

**Preface:**

2015 was the second year for our four year Strategic Plan, which has as its overall goal: the provision of an exceptional and inspiring library experience for people of all ages and cultural backgrounds. The goals of the plan include financial sustainability, the maintenance of a stable, highly qualified and motivated workforce, strengthening WMRL’s visibility as a regional resource in the communities served, and expansion of library programs and services through the effective use of innovative technology.

**Chapter One: Financial Sustainability**

- An increase to the municipal levy meant that our members contributed additional funds for library service
- Collection Development strategies were put into place that would help us stretch our materials budget
- The Glenboro Area Foundation provided a grant of \$2000.00 for the purchase of new public access computers for their library
- Generous monetary donations from our borrowers to “Buy A Book” funds and donations of gently used books helped us to both expand our collections, and raise funds through book sales
- Funds for summer reading program support were provided by the WMRL and by the Glenboro South Cypress council after our applications to the Canada Summers Job program were denied
- Glenboro’s application to the Winnipeg Foundation – Literacy for Life Program was approved for \$1556.00; these funds were for the purchase of materials for a family literacy program



**Chapter Two: Staff**

- 2015 was a year that brought substantial change to our staff as we lost six long standing staff members. Thank you to our part-time staff members who picked up additional shifts; we would have been lost without their contributions
- We welcomed Debbie Unger as the new Branch Supervisor in our Neepawa Branch. Debbie describes herself as a “passionate book person” and she has brought fresh ideas to the position
- We welcomed Sally Bender for a pre-summer reading workshop; staff from all branch locations left the workshop with items on their “to read lists”
- Staff attended the OLA SuperConference gaining new knowledge about library service through sessions, vendor displays, and informal conversations
- Staff shared their talents through the creation of thematic displays including “Blind date with a Book”, “Time to Update”, “Classic to Graphic”, and “Book Spine Poetry”

**Chapter Three: Visibility**

- The “Love to Read . . . Love your Library” display in Brandon grew quickly as patrons bought hearts in support of the Buy a Book Fund
- We partnered with the Neepawa Natives hockey club to offer a Pen-Pal Club for young readers
- The Brandon and Hartney branches served as pit stops for community events modeled on the Amazing Race: the Manitoba Lung Association’s Awesome Race for Breath and Hartney Hopper Days Amazing Race. These events were great fun and a good way to bring people into our spaces.
- Submitted articles, press releases and colourful ads in the Brandon Sun, “Library Updates” in the Neepawa Press and Neepawa Banner, a bi-weekly column “Library Happenings” in the Glenboro Gazette, a “What’s happening at the Library” column in the HartCam News, and the opportunity to be a guest on the morning show on 101 The Farm all helped to promote library events and service



- We connected with our communities through programs including:
  - Author visits, Storytime, Time for Twos, Pajama Storytime, Book Clubs, Tours, Classroom visits, e-reader classes, iPad training sessions, Table-top gaming, NFB films, Art displays, Easter Egg contest, Mother’s Day Tea, Father’s Day Mini-Golf, and Kids’ New Year’s Eve Party
  - Summer Reading Programs in all locations that invited children to “play” through words, games, and activities
  - Outreach Book Delivery programs and occasional house calls to assist individuals with technology questions
- New signage in the Carberry branch and the installation of digital screens and “shelfwiz sign holders” in Brandon helped to promote our collections and services

**Chapter Four: Technology**

- A performance by “Christina the Crazy Hooper” at the Brandon Public Library announced the arrival of hoopla – a service that provides a patron with the opportunity to “instantly borrow free digital movies, music, eBooks and more, 24/7 with your library card”
- Services for patrons with patron disabilities were enhanced with the addition of CELA (Centre for Equitable Library Access) which has as its mandate “to acquire, produce, and distribute published works in alternative formats to Canadian public libraries”
- Useful Internet stations were installed in the Glenboro Library
- OverDrive and OverDrive Advantage titles, Mango Languages, hoopla and Tumblebooks expanded our collection and provided library service to our members from the comfort of their own home or their chairs on the beach

