PRAIRIE RIVER LIBRARY DISTRICT

KOOSKIA COMMUNITY LIBRARY
A Case for Support

Mission: To enrich lives and strengthen communities through universal access to information and services.

WHAT WE OFFER

Open year-round Monday through Friday; 35 hours per week.

Approximately 820 registered borrowers in Kooskia
- Residents and property owners in the Valnet Service area get free cards
- Non-residents purchase cards for a small fee

Usage in 2024
- Nearly 10,000 visits; more than 800 computer users (does not include patrons with their own laptops who accessed our free 24/7 Wi-Fi during and after library hours)
- Over 4,000 Libby Audio & Ebook Checkouts from Kooskia Patrons
- More than 12,800 items circulated
- Programs: Over 950 people attended 53 programs

In Branch collection of over 6,000 items including audiobooks, kits, DVDs and more.
- New fiction, nonfiction, and audio books regularly added
- Valnet membership gives patrons access to over half a million items.

Print, copy, scan, and fax services with separate fax line

Programming
- Weekly offsite Story Time with Headstart
- Summer reading program

Computer and Internet services
- Two public access desktop computers with Internet access and office software programs
- Wireless Internet service 24/7 with increased bandwidth
- Staff assistance for more accurate research and more efficient use of technology
- Access to free, extensive databases on many subjects via the Idaho Commission for Libraries

Housed in City Hall, in generous partnership with the City of Kooskia,

CURRENT FACILITY SHORTCOMINGS

Too small
- Just 1,500 square feet
  - Shelving space has reached maximum capacity
  - Public access materials are stored in staff areas due to space limitations
  - No comfortable place to sit and read or wait
  - No space for designated areas (I.e. Teen Zone, Reference, Children's etc.)
  - Limited space for programming on site
  - No meeting space for groups
  - No quiet private space for individuals to work on read
  - Limited work space for library staff and the public
  - Inadequate storage space
  - Inadequate space for public use computers

WHAT WE CAN OFFER

…WITH A BIGGER, BETTER DESIGNED FACILITY OF OUR OWN

More books and materials
- With adequate shelving space, can keep and add many more materials
- Shelving is easily accessible to all patrons
- Shelving is flexible: interior shelves are on wheels so they can be moved into different configurations or out of the way for events
- Add local history section and designated sections to meet the needs of children, teens and adults.

A more attractive, comfortable, and safe children's area
- More books and educational materials
- Designed for children and parents to enjoy learning and spending time together
- Designed to be easily accessed and monitored by a one-person staff

More public-access computers
- Increase number of public access computers
- More comfortable and ergonomic
- Designed to make it easy for distance learning/working
- Top-of-the-line technology and software

Better designed seating and easy wireless printing for wireless computer users
- Indoor work spaces with built-in power supply so laptop users can recharge their computers
- Comfortable, durable outdoor seating and access to power for after-hours use
- High-speed printer/copier/scanner/fax helps meet diverse needs of locals and travelers
- Provides important service for visitors.

Attractive, comfortable spaces for reading, socializing, and learning
- A comfortable, quiet place to read periodicals or books
- A destination where community members feel welcome and connected
- Built-in display spaces for rotating art or cultural exhibits

Built-in work space for library staff and the public
- Comfortable Tables and chairs for patrons to conduct research or study
- Separate staff work space for processing materials, preparing adult and children's activities, and conducting administrative work

High-tech multipurpose room for serving various size groups
- Comfortable place for Library events and public meetings.
- Flexible room for patrons working on projects requiring more space or privacy
- Can host cultural and social events such as a film festival, lecture series, or craft fair
- Events or meetings can be held while the library is open without impacting other users.
- Technology such as a projector, screen, speaker system, etc. makes room more versatile for high-tech.
- Addition of Makerspace - a collaborative workspace to facilitate creativity and learning using a variety of tools and mediums.
- Addition of teaching kitchen
- Secure entrance and key-pad lock provides access to meeting space after hours

Built-in storage space
- More equipment and supplies are available for Library and other groups' use
- Ensures donations of books and equipment are put to good use
- Decreases clutter and improves safety

Outdoor space
- Plenty of off-street parking
- Easy and safe access from the parking lot to the door for all patrons in all weather
- Outdoor landscaping takes advantage of local vegetation and conserves water
- Outdoor patio meets needs of after-hours users
- On site outdoor programming space to enhance and increase program availability.

Eliminate cost of rent
- Use the saved funds to provide more services, offer special events and programs, and supplement a long-term maintenance fund

FUNDING & TIMELINE

Building a community library for generations to come is a big project! Prairie River Library District is working with a variety of funding sources including private donors, support groups and seeking grants to make the new library a reality.

The timeline for breaking ground is dependent on our ability to obtain funding, and we are dedicated to pursuing all viable opportunities.