

Sample "elevator" Speeches

Libraries are a wise investment that provide an excellent return on investment.

Barb: You know we are a part of the Parkland Regional Library System, right? Without that membership we wouldn't have our SuperNet or access to millions of books, videos and digital resources. Our library would have to spend thousands and thousands of dollars on books, computers, technical support, and activities for kids that we get for free with our membership!

Bill: Do you realize that Parkland Regional Library System staff researches, compiles, and distributes information; delivers materials to our library; and supports programs that our individual municipal council could not afford? The collaboration of libraries and regional staff bring a unique services to citizens to maintain or improve their quality of life. And all these resources are yours for the low, low price of \$8.55 per person a year. That's less than a Big Mac, fries, and coke.

Deb: Do you realize that your vote has the power to impact thousands of lives? PRL is a cooperative of municipalities that support our libraries at a fraction of the cost we would pay individually. Belonging to the region has enabled us to respond to the well-being of all citizens, offer high speed internet, provide programs and supports for small business owners, the unemployed, and families, and to support mental well-being too. There is no part of the community that your library does not support and belonging to PRL increases that support exponentially. The PRL budget will be reaching your council agenda and your support is essential. The citizens of your community will thank you for being responsive to their needs and have faith in your ability to make wise decisions.

Gord: [Name of councillor], I have the impression that you put more value in weed control than in the regional library system. I want to make sure you have your information current so that you are seen as informed on the regional library budget presentation/discussion coming up. Our intermunicipal library would be derailed without Parkland. Eleven computers, SuperNet connectivity, 100,000 wi-fi hits in a region of barely 14,000 residents. E-resources, at home learning support. Your daughter is homeschooling your grandkids, right? [Name of councillor], buddy, you gotta say yes to the Parkland budget.

Janine: You have a real challenge balancing municipal finances with all the community needs. The library fills many roles and serves a significant population with diverse services at a very small cost. The library partners with FCSS for programming during the summer, saving money. It supports early learning, mom and tot groups, and supports seniors by delivering books. It provides support for new Canadians and holds after school programming. For \$1 spent, \$8 is returned. The library serves the community in different ways and adapts to changing circumstances, as it did during COVID. Please continue to fund the library at the present level and support its budget request, knowing it will benefit our entire population.

Jeanny: As you know, we are a community that supports aging in place. but as you know, we need to attract new residents to our community, too. Many people move here because of the high quality of life. The library is a critical service to that quality of life. The regional system gives us a discount on the cost of books so we can purchase more items to meet the diverse community demand. It is an integral reason why we have reliable, accessible internet in our community. Our small library would not exist without your support of the regional system. When it's time to vote on the budget request, please vote yes to the budget and to our high quality of life.

Norma: Do you know what PRLS does? Do you know what this requisition means for our own community? To name a few things, without PRLS our library wouldn't have funding for new computers, new software, access to thousands of digital materials, support to our librarian, and more importantly SuperNet. We know how terrible the internet is in our own homes. Imagine if our library had to fight with connectivity issues as we all do. I'm asking you to pass this requisition so Parkland can continue to provide these valuable services to our library and, therefore, our community.

Libraries are a central community connector for mental health resources and support the well-being of all citizens.

Norma: Believe it or not, our library is a vitally important resource for the mental well-being of our community members. When we were locked down and unable to experience the normalcy of life, our library was there. Reaching out to at risk community members, providing crafts to bring joy to our children, the escape of a good read - whether online or a good old-fashioned paper book. As well as reliable internet service. Funding is now more important than ever. Stable funding starts with you. By passing this requisition, you are helping with the continuation of these resources now and into the future.

Jeanny: You live in a community in which the library is a vital resource that enhances our quality of life. Last year, the library was able to serve our residents by [x] number of books checked out, transferred in, website hits, and wi-fi sessions. You are in a position to help our residents maintain a relevant, functional library as we are part of Parkland Regional Library System. Library users need your support by approving the budget request from PRL.

Janine: The library is the hub of our community. It provides programming, connects people, lends material for entertainment and education. Staff help people with whatever they need, from repairing vehicles to making clothes. High-speed internet and computers facilitate job search and keep people connected when COVID is leaving many people out of work and isolated. PRL manages the network infrastructure and keeps us current with technology. They open the door to province-wide sharing of books and ebooks. Please provide funding to PRL so we can continue to serve our community, as without it that would be impossible.

Gord: I would like to talk libraries with you... there is a tangible and sound return on investment for every dollar our municipality invests in the local and regional library system. Parkland manages the SuperNet and network infrastructures that support our local library in providing a neutral, safe space for every age and socioeconomic citizen. Mental health, underemployment, and other stressors are rampant and no one, including you and I, has not suffered some level of COVID sunburn. I'm asking you to put your support into sustainable funding for the vital services our local and regional libraries offer our citizens.

Bill: Over the past seven months libraries have been a vital service with access to programs and resources for people who have lost their jobs or have reduced income. In order to support the well-being of our citizens and people who may be struggling, not only do we have to maintain access to these resources but we need to move forward and expand upon the base Parkland and our regional library partners have developed. The library system has a track record of delivering top of the line service with the funding available to them. While already operating at capacity, we would love to discuss what we could do to support your organization, your priorities, and our citizens.

Barb: Were you aware that during the COVID situation our library still provided services to our seniors and shut-ins? Our staff received many calls from patrons that were feeling isolated and really just needed someone to talk to. We managed to help them stay in touch with the outside world with eBooks, curbside delivery, and just good conversations! It's a service not everyone knows about. I hope you can help us spread the word!