**Contributors:**

- Shelley Mortensen, Chief Librarian
- Robert Kowaluk, Assistant Librarian (until October)
- Liana Kaiser, Branch Supervisor Neepawa Branch (until January)
- Debbie Unger, Branch Supervisor Neepawa Branch (from July)
- Diane Gaweł, Branch Supervisor Carberry/North Cypress Branch
- Jackie Steele, Branch Supervisor Glenboro/South Cypress Branch
- Helen Weitman, Branch Supervisor Hartney/Cameron Branch
- Our staff who give of their time and talents to provide and promote library service
- Our trustees for their interest in library service and in their communities

**Acknowledgements:**

- Library patrons who are the reason behind all that we do – thank you for your support!!
- Our staff who contribute their talents to make it possible to deliver library service to our communities.
- Thank you to Public Library Services Staff, and to the support teams at SirsiDynix, hoopla, CELA, Info-Metrics and Modern Earth for their assistance.

Circulation						
	Brandon	Carberry	Neepawa	Glenboro	Hartney	TOTAL
Adult Materials:						
Print formats	70,694	9,031	11,431	5,343	2,592	99,091
Non-print formats	9,354	584	445	104	123	10,610
Teen Materials:						
Print formats	6,730	284	736	280	122	8,152
Non-print formats	35	0	6	0	0	41
Children’s Materials:						
Print formats	48,732	4,619	6,521	6,164	930	66,966
Non-print formats	5,144	462	626	308	38	6,578
Inter-Library Loans	1,416	510	334	601	210	3,071
Hoopla	2,076					2,076
Overdrive Advantage	2,849					2,849
<b>TOTAL 2015</b>	<b>147,030</b>	<b>15,490</b>	<b>20,099</b>	<b>12,800</b>	<b>4,015</b>	<b>199,434</b>

Membership						
	Brandon	Carberry	Neepawa	Glenboro	Hartney	TOTAL
Adult	7,359	564	884	430	179	9,416
Children	1,247	108	91	81	48	1,575
Non-Resident	82	1	22	4	1	110
<b>TOTAL 2015</b>	<b>8,688</b>	<b>673</b>	<b>997</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>11,101</b>

Holdings						
	Brandon	Carberry	Neepawa	Glenboro	Hartney	TOTAL
Adult Books	46,873	8,978	9,734	5,889	4,480	75,954
Teen Books	4,674	763	856	671	164	7,128
Children’s Books	26,168	5,025	4,865	4,466	1,691	42,215
Government Documents	2,986	414	0	0	0	3,400
Magazines/Newspapers	142	43	38	23	31	277
Audio Books	1,287	179	71	24	10	1,571
DVDs	1,306	587	311	258	137	2,599
Microforms	803	208	0	0	0	1,011
Miscellaneous	932	148	26	8	68	1,182
<b>TOTAL 2015</b>	<b>85,171</b>	<b>16,345</b>	<b>15,901</b>	<b>11,339</b>	<b>6,581</b>	<b>135,337</b>

**Statement of Revenue and Expenditures  
For the Year Ended 31 December 2015**

<b>Revenue</b>	<b>2015</b>
City of Brandon	585,400
Municipality of Glenboro South Cypress	13,718
Municipality of Grasslands	13,690
Municipality of North Cypress/Langford	24,300
Town of Carberry	15,438
Town of Neepawa	33,568
Province of Manitoba:	
Operating grant	284,067
Collection development grant	27,500
Technology grant	24,217
Memberships and fines	27,166
Interest	4,877
Canada Summer Jobs	0
Amortization of deferred contributions	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,253,951</b>



**Expenditures 2015**

Advertising	5,520
Amortization	5,273
Audio visual	3,356
Bank charges	306
Books	117,636
Building maintenance	31,534
Collection development	27,500
Computerization and IT services	49,526
Convention and travel	6,002
Employee benefits	76,288
Equipment	3,550
Insurance	3,463
Postage	5,995
Professional fees	25,164
Rent	217,072
Salaries	578,255
Service contracts	24,223
Staff training	1,076
Stationery and supplies	21,472
Sundry	4,675
Telephone	11,116
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,219,002</b>

**Chairperson's Report**

**2015: Year in Review**

The trustees serving on the Board of the Western Manitoba Regional Library (WMRL) had a busy and productive year as we continued to work on the implementation of our Strategic Plan.

