



2023-2028 Strategic Plan

Here for **YOU**. Here for **ALL**.

St. Albert
Public
Library

VISION

The Library is a vibrant, welcoming centre of community life, leisure and learning for all.

MISSION

The Library is the place people turn to for reading, viewing, listening, reliable information and the discovery of ideas. The Library's high-quality collections, services and programs foster a love of reading, literacy, the pursuit of lifelong learning and enhance general knowledge. The Library's well-trained staff provide excellent customer service and assist patrons to find, use and evaluate electronic and print information resources to meet their needs.

VALUES

St. Albert Public Library

- Is focused on community needs;
- Provides a pleasant, functional and inviting atmosphere;
- Values intellectual freedom and supports access to information;
- Is engaged and involved in community – we are an active participant in the community;
- Is committed to service excellence among staff;
- Is oriented to the future.





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St. Albert Public Library is a community-driven library. To ensure Library services are in sync with the needs of St. Albertans, in the spring of 2023, the Library began the process of building a strategic plan for the next five years. The process involved significant public consultation and input from staff at all levels, all guided by the leadership team and the Library Board of Trustees.

The strategies, goals, and objectives outlined in the SAPL 2023-2028 Strategic Plan focus on community needs and priorities that were identified by St. Albertans through broad community engagement, research, and focused planning sessions.

These goals align with City of St. Albert Strategic Plan priorities focused on Community Well Being and Downtown Vibrancy.

STRATEGIES

1. Create Young Readers:
Early Literacy.
2. Participate and Connect:
Community Engagement.
3. Pursue Truth and Reconciliation.

1 Create Young Readers: Early Literacy

Children have the programs, services, collections, space, and staff support to ensure they will be ready to learn to read, write and listen.

1.1. GOAL – Children have the programs, services, collections, space, and staff support they need to develop literacy skills and a positive attitude toward reading.

1.1.1. OBJECTIVE – Annually, 85% of parents and caregivers attending early literacy programs indicate that they have been able to support their child's early literacy development.

1.1.2. OBJECTIVE – Annually, 85% of parents and caregivers indicate early literacy materials and reading supports have helped them support their child's early literacy development.

1.2. GOAL – Children feel a sense of belonging to their library.

1.2.1. OBJECTIVE – By 2028, children's and teens' library memberships will have increased by 15% from 2022 numbers.

1.2.2. OBJECTIVE – By 2028, 85% of child patrons see themselves reflected in library programs, collections, staff and guest speakers.

1.2.3. OBJECTIVE – By 2028, 85% of child patrons feel a sense of ownership over Library spaces.



1.3. GOAL – Emergent readers and their families are supported by the Library.

1.3.1. OBJECTIVE – Annually, 85% of Summer Reading Games players report positive feelings towards reading.

1.3.2. OBJECTIVE – Annually, 85% of parents and caregivers with children in the Reading Buddies program report an improvement in their child's willingness to read.

1.3.3. OBJECTIVE – By the end of 2025, child patrons and their families will have access to increased reading supports through the library.

2 Participate & Connect: Community Engagement

Community members have opportunities for community dialogue, collaboration, partnership, and civic engagement.

2.1. GOAL – All community members will be brought together and feel a sense of belonging to their community with the support of Library services, programs, collections, spaces and staff.

2.1.1. OBJECTIVE – By the end of 2023, the Library's Barrier Free Services Plan will be reviewed and updated.

2.1.2. OBJECTIVE – By 2028, library memberships will have increased by 15% from 2022.

2.1.3. OBJECTIVE – By 2028, in person visits will have increased by 15% from 2022.

2.1.4. OBJECTIVE – By the end of 2024, a space and facilities plan is created.

2.2. GOAL – Community members feel supported beyond physical library locations through outreach library services.

2.2.1. OBJECTIVE – Annually, 85% of service users are satisfied with Outreach Services.

2.2.2. OBJECTIVE – Annually, 85% of service users are satisfied with services beyond physical locations (Homebound Service, Digital services).

2.2.3. OBJECTIVE – Annually, additional locations for Outreach library services are explored (e.g. Pop-ups).



2.3. GOAL – Community members are brought together through opportunities for lifelong learning, and reading, listening and viewing for enjoyment.

2.3.1. OBJECTIVE – Annually, SAPL leads its Alberta library peers in collections use (circulation per capita).

2.3.2. OBJECTIVE – By 2028, attendance at adult and teen learning programs will have increased 15% from 2022 numbers.

3 Pursue Truth and Reconciliation

Community members are supported in their Truth and Reconciliation journeys.

“We have described for you a mountain. We have shown you the path to the top. We call upon you to do the climbing.”

— TRC Chair, Justice Murray Sinclair.

3.1. GOAL – Community members have barrier-free access to programs, services, collections, and staff support on their journeys to Truth and Reconciliation.

3.1.1. OBJECTIVE – By 2024, a Library Truth and Reconciliation Strategy is developed.

3.2. GOAL – Indigenous community members feel a sense of belonging at the Library.

3.2.1. OBJECTIVE – By 2024, a Library Indigenous Inclusion Strategy is developed.

3.2.2. OBJECTIVE – Annually, Indigenous partners are consulted on library programs, services and collections.



PROCESS & THANKS

The Library developed this Strategic Plan based on comprehensive input from the community: a Community Needs Assessment, and two Community Conferences peopled by a range of St. Albertans who volunteered their time for two full days over two months to identify priority service roles for the Library based on community need. The Library Board, leadership team and staff provided feedback on those community-identified priorities through a series of sessions over several months. From there, Library staff developed the goals and objectives that will guide the Library's work through to 2028.

We thank these committed St. Albertans for their generous and thoughtful contribution to the strategic direction of the Library over the next five years.

Community Committee

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Facilitators & Presenters

Anne Smith: J.A. Research & Consulting
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Stephanie Foremsky: St. Albert Public Library
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Library Board

Colleen McClure – Co-Chair
Deborah McTaggart Baird – Co-Chair
Megan Dechaine
Donna Kawahara
Julie Mann-Johnson
Jennifer Freitas
Emma Frontana

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