

Full Membership

1. Definition of terms

A "full member" is a library or library organization that:

- a. Supports the vision, goals and objectives of The Alberta Library.
- b. Fits one of the full member types.
- c. Provides a resource or acts as a resource.
- d. Pays fees according to the established fee structure.
- e. Has representation on the Board of Directors.
- f. Has voting privileges.

2. Types of members

There are eight categories of full membership in The Alberta Library:

- i. College and technical institute libraries
- ii. University libraries
- iii. Public libraries
- iv. Regional library systems
- v. School divisions
- vi. Special libraries
- vii. Other libraries that provide a resource or act as a resource (such as associations and training institutions)
- viii. A designated representative of the Government of the Province of Alberta.

A library consortium is defined as a group of libraries that are established as a separate entity by incorporation under the Societies Act, the Companies Act or a Memorandum of Agreement among members. Library systems incorporated under the Libraries Act are not considered consortia. A consortium must have a budget and a staff member responsible for coordinating the activities of its members and to act as the contact for its members.

3. Eligibility for full membership

All of the following criteria must be met:

- a. Membership is open to non-profit libraries and library organizations.
- b. Members must be committed to two fundamental principles:
 - Barrier free access to their resources.
 - Reciprocal access to their collections.
- c. Members must be located in the province of Alberta.
- d. Members must provide accessibility to their library's collections through, including but not limited to, TAL Online and on a walk-in basis. This means:
 1. The library's integrated library system must be capable of inclusion in TAL Online.
 2. The library must provide on-line public catalogue access via the Internet.
 3. The library's integrated library system must allow web interactivity between the patron and the database.

4. The library's integrated library systems must conform with Z39.50 standards or some other communication standard which may evolve.
5. Catalogues must conform with basic cataloguing standards and MARC format.
6. Public library catalogues and patron databases must be connected to an APLEN node as a point of searching.
7. The library must have access to technical and other staff necessary to maintain the library's participation in resource sharing.
8. The library must be willing to give TAL card access to its primary clients and TAL card access to its own collection to the primary clients of other TAL partners.

Those present TAL members who do not meet the criteria are expected to reach achievement of the criteria by March 31st, 2008.

4. Responsibilities of Full Membership

- a. Members have the collections, services, staffing and budget to fulfill their primary service mandate.
- b. Members will actively participate in the work of The Alberta Library.
- c. Members will have collections and services that are available to other members and/or their primary users either through interlibrary loan or direct access.
- d. Members' collections and services will add value to the collective resources of The Alberta Library.
- e. Membership will have a positive and supportive effect on the health and well-being of existing members and will not cause detriment to any member.

5. Restrictions/limitations

- a. There is no limit to the number of full members.
- b. The number on the Board of Directors may vary, as each full member shall have one representative, with one vote, on the Board.

6. Fees

- a. The fee structure shall be established by the Board of Directors.
- b. Fees shall be reviewed every year.
- c. The membership year shall be from January 1 to December 31.
- d. Membership dues are payable at the commencement of the membership year.
- e. Fees will be prorated for members who join after the commencement of the fiscal year.

7. Rights and obligations of members

- a. Each full member has one representative on the Board of Directors.
- b. Each full member has one vote.
- c. Membership is non-transferable.
- d. Voluntary withdrawal requires written notice of at least one fiscal year.
- e. Abrogation of responsibility may result in suspension or expulsion of a member.

8. Applying for membership

- a. Applicants will:

- Submit a letter of application stating the applying library adopts the principles of barrier free access to member resources, and agrees that reciprocal access to collections will be enabled by The Alberta Library.
 - Complete and submit a Library Profile.
 - Indicate how they will comply with the responsibilities and criteria.
- b. Applicants meeting the eligibility requirements will be invited to join as full members, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. The Board shall vote for potential new members on the basis of the above criteria at one of its two meetings per year.
- c. The decision of the Board of Directors is final.

Affiliate Membership

1. Definition of terms:

An "affiliate member" is a person or organization that:

- a. Supports the goals and objectives of The Alberta Library.
- b. Fits one of the affiliate member types.
- c. Pays an adjusted fee for limited privileges in the consortium.

2. Eligibility for affiliate membership

- a. Membership is open to persons and organizations.
- b. Members must be committed to the fundamental principles of The Alberta Library.

3. Restrictions/limitations

There is no limit to the number of affiliate members.

4. Fees

- a. The fee structure shall be established by the Board of Directors.
- b. Fees shall be reviewed every year.
- c. The membership year shall be from January 1 to December 31.
- d. Membership dues are payable at the commencement of the membership year.
- e. Fees will be prorated for members who join after the commencement of the fiscal year.

5. Rights and obligations of members

- a. An affiliate member may attend meetings as an observer.
- b. An affiliate member has no voting privileges.
- c. Affiliate membership is non-transferable.
- d. Affiliate members do not participate in programs of The Alberta Library.
- e. Abrogation of responsibility may result in suspension or expulsion of a member.

6. Applying for membership

- a. Applicants meeting the eligibility requirements will be invited to join as affiliate members, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.
- b. Applicants may appeal a decision of the Executive Committee to the Board of Directors. The decision of the Board of Directors is final.