



RECREATION, PARKS & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

TO:	Council	
DATE:	September 27, 2022	DIVISION: All
FILE:	N/A	APPLICATION: N/A
SUBJECT:	Marigold Library System Agreement	

POLICY DIRECTION:

As per Policy C-312, Rocky View County is a member municipality of the Marigold Library System, which allows the County to provide operational funding to libraries that are members of the Marigold Library System.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Rocky View County has been a member of the Marigold Library System since 2007. This membership provides all County residents with access to library services.

As a municipality without a library board, the County contributes annually to Marigold Library System, based upon an agreement that outlines the terms and the per capita levy rates for municipalities and library boards. The Marigold Agreement and 'Schedule C' per capita levy rates is reviewed and amended every two years.

Administration and Marigold reviewed the current agreement, and minor amendments are proposed to ensure alignment with the Libraries Act, and to provide language consistency and points of clarification. The per capita levy rates have remained unchanged since 2020; however, due to increasing operational costs, Marigold Library System is proposing a \$0.11 per capita increase to the levy schedule for each of 2023 and 2024, outlined in Attachment 'C' of this report.

If Council chooses to approve the revised Marigold Agreement and the 2023-2024 'Schedule C' per capita levy rates, a final copy of an agreement between Rocky View County and Marigold Library System would need to be signed prior to September 30, 2022.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:

Administration recommends approval in accordance with Option #1.

BACKGROUND:

The Marigold Library System was established in 1981 and provides a wide range of resources and services to directly support public libraries and residents. Revenue from municipal levies and provincial grants are pooled to ensure that all residents have access to state-of-the-art public library services that complement the aspirations and needs of each community.

Rocky View County has been a supporter of the Marigold Library System for over a decade and Policy C-312 (adopted by Council in 2009) establishes the framework for the County to provide per capita operational funding to the individual members of the Marigold Library System located within Rocky View boundaries. This currently includes Airdrie, Beiseker, Chestermere, Cochrane, Crossfield, and Irricana, as well as a County Library Reserve fund to address future library services expansion. These contributions, as part of the annual budgeting process, are based on a formula that uses district catchment population figures and a fixed per capita rate (currently \$4.00). Currently, we fund this service through a combination of tax dollars and MSI operating grant.

Administration Resources

Cheryl Cresine, Recreation, Parks & Community Support



ROCKY VIEW COUNTY

Libraries not only serve communities through services and programs, but also through providing public spaces for leisure and learning opportunities and connecting with others. Libraries offer prospective partnerships related to programming, community development, and other services. Continuing the partnership with Marigold Library System means that the member libraries can offer more to local residents through extensive services, shared resources, and programs.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

Originally, \$437,200 was budgeted for this service; however, due to Municipal Affairs' decision to use the Alberta Treasury population numbers to calculate Marigold Library System annual payment, the new proposed amount for the 2023 budget will be \$468,145, which is an increase of \$31,000.

OPTIONS:

- Option #1: THAT the Marigold Library Agreement be approved as presented.
 Option #2: THAT alternative direction be provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Concurrence,

"Brock Beach"

"Dorian Wandzura"

Acting Executive Director
Community Services

Chief Administrative Officer

CC/rp

ATTACHMENTS:

- ATTACHMENT 'A': Proposed Final Marigold Library System Agreement (including Schedule C)
 ATTACHMENT 'B': Draft Marigold Library System Agreement (Red Line Changes)
 ATTACHMENT 'C': Schedule C Marigold per capita levy rates 2023 & 2024
 ATTACHMENT 'D': Cover Letter for Agreement and Schedule 'C'
 ATTACHMENT 'E': Letter for Revised Marigold Agreement
 ATTACHMENT 'F': Letter for Schedule C per capita levies 2023 & 2024