



Parkland County Council

June 2026



Libraries help to:

- Enable access to information and ideas.
- Ensure equitable access to internet and computers.
- Embrace lifelong learning.

Libraries are essential to:

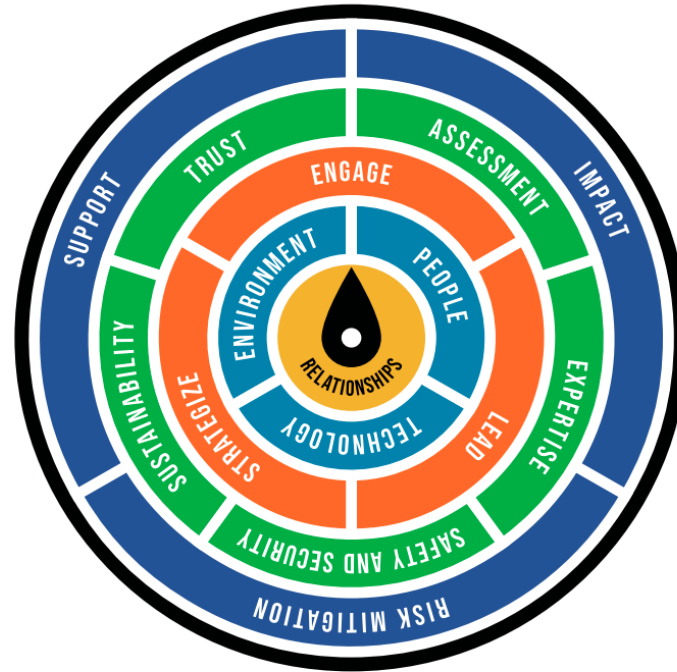
- Sustain local economic development.
- Support career and job training.
- Strengthen community connections.
- Celebrate literacy.



2026-2030 Strategic Plan

Strategic Compass

Libraries
**VALUE
BEYOND**
words





Issues and Pressures

Volatility

- Economy, tariffs, cost increases.

Addressed by:

- Sourcing new suppliers, bulk purchases.
- New YRL levy rate.

Uncertainty

- Recent municipal elections and future provincial elections.

Addressed by:

- Advocacy, information to councils, robust YRL board orientation, YRL open house, Stronger Together Conference.

Changes

- Technology, cyber-security threats.
- Population changes.

Addressed by:

- Heightened technology vigilance.
- Local library staff training.

Ambiguity

- Pandemics, changes to Provincial policy.

Addressed by:

- Preparation.
- YRL acts as a hub for information and practices during crisis, change.



How YRL Supports Your Municipality

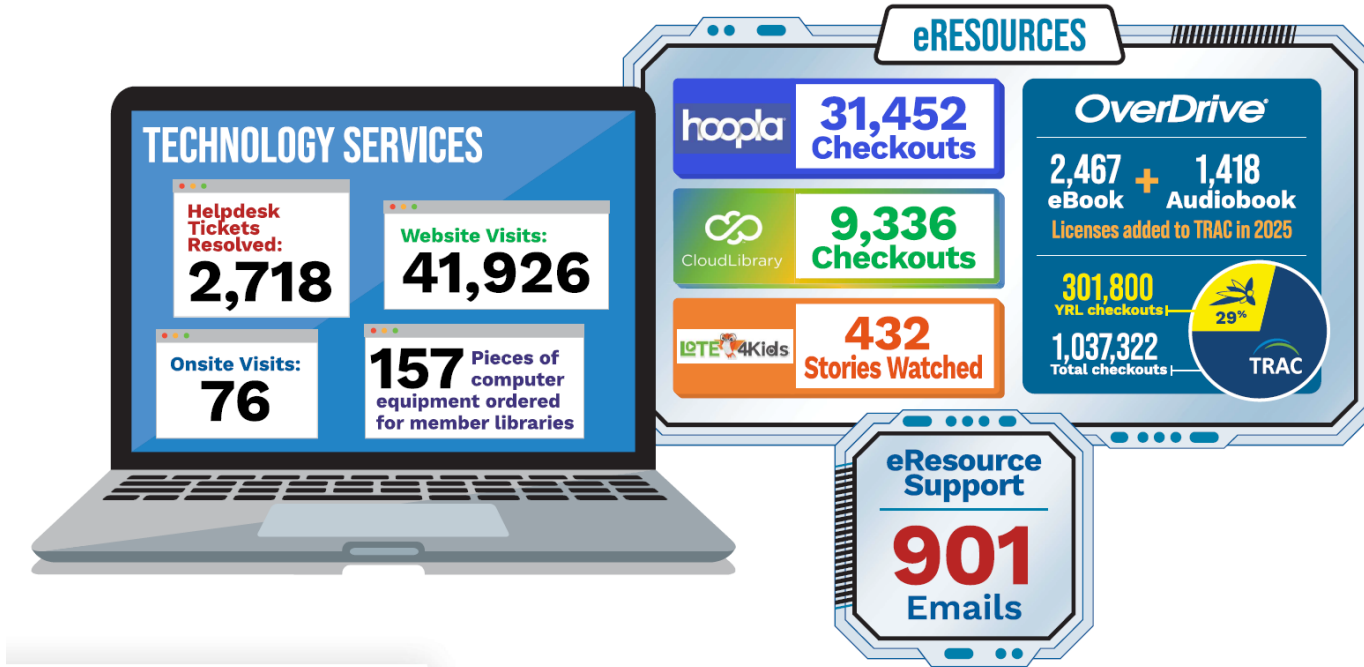
We support your local library by:

