

Faye McGhee, Division 1, Report

April 22, 2025 Council Meeting

Marigold Library AGM

Meeting Date: April 12

The executive has remained the same as last year which means President John Getz, (Village of Standard) returns for another year.

We received a clean audit. No Items were listed in the management letter for the 5th year!

Marigold Library Board meeting:

Meeting Date: April 12

There is a new online library catalogue called TRACpac+

CEO expressed gratitude for having had recently sign a five year fixed rate with the Trac Society which will result in very little affect from possible trade tariffs for purchases for the updating catalogue of sources.

The Marigold Library System Annual report will be distributed to our administration asap.

EDA Xperience Leaders' Summit:

Date: April 9-11

Background: Economic Developers Alberta, (EDA), Is a non-for-profit that supports community economic development through professional development opportunities, and programs including sharing best practices, providing access to courses and seminars, distributing timely information, and hosting world class events such as our EDA Xperience Leaders' Summit. Members include municipalities, towns, tourism groups, utilities, financial institutions, businesses, Regional Economic Development Authorities, Community Futures Development Corporations, federal, provincial, regional and municipal government agencies, students, non-profit organizations, and other groups and individuals that are either involved or interested in economic development.

The summit runs a very full agenda including breakout learning sessions and information presentations on Alberta's sector opportunities, economic trends, best practices, and networking opportunities. Information was shared by 116 speakers.

My overall value came through some of the resources that I was able to connect to that can support both and or CAEP in the work we are doing.



The highlights of my learning:

1. “Blue Gold”, fiber optic infrastructure is said to be the key to sustainable economy in all communities. This was explained and emphasized by various presenters.
2. Filling the workforce with talent and skill needed is a huge challenge facing all communities.
3. Communities have three components to sustainability: the social, economic and environment. I liked the quote, “Economy is the horse that drives the social program cart.” (My thoughts are we need a strong social system to sustain the people of the community but as we have experienced over and over, the social programming only seems to gain financial support when economy is doing well.)
4. Telling your community story is an important tool for many dynamics of sustainability.
5. Lauren Pearson, (Community Development Project Lead, Community Futures Centre West) shared that 80% of business that survived beyond 5 years have accessed supports.
6. Massively many other items I could share and so I invite anyone interested to converse with me further.

