



FY26 Annual Report

Annual Report July 2025 – June 2026

PrairieCat assists members in the successful sharing of resources and services, expanding the quality and quantity of information accessible to our library users.

At its core, PrairieCat exists to provide an integrated library system (ILS) to members—having a central ILS provides efficiencies to member libraries.

Database Support

- **12** PrairieCat Staff
- **30+** Monthly Statistical Reports
- **1,178** Original Cataloging Records
- **43,568** Record Loads
- **22,992** Record Enhancement and Cleanup
- **585,359** Special Project Record Cleanup
- **36** MARC Catalogers from Member Libraries
- **2** Sierra Upgrades - v 6.4 and v 6.5
- Total Help Desk Tickets Processed: **3,860**

Resource Sharing Network

360,000+ cardholders have access to more than **1.2 million** unique titles and **5 million** items.

Member libraries have a combined service population of more than **1,105,000**.

4,532,630 Items Circulated

658,240 Interlibrary Loan Holds Filled

644,371 Reciprocal Borrowing Transactions Between PrairieCat libraries

Member Libraries FY26

138 Member Libraries

81 Fully Participating Members

23 Basic Online Members

34 Union Listing Members

Multi-Type Consortium

104 Public Libraries

31 School Libraries

2 Academic Libraries

1 Special Library

Engagement

Members are actively engaged at all levels, which creates connections and advances the organization.

- **PUG Day 2025 | In Person:** 260 total attendees from 60 member libraries | 28 sessions
- **Member Updates | Virtual:** Fall Update with 47 attendees | Spring Update with 43 attendees
- **10 Governance and Standing Committees:** 40 meetings throughout the fiscal year
- **Site Visits with Member Libraries:** 28 in-person site visits
- **Resource Sharing Summit:** Patron Behavior Policies and Best Practices | 40 participants
- **New Director Welcome:** 4 sessions with 25 total participants
- **Union List Members Meeting:** 10 participants from Union List members
- **Back to School Session:** 12 participants from school libraries

Training

Learning opportunities equip members to provide excellent service to end users.

- **TalentLMS:** Self-paced courses available 24/7 through PrairieCat's online training platform. PrairieCat trainings offered online include searching, holds, circulation, and cataloging.
- **Vega Discover:** 1 new course Vega Reports was added to the series of Vega Discover courses. 39 libraries have completed courses allowing for customizations of their Vega sites.
- **Vega Mobile:** With the launch of the new Vega Mobile app, PrairieCat provided 7 live trainings with 138 attendees and recorded training videos for members and end users.
- **Item Entry Certification:** 37 library staff completed Item Entry Certification through TalentLMS. PrairieCat requires that any staff that adds new items to the PrairieCat database are item entry certified to help maintain the accuracy of the database.
- **Create Lists Training:** 21 library staff completed this training through TalentLMS.
- **IPLAR Q&A:** PrairieCat offered 3 IPLAR Q&A sessions that 25 members attended.

User Experience

Members are supported in their efforts to provide exceptional service to end users.

- **Mobile App:** 71 member libraries opted in to the new Vega Mobile App. The PrairieCat Libraries Mobile app launched on Oct 2, 2025. The new app allows for extensive library customizations and Individualized branding.
- **Vega Discover:** Innovative Interfaces continued with monthly updates of the Vega Discover catalog including fixes and enhancements. The Vega Reports feature launched in June 2025, allowing library staff to view usage and interaction data on their catalog sites.

- **Bibliographic Services:** PrairieCat signed an agreement with Mitinet for bibliographic services to improve database record updates and maintain consistent standardization. A database with effective search results is dependent upon adherence to strong cataloging practices.

Governance

Leadership is transparent, responsive, innovative, and accountable.

- **Delegates Assembly:** In response to member needs, the Delegates Assembly revised rules allowing for several in-person meeting sites across the service area for the quarterly Delegates Assembly meetings. 83% voting member attendance rate with an increase in in-person attendance.
- **FY27 Administrative Council and Committees Election:** 23% member participation
- **New Directors:** PrairieCat welcomed 29 new directors at member libraries in FY26.
- **Membership Changes:** Dakota CUSD 201 withdrew Union Listing membership. UnityPoint Health - Trinity medical library closed and subsequently withdrew Union Listing membership.
- **Sustainability:** RAILS grant funds accounted for approximately 25% of PrairieCat budgeted revenues in FY26 in addition to in-kind services. Member fees had an average increase of 3.4%.