

Dear District of Lakeland Ratepayer:

In early 2011 Saskatchewan Libraries went on-line with a new program called "Saskatchewan Integrated Library System" (SILS), which enables all Saskatchewan residents to use the library system throughout the province instead of only in the local community. That means the SILS card issued in Christopher Lake, Regina or Saskatoon allows you to borrow or return material from any Saskatchewan Library.

Our local library located in the District office in Christopher Lake can lend out any material located in the branch or bring in material from any other library in the province. Materials borrowed from any provincial library can be returned to our library. Effective January 1, 2012 the library hours are Wednesdays 12:00 to 7:30 and Thursdays 1:00 to 7:30, with a drop box available for returns 24/7. High speed internet is also available in the library. You may bring your own laptop or use one of three terminals.

When the District made the decision to build a new municipal office we felt it was important to continue to supply space for a library. The District of Lakeland and Village of Christopher Lake ratepayers contribute on a per census resident to the Wapiti Library System. In turn Wapiti provides the material for circulation, and staff hours based on the amount of circulation from our branch. The Lakeland Lions Club, Village and District each provide one hour per week to supplement the hours provided by Wapiti. If our circulation increases – our hours will increase.

This is background information for the real reason that I am writing to you. The District of Lakeland and Village of Christopher Lake are committed to providing a good library branch for our full and part-time residents. We are providing the capital costs and the building operating costs for the Library in the new district building. The local library board is responsible to provide all fixtures and furnishings. Representatives of the Library Board have toured some new library locations and have developed a list of fixtures and furnishings under two headings:

- Must have at a minimum \$20,000.
- additional "nice to have" \$10,000.

As Reeve of the District, I have promised the local library board that I would lead a fundraising effort to raise funds for these furnishings. My wife, Gladys and I have opened the campaign with a cheque for \$500.00. The library board will honor donations on a "Donor Wall/Plaque". If you wish, your donation can remain anonymous.

We have received information from a tax accountant that donations to a municipality for capital funds are tax deductible. A charitable number is not needed to make this deduction on your tax return. Please make your cheque payable to the "District of Lakeland 521, Library Fund".

I would like to appeal to your generosity in supporting a real need in our community.

Yours Truly
E. E. (Al) Christensen

