

Membership In TAL Benefits Alberta Libraries...

TAL enhances the services offered by libraries:

- The TAL Card allows patrons to borrow resources from any participating library.
- TAL Online provides the ability to search and request materials from member library catalogues from any computer.
- The Subscriptions Alberta Universal Core group of databases offers a wealth of reliable, credible information to Alberta library patrons.
- Through Web Awareness, TAL provides library staff with tools to assist parents with teaching their children critical approaches to dealing with the information they may encounter on the World Wide Web.
- In partnership with VISUNET CANADA Partners Programs, TAL links Albertans to the resources housed in the CNIB's library for the blind.
- Provided by member libraries and coordinated through TAL, Ask a Question is an online virtual reference service free to all Albertans.

TAL makes possible programs that increase the capacity of the library system across Alberta:

- Under that TAL umbrella, The Alberta Public Library Electronic Network (APLEN) provides connectivity between and to patron's libraries via the SuperNet.
- TAL provides the coordination of the development and implementation of the Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library (LHCADL).
- Consortium database purchasing allows libraries to provide more information to their patrons cost-effectively.
- The management of information technology services allows libraries more staffing flexibility.
- Support and promotional material for the Lois Hole Library Legacy Program is provided on a cost-recovery basis to participating libraries.
- Conference and training initiatives are offered to library professionals to remain up-to-date in changes in information services.
- Benefits and services of libraries are promoted to the general public.

TAL strengthens the Alberta library system through combined action:

- By providing a dynamic model of collaboration, public, post-secondary and special libraries come together to share and learn from their collective experiences.
- TAL creates an atmosphere where risks can be taken with a minimal amount of individual exposure.
- Centralized staff provides guidance and advice to member libraries in a number of areas.
- Information is provided on a variety of topics that allow member libraries to make informed decisions.
- Through committee work, opportunities are provided for a voice in shaping programs that affect libraries and patrons across the province.
- TAL is recognized nationally within the library community for being part of innovative and progressive programs.

The Alberta Library takes a leading role in providing members with the ideas and information they need to meet the information and service demands of their respective patrons.

Alberta libraries achieve more through collaboration with The Alberta Library.

