

Hannah Scissons/AHN

Taylor mayor Fred Jarvis (right) is the owner of the Taylor Public Library's first library card. Board chair Bev Leighton presented Jarvis with the card during the grand opening of the facility in Taylor Saturday.

Taylor Public Library now open

Over 5,000 books have been donated and bought for brand new facility

HANNAH SCISSONS ALASKA HIGHWAY NEWS

The North Peace has another library in its family after the Taylor Public Library opened its doors Saturday.

Members of the library board unveiled the new logo, handed out the first library card and conducted tours of the brand new facility at the grand opening event

With 3,800 books on the shelves and another 2,000 books still waiting to be processed, Taylor residents have a lot of reading material at their fingertips now.

There's also a computer room with three internetready computers and the library staff and board will be developing programs like story times and internet training sessions.

"Whatever the community wishes, that's what we're here for," said board chair Bev Leighton.

She, along with Taylor mayor Fred Jarvis and Public Library Services branch representative Ene Haabnit, cut the ribbon in front of the library, which

will be open five days a week in one of the two buildings donated to the community by Spectra Energy. The other is being put to use as a medical clinic

Area residents donated many of the books, which have a replacement value of \$24,000, noted Leighton.

Volunteers and staff have spent countless hours over the last few months cataloguing the books – an onerous task since the library opted to go with the old-fashioned, non-automated method of cataloguing using cards in pockets in the books.

That was because libraries across the province will probably soon be switching to a new automated program, explained librarian Sherry Murphy.

"We didn't want to have to go through the expense of setting up one system, then moving to another," she said.

The building itself, which was originally a residence, has three sections: a children's room, adult fiction room and non-fiction room – each with beautiful wooden shelving and comfortable reading chairs. More books are currently being stored in the basement, which will later be converted into library space as the collection grows.

The hours for the library are Tuesdays 12 p.m.-5 p.m., Wednesdays 3 p.m.-8 p.m., Thursdays 12 p.m.-5 p.m., Fridays 3 p.m.-8 p.m., and Saturdays 10

a.m.-4 p.m.