as well as create a vision for the future of both. Focusing on the 18 Library Service Responses, the CPC recommended the following service responses:

- 1) Visit a Comfortable Place: Physical and Virtual Spaces.
- 2) Create Young Readers: Early Literacy.
- 3) Learn to Read and Write: Adult, Teen, and Family Literacy.
- 4) Express Creativity: Create and Share Content.
- 5) Know Your Community: Community Resources and Services.
- 6) Connect to the Online World: Public Internet Access.
- 7) Understand How to Find, Evaluate and Use Information: Information Fluency.

The 125 respondents of the Community Needs Survey identified the following service responses:

- 1) Learn to Read and Write: Adult, Teen, and Family Literacy.
- 2) Create Young Readers: Early Literacy.
- 3) Visit a Comfortable Place: Physical and Virtual Spaces.
- 4) Satisfy Curiosity: Lifelong Learning.
- 5) Stimulate Imagination: Reading, Viewing and Listening for Pleasure.
- 6) Understand How to Find, Evaluate and Use Information: Information Fluency.
- 7) Succeed in School: Homework Help.

On January 12, 2013, the Library Board and the Library Staff met to review the recommendations of the CPC and the Survey. Once again, the representative from Alberta Culture facilitated the meeting. The goals of this meeting were to establish a vision and mission statement that would speak to the community's recommendations as well as isolate the top three service responses for the strategic plan.

Mindful of the direction set forth by the CPC and the Survey results, the Library Board, together with the Library Staff, approved the following vision and mission statements:

Vision	The Library is a universally accessible hub providing leadership and innovation to promote literacy and culture in the community.
Mission	The Bibliothèque de Beaumont Library provides a welcoming space for those who want to connect to information and enjoy lifelong learning through participation in programming and the use of library resources. The Library works to accommodate the growth and diversity of the community while honouring its French heritage.

Working with the service responses identified by the community, the Library Board and Staff resolved to focus on the following priorities:

- 1) Visit a Comfortable Place: Physical and Virtual Spaces.
- 2) Learn to Read and Write: Adult, Teen, and Family Literacy.
- 3) Satisfy Curiosity: Lifelong Learning.

The Library Board and Staff feel confident that by focusing on these three service responses the desired outcome of a community-centred strategic plan for the Library can be achieved. The recurring themes of improving literacy, supporting lifelong learning, and sharing the cultural and creative experience will be realized through these three areas.

Visit a Comfortable Place: Physical and Virtual Spaces

Residents will have safe and welcoming physical places to meet and interact with others or to sit quietly and read, and have open and accessible virtual spaces that support networking.

Goal	Objective 1	Objective 2	Objective 3
<p>Create a welcoming virtual and physical environment that encourages patrons to return.</p>	<p>Develop a Children's Corner.</p>	<p>Enhance and maintain the Library's virtual presence in social media.</p>	<p>Redesign Library to accommodate an information commons, social space, and quiet area.</p>

Activities

- 1 The 2013 Library Shelving Project will revitalize the children's section and create the necessary space to increase the number of children's programs. The improvements will include:
 - An open area dedicated to quiet reading and children's programming.
 - The addition, in 2014, of interactive learning spaces and children's furniture.
 - New flooring for the quiet reading area by 2015.

- 2 By the fall of 2013, the Library will further its online presence through Twitter and Facebook accounts integrated with a refreshed Library website to create a fully interactive and multimedia-based virtual space for our community. Online registration for programs, traffic within social media and online feedback will provide the necessary assessment.

- 3 The 2013 Library Shelving Project will support the following actions:
 - The creation of a quiet study area at the west end of the Library incorporating casual seating in the periodicals section, some quiet study tables, as well as a silent study room.
 - By the end 2014, the computer area will be reconfigured to include at least 10 terminals and have the space, furniture and infrastructure to support the use of laptops and other mobile devices.
 - Usage statistics will be maintained and reported with the Annual Report.
 - The feasibility of a Coffee Kiosk in the social space will be explored throughout this Plan of Service with the hopes of establishing the best possible option for the patrons before the end of 2015.