*Board Highlights:*

- ❖ *Municipal amalgamations that came into effect January 1, 2015 resulted in the reduction of the size of our Board by 30% from 9 municipalities to 6. As well, one-third of our trustees were new to the WMRL Board necessitating a review of some of our procedures and operations, particularly in the area of finance.*
- ❖ *Negotiated reciprocal borrowing agreements with Boissevain-Morton and Glenwood Souris Regional Libraries for users of these libraries who reside in the former R.M. of Whitewater, now a part of the WMRL region.*
- ❖ *The Board's Strategic Plan work focused on the goal area of "financial sustainability". This included the creation of a "Gifts and Donations" brochure, consideration of the recommendations made by Public Library Services Branch on the results of a 5-year statistical trend analysis based on data submitted to PLSB by WMRL, study of funding models, evaluation of rent charges, and the approval of a 2-year schedule of per capita levy increases of differing amounts to equalize per capita contributions from each of our municipalities. After 2017, all per capita levies would be raised equally for all municipal partners of WMRL. Appreciation is extended to our Chief Librarian for her contributions during these deliberations.*
- ❖ *Sent a letter to Hon. Ron Lemieux, Minister of Tourism, Culture, Heritage, Sport and Consumer Protection regarding an increase to the maximum provincial per capita levy grant.*
- ❖ *Approved a multi-year salary increase schedule and guidelines for out-of-scope staff.*
- ❖ *Approved the hiring of Deborah Unger as Branch Supervisor of the Neepawa Branch.*

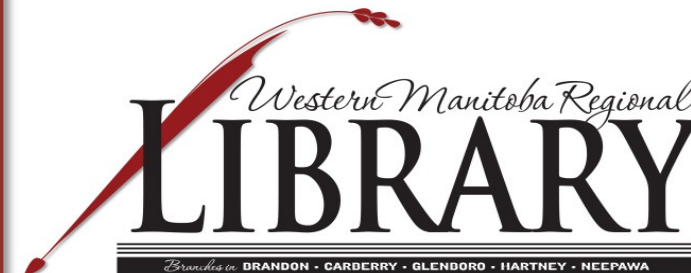
As I conclude my first year as Board Chair, I must say that it is a pleasure to work with such a dedicated Board and staff. There is real interest and willingness shown by both staff and trustees to ensure that the WMRL strives to provide the best possible service and resources to our patrons and communities.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Kormilo, Chairperson  
WMRL Board of Trustees*

**Library Board of Trustees**

<i>Donna Kormilo, Chair City of Brandon</i>	<i>Norman Campbell, Vice-Chair Councillor, M. of North Cypress/Langford</i>
<i>Ron Brown, Councillor, City of Brandon</i>	<i>Suyoko Tsukamoto, City of Brandon</i>
<i>Marianne Reid, City of Brandon</i>	<i>Bill Stilwell, Councillor, Town of Neepawa</i>
<i>Lin Mann, Councillor, Town of Carberry</i>	<i>John Anderson, Councillor, Town of Carberry</i>
<i>Lorry Braatch, Town of Carberry</i>	<i>Linda Baron, M. of North Cypress/Langford</i>
<i>Leanne Gates, Councillor, M. of Glenboro</i>	<i>Eric Plaetinck, Councillor, M. of Glenboro</i>
<i>South Cypress</i>	<i>South Cypress*</i>
<i>Myrtle Nichols, M. of Glenboro South Cypress</i>	<i>Ewen Mosby, Councillor, M. of Grassland</i>
<i>Linda Phillips, M. of Grassland</i>	<i>Deanna Henderson, M. of Grassland*</i>
<i>Shelley Mortensen, Chief Librarian</i>	<i>Robert Kowaluk, Assistant Librarian</i>

\*alternate



**MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the Western Manitoba Regional Library is to enrich lives and strengthen communities by providing universal access to broad and diverse collections of resources relevant and responsive to community needs.

**ANNUAL REPORT 2015**



**SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF**

<b>City of Brandon</b>	<b>pop.</b>	<b>46,061</b>
<b>Town of Carberry</b>	<b>pop.</b>	<b>1,669</b>
<b>M. of North Cypress/Langford</b>	<b>pop.</b>	<b>2,627</b>
<b>Town of Neepawa</b>	<b>pop.</b>	<b>3,629</b>
<b>M. of Glenboro South Cypress</b>	<b>pop.</b>	<b>1,483</b>
<b>M. of Grassland</b>	<b>pop.</b>	<b>1,480</b>