



Falher Library

La Bibliothèque Dentinger



New Hours

Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances, the library will be closed on Thursdays for the remainder of the summer. The regular schedule will resume in September. The CRC will remain open.

Fine\$ For Food

Our Fines for Food program will be continuing for the month of August. All fines collected for late or lost books will be donated to the food bank!

Summer Reading Program

The summer reading program will be on the following days between
1:30 - 2:30

August 7 - All about the bugs!
August 14 - Get out and play!
August 21 - Wrap up Movie!

Saying Goodbye

It is with heavy hearts that we say good-bye to our amazing summer student Sidney Tardif. Thank you for all of your hard work! It has been a pleasure having you here and we wish you nothing but the best in your future endeavors!



La Bibliothèque Dentinger

2019 07 Falher Regional Intermunicipal Library Board Updates and Answers to your questions:

Reach us by clicking on this icon on the Library website, by leaving a message with the Library Manager, contacting a Board Member directly or attending one of our public meetings. Our next regular meeting will be held at 7:00 pm at the Library on Tuesday, September 10th.

Staffing & Hours Updates

Our summer student, Sidney Tardif needs to leave us earlier than anticipated; Maegan, Thérèse and volunteers will be working extra hours in August to sure that summer programs continue, but **the Main Library will be closed on Thursdays for the month of August**. Our thanks to Sidney for a job well done & our apologies for any inconvenience this creates for library patrons.

Normal hours will resume in September.

Doreen will continue to oversee the Library from the CERC (Career Employment Resource Centre) desk. Maegan will cover the Library Tuesday – Thursdays, and Terry will work each Friday.

The Main Library will be closed on Thursday, September 25th and Friday, September 26th. Staff will be attending the Peace Library System regional conference in Grande Prairie, and we will also be installing new (taller) exterior wall shelving in the Library to better use our existing space. We will be sending out a reminder in September, and will also be looking for volunteers to help with packing books, disassembly of old shelving, and restaging the Library to reopen on October 1st.

FAQ's

Q – Why do you charge cardholder fees – other libraries don't?

A – We rely on the fee for full-service (TRAC) cards to help support our annual operating budget. We can't speak to what other libraries do – each Board receives different funding from the municipalities they serve, and works to meet the needs of the community within their funding.

The majority of feedback from our patrons is that this cost is very reasonable for the level of services received. We do not charge fees for local-only access & see the CERC if you are looking for work and a library card is an expense you just cannot afford – we offer a program to help.

Q. Why don't you have an AGM?

A. When we formed the Intermunicipal Library Board (to serve the combined populations of The Town of Falher and Village of Donnelly), a new legal entity (The Falher Regional Intermunicipal Library Board) was formed, under the Libraries Act. La Bibliothèque Dentinger Society was dissolved as part of this change. AGMs are not required for public-service library boards, since all our meetings are open to the public.

Q. Why did you change?

A. Most of the patrons / users of the library (60%) do not live in the Town of Falher. Changing our structure in 2016, through the co-operation of our municipalities, allowed us to access additional provincial funding (to match existing municipal funding), to help support our broader, regional base.

Q. Why did you cut hours and close at lunchtime – seems like poor customer service....

A. Changes to labour laws reduced our flexibility and significantly increased our operating costs. The changes to hours were made in direct response to address this.

The Board is personally financially responsible for any operating deficit, so we strive to balance the budget each year. We keep an operating reserve to offset unexpected costs to help ensure we are able to attract and retain trustees – without a volunteer Board, there can be no public library.

Q. I see new furnishings and hear more is coming – what gives - why aren't these funds being used to provide more programs and hours?

A. As part of our Plan of Service, we reviewed our existing space, and determined that we should increase the usability and accessibility of our existing building (provided by the Town of Falher). In 2018 we put together a project, obtained in-kind support from the Town, and financial support from partners, including the Friends of the Falher Library, and applied for a CFEP grant.

Those funds are what is being used to improve our existing space (Children's Area shelving, kitchen repurposing, new furnace and portable A/C unit, and in September, displays and exterior wall shelving.) CFEP funding cannot be used for normal operating costs for a public library. (This applies to ALL funds derived from gaming.)

Most of our programs are being run through partnerships and other grants / funding – for example:

- The Friends of the Falher Library provide gaming funds to support Movie Night at the Library (from the annual Cash Calendar).
- The FCC Expressions Fund grant has been used to support French e-Resource training document translation, Villa Outreach, children's literacy resources and upcoming French programming.
- Smoky River Adult Learning partnered with us to offer Rhyme Time for toddlers this spring.
- ATB Financial sponsored our 2018-19 Summer Reading Program.

Without this valuable support, we could not offer these extras to help meet community needs...

Please keep your comments and questions coming.

Also, consider joining the Board to add your voice and skills to help shape the future of our library service. We have one vacancy for the Village of Donnelly, and two for the Town of Falher, with a few of our long-serving trustees planning to step down by 2021.

Thank you!

Jackie Hockey, Chair

On behalf of The Falher Regional Intermunicipal Library Board