- Shared materials, purchasing power.
- Technology, cybersecurity.
- Training and support to staff.
- Policy development support.
- Networking, Community of Practice.

2025 Overview



2025 Overview



2026 Priorities

- Completion of Public Computer Project.
 - Cybrarian software implemented at all members, costs covered by YRL.
- Limit risk to libraries by moving core software to cloud hosted solutions.
- Supporting POPA/ATIA Policy and Procedures in Member Libraries.
- Patron Incident Tracking Software (PITS).
 - Implementation and analysis.

2026 Priorities

- Advocacy
- Partnerships
- Train and support local library staff.
 - Bill 28 coffee chats, documentation, and speaking points.
 - Policy development.
 - De-escalation training.



Return on Investment

DEMONSTRATING VALUE

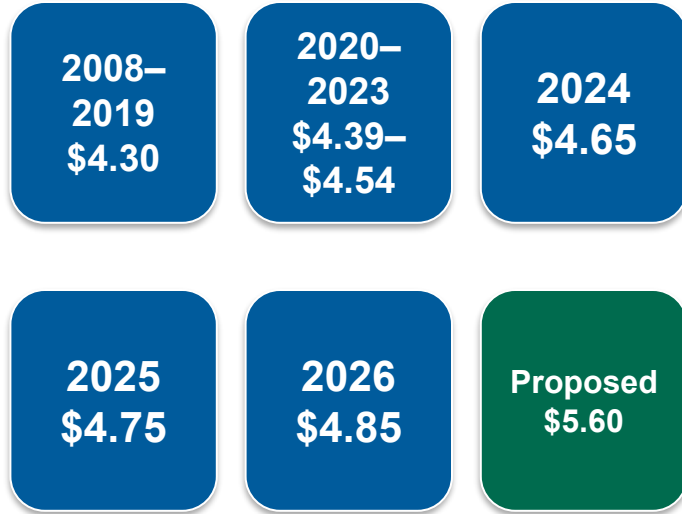
Parkland County Library Board

- Membership levy \$152,973.75
- Financial return for materials \$5,595.11
- Cost avoidance \$493,130.97
 - Technology, resource sharing, library operations software, kits/materials, and funded training.

Return on Investment (ROI) **\$1.00 = \$3.22**

Levies & the Funding Reality

Levy timeline (per capita)



Funding reality

- Municipal funding was frozen for 11 years, creating a structural gap.
- ≈ \$300,000/year in provincial funds meant for innovation is covering basic municipal costs.
- Reserves have been drawn down to the level the auditor is comfortable with.
- Proposed adjustment: \$4.85 → \$5.60 per capita (accountability, not expansion).

Gradual increases have helped, but costs and service demands have outpaced municipal contributions.

The Proposed Levy Adjustment (The Ask)

- Request: \$0.75 per capita increase.
- Does not fund new programs
- Closer alignment of municipal contributions with the true cost of existing services.
- Supports YRL's ability to meet obligations under the Master Membership Agreement.

What This Protects (Stability for Service)

- YRL Libraries rely on shared services, including expertise, technology, and collections.
- The breadth of service is not affordable independently.
- This adjustment is about stability, not growth — preventing future disruption or reduction in contracted services.

Cost to Residents Is Small — Benefit Is Significant

- For the average household: roughly the cost of two coffees per year.
- Restores proper use of provincial funds and stabilizes the system.
- Protects investments in collections, digital resources, and shared infrastructure that benefit local libraries.
- Council consideration: Support the levy adjustment to sustain services residents already rely on.

Your citizens have access to:

- More than 3 million items via TRAC.
- Digital materials, such as 600,000+ eBooks, 111,000+ eAudiobooks, 300,000+ music albums, and much more.
- Free broadband internet through SuperNet and WiFi.



**We bring the
world to your
residents.**

Thank you!