Learn to Read and Write: Adult, Teen and Family Literacy

Adults and teens will have the support they need to improve their literacy skills in order to meet their personal goals and fulfill their responsibilities as parents, citizens and workers.

Goal	Objective 1	Objective 2	Objective 3
<p>The community will have the opportunity to engage in the literate world.</p>	<p>Establish ongoing literacy programs for adults.</p>	<p>Develop a more inclusive family literacy strategy.</p>	<p>Enhance the collection to support increased adult literacy and attract more readers.</p>

Activities

- 1 Beginning in 2014, the Library will support the community's English Language Learners (ELL) by facilitating educational sessions as well as a recreational book club. Participation and feedback will provide the measure of success for these activities.
- 2 In the spring of 2013, the Library will partner with Place Beauséjour and deliver materials to seniors who cannot visit the Library. Ongoing feedback and statistics for this monthly outreach program will be assessed quarterly.
- 3 A series of evening programs for working parents and their pre-school children will be launched in 2014. Attendance as well as session evaluations will be used to determine the success of these programs.
- 4 The Library will develop strategies to attract new patrons and increase collection relevance over the course of this service plan.
 - Workshops for men, such as home improvement, fitness and hobbies, with collection development tie-in, will be offered three times per year.
 - A financial and/or computer literacy series will be offered annually.
 This initiative will be measured using reports generated by the library's circulation and patron registration system.



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	Objective 1	Objective 2	Objective 3
The community will experience the Library as the core of creativity and culture.	Partner with schools, local arts groups and beyond.	Showcase performing arts.	Foster French Culture.

Activities

- 1 The Library will provide ongoing support for the display of artwork through dedicated spaces as well as by hosting special events.
 - 125 pieces of art will be displayed annually at the Library.
 - Theme-based artistic events will be held quarterly at the Library, coinciding with provincial and local celebrations.

Guestbook style feedback will be available on a continual basis to measure community response to the gallery. This feedback will be reported in the Annual Report.
- 2 The Library will support live theatrical and musical performances.
 - By the summer of 2014, the Library will establish an annual Children’s Festival to celebrate the performing arts.
 - In collaboration with local schools, the Library will provide opportunities once or twice per year to showcase youth talent and creativity.
- 3 Educational and recreational opportunities will be created to support French language learning and the Franco-Albertan heritage.
 - In collaboration with Campus St. Jean, the Library will offer three sessions of French language instruction to the community each year.
 - The Library will support the annual Franco-Albertan Flag Raising event as well as other local and provincial events that celebrate French heritage.
 - Five percent of the Library’s collection development budget will be dedicated to increasing French language materials in all formats.



Tomorrow



Bibliothèque de Beaumont Library 2013 - 2016

The next three years will reveal what the Bibliothèque de Beaumont Library can achieve when it genuinely corresponds to the voice of the community. It will become the hub of culture, arts and literacy. It will continue to provide the community with all that is best in Library programming and resources but will go beyond that to play a vital role in confirming that *Life is Better in Beaumont*.



Acknowledgment

Community Planning

The Library would like to express its sincerest gratitude to the members of the Community Planning Committee: A. Gobeil, S. Green, S. Harbottle, K. Kangas, C. Langford, M. Leblanc, G. Mackwood, E. Mortemore, C. v. Rooyen, P. Rude C. Spink, L. Watson, B. Willis.

Library Board

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Associates

The Library wishes to especially thank Kim Ghostkeeper of Alberta Culture for facilitating the Plan of Service meetings; and Jocie Wilson of the Yellowhead Regional Library for her assistance with publication.

Community Survey

The Library is grateful to all those members of the community who responded to the Community Needs Survey.



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