

Strathcona County Library Board
Minutes
May 25, 2026
Strathcona County Hall Meeting Room L-1

Board Members in Attendance

Amy Koskela (Chair)
Rebecca Gagnon
Olubusayo Disu
Keely Cronin
Audrey Powell
Lisa Petraschuk
Marla Tonita
Donna Smith

Library Staff

Sharon Siga (Chief Executive Officer)
Shelley Reason (Facility and Administrative Assistant - Minutes)

Regrets with Notice

Councilor Glen Lawrence

Regrets without Notice

Paul Ryzuk

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at **6:32 pm** by the Chair.

1.1 Acknowledgement of Meeting Location

Amy Koskela presented the land acknowledgement for the May meeting.

1.2 Select Board Member to Present Land Acknowledgement at the next Board Meeting

Paul Ryzuk will present the land acknowledgment for the June meeting.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Audrey Powell announced her resignation from the Board due to personal reasons.

MOTION 39/2026

That the Strathcona County Library Board approve the agenda.

Moved by Audrey Powell.

CARRIED

3. Approval of Minutes

The wording of Motion 38 from the April 20, 2026 meeting was discussed. Audrey Powell made the original motion and agreed to a friendly amendment. The Board agreed to a wording change that does not change the meaning of the motion to “The Strathcona County

Library Board will pass on the Sherwood Park Crusaders Arena opportunity at this time.”

MOTION 40/2026

That the Strathcona County Library Board approve the minutes of the April 20, 2026 Library Board Meeting as amended.

Moved by Olubusayo Disu.

CARRIED

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

If any action is required over the summer regarding advocacy, a clear timeline for response will be in the subject line of any emails. If you have any comments or concerns, please do not hesitate to voice them. It is important as a Board to hear all voices when considering a vote. Any motions voted on by email will be ratified at the next in-person Board meeting.

5. Consent Agenda Items

5.1 List of Correspondence: Incoming, Outgoing and Media Releases

5.1.1 Letter to MLA Glubish

5.1.2 Letter to MLA Kasawski

5.2 CEO Report

5.3 Minutes of March 9, 2026 Friends of Strathcona County Library Society Meeting

5.4 Minutes of the April 13, 2026 Friends of Strathcona County Library Society Meeting

MOTION 41/2026

To accept the consent agenda items for information.

Moved by Lisa Petraschuk.

CARRIED

6. Verbal Reports

6.1 County Councillor Verbal Report

Councillor Glen Lawrence sent his regrets. However, he passed on a message that Council unanimously agreed to send a letter to the Minister regarding Bill 28.

6.2 Chair Verbal Report

The agenda covers all the items Amy would have shared.

7. New Business

7.1 2026 First Reporting Period (P1) Financial Results (For Information)

Sharon Siga presented the financial results for the first reporting period of 2026. She explained that a small deficit is currently being projected based on less investment interest than budgeted and unbudgeted expenses. Efforts will be made to trim other expenses through the rest of the year. A discussion occurred regarding supporting staff and pursuing possible provincial grant avenues.

7.1.1 Library Board Cost Centre Details

MOTION 42/2026

That the Strathcona County Library Board accept the 2026 First Reporting Period (P1) Financial Results for information.

Moved by Marla Tonita.

CARRIED

7.2 October 19 Board Meeting Date

Due to a Provincial referendum vote on October 19, the Board agreed to change the date of the October meeting to October 20. The Friends of Strathcona County Library will have to be notified as they are hoping to have a meet and greet with the Board that evening as well.

MOTION 43/2026

That the Strathcona County Library Board change its meeting date from October 19, 2026 to October 20, 2026.

Moved by Audrey Powell.

CARRIED

7.3 Approve Library Board Meeting Dates in 2026

MOTION 44/2026.

That the Strathcona County Library Board approve the Board meeting dates for 2027.

Moved by Donna Smith.

CARRIED

7.4 Recruitment of New Board Members – Draft Skills Survey

A discussion occurred regarding questions for the Skills Survey. The Board decided to limit the options for answers to no experience, some experience and lots of experience. Results will come to the June meeting so the Board can ask the County to look for any missing skills among Library Board applicants.

7.5 Provincial Advocacy Update

Sharon explained the challenges libraries are facing with Bill 28. The Board discussed effective advocacy. Ideas included continuing to have conversations with patrons and other members of the community, encouraging rural patrons to contact their MLA with their concerns, providing talking points, and providing buttons, stickers and lawn signs for patrons. Sharon to send link to board for the May 29, 2026 virtual town hall discussing Bill 28 presented by the Coalition of Alberta Public (CAP) libraries.

7.6 Preparing for Implementation of the new Protection of Privacy Act (POPA)

Sharon explained Board Members need to take the new Protection of Privacy Act training for public bodies. She will send out the link as the training must be completed by June 11, 2026.

- 7.7 Recommendation for the Muriel Abdurahman Volunteer Award 2026**
Keely Cronin and Rebecca Gagnon explained that the two volunteers nominated for the Muriel Abdurahman Volunteer Award were very close in points. Sally Neal suggested giving both volunteers an award. The ceremony will be arranged for the end of June.

MOTION 45/2026

That the Strathcona County Library Board approve the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Volunteer Award Committee which is presenting awards to Teresa Pinkoski and Andrea Nwobosi.

Moved by Audrey Powell.

CARRIED

- 7.8 Mid-Year Board Chair Evaluation Survey**
Sharon will email the Mid-Year Board Chair Evaluation Survey. The survey results will go to the Executive Committee. The Board asked for one email for all surveys.

8. Comments, Announcements, and Other Business

Donna Smith will send out a doodle poll for the week of September 28 for committee members to select a date for the next Policy Committee meeting.

8.1 Public Presentations

8.2 Board Member Round Robin

8.3 Upcoming Friends Meeting:

8.3.1 June 8, 2026

8.3.2 Summer Party Fundraiser July 18

8.4 June 2: Meeting with Fort Saskatchewan Public Library Board at Their Library

Don't forget to claim mileage for this event.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at **8:27 pm**.



Amy Koskela, Chair