



Shortgrass Library System

**Update for
Bassano Town Council**

Dwight Nagel, Board Chair

Julia Reinhart, CEO

SLS Update for Bassano Town Council

- 1.) Introductions
- 2.) Rural Information Services initiative (RISE) Project
- 3.) 24/7 Access to Library Materials
- 4.) Online Databases
- 5.) Additional Services

“Libraries are the same size when connected.”



SLS Update for Bassano Town Council

RISE

Rural Information Services initiative

Chinook Arch Regional Library System
Shortgrass Library System
Marigold Library System



➤ What is RISE?

- “Partnership of Partnerships” involving Chinook Arch, Marigold and Shortgrass Library Systems, all in Southern Alberta
- Three Year Project will link together eighty (80) communities via a library-based videoconference network
- Will bring new services to rural communities through enhanced local library services. Examples include virtual meeting room facilities, distance education and training opportunities, and additional public library programming



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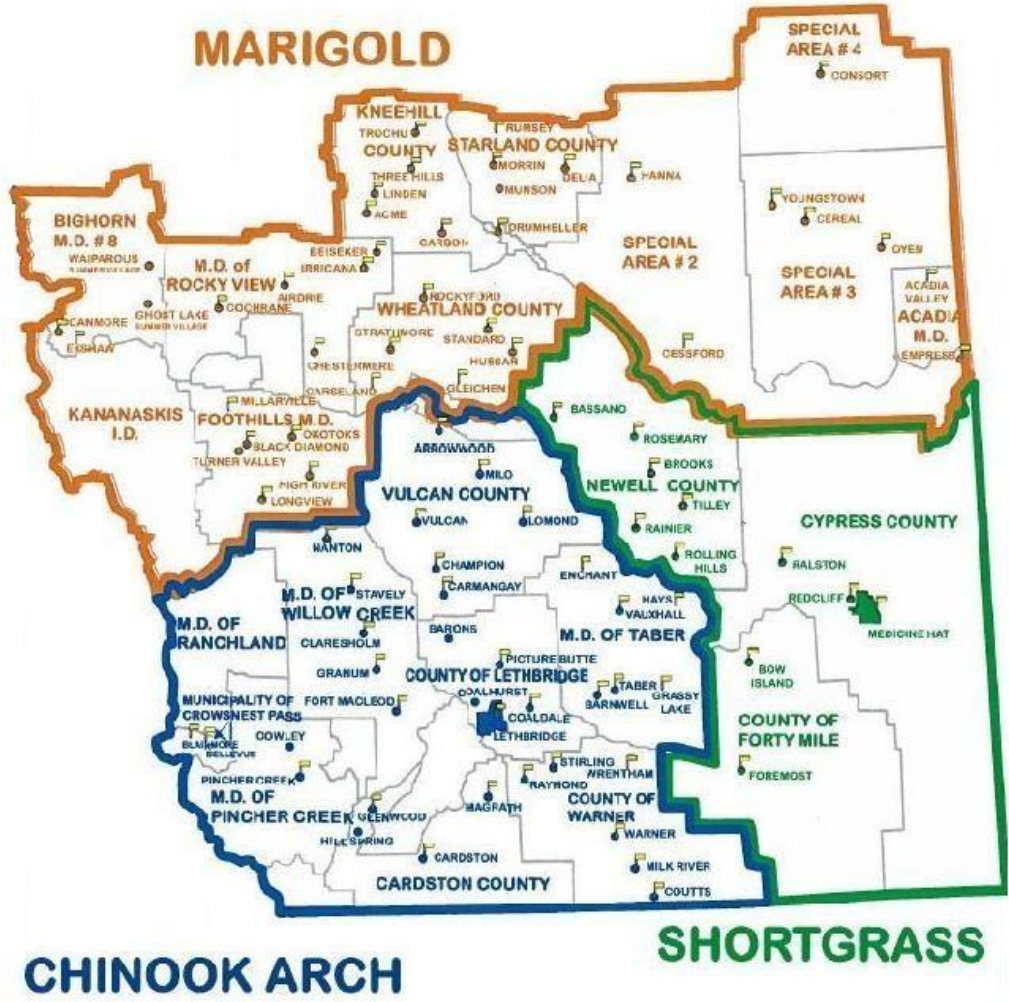


➤ Timelines for the RISE Project

- First year of project complete
- Six (6) pilot sites in each system as well as each system headquarters are on network
- Shortgrass libraries now on RISE videoconferencing network: Brooks, Redcliff, Medicine Hat, Bow Island, Foremost and the Graham Community Library in Ralston
- Installation of equipment at Bassano Library and school-housed County of Newell public libraries is proceeding



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➤ How is RISE funded?

- RISE is a \$5 million dollar project
- RISE partners successfully attained 75% of funding from the Rural Alberta Development Fund (RADF)
- Other sources include: the Public Library Development Initiative (PLDI) from Alberta Municipal Affairs and The Alberta Public Library Electronic Network (APLEN)
- The three regional library systems will also contribute in-kind support and have been successful at raising additional funds privately



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For more information and to sign up for regular updates on the project visit the RISE Wiki at:

wikirise.pbworks.com



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Bassano residents have 24/7 access to the Shortgrass online catalogue:

- Over 400,000 items belonging to the 11 public libraries within the Shortgrass Library System are accessible around the clock at www.shortgrass.ca
- From home or at work, library users can:
 - search for library materials including books, magazines, CDs, DVDs, talking books, etc.
 - place holds on items to be picked up at any of the 11 public libraries
 - check their library account and renew items



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Bassano residents have 24/7 access to online databases through Shortgrass and the Bassano Memorial Library:

- Access to credible, accurate and current information through numerous online databases from any computer, anywhere at anytime
- Topics covered by these databases include: do-it-yourself auto repair and small engine maintenance, health and wellness, home improvement, agriculture, book reviews and author read-alikes, as well as general reference
- Hundreds of newspapers and magazines
- World Book and World Book for Kids
- Auralog's Tell Me More software



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Other Library Services available to Bassano Residents through Shortgrass and the Bassano Memorial Library include:

- The Alberta Library (TAL) Card
www.thealbertalibrary.ab.ca
- Access to resources at libraries throughout Alberta found through TALonline www.talonline.ca
- Interlibrary loans of materials found outside of Shortgrass
- Delivery service twice weekly
- CNIB library service for the print disabled
- Ask a Question



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Thanks to the Town of Bassano for their continued support and membership within the Shortgrass Library System!

Any Questions?