

09.16.2025 - It's budget season again! This year we find many, many challenges. Costs are increasing almost across the board - electricity, water, healthcare benefits, and of course, eResources.

In 2023 & 2024 we introduced new electronic resources for our patrons. It was obvious from our Libby statistics that Greenland is a town that does not shy away from using online resources, so we decided to increase access via Hoopla first, then added Kanopy. We have not restricted access for any of these resources until there was enough data to understand how to best fit these into our budgets. Now that we are just over one year into the products, we have that information.

Predictably, usage has taken off with these resources, particularly with Hoopla. Hoopla is an incredible product - extensive catalogs, no wait lists, and multiple formats - eBooks, Audio Books, Movies, Comics, and Kids channels. But that all comes with a price - and Hoopla is one of the more expensive products out there. To be clear, all products in the same class as Hoopla are equally pricey, so it's not vendor specific, its product-type driven.

We have no interest in depriving our community of a product they so clearly want, but we do have to take some action in order to be responsible with our budget. The one measure we believe is reasonable to take is to start slightly restricting monthly borrows. We introduced Hoopla at the introductory default level of six (6) borrows per patron per month. On average, only 7-10 borrowers out of 180+ hit that limit consistently. Most patrons using the service (more than 85%) average 3-4 borrows per month.

Based on that, we will be reducing monthly borrows on Hoopla to a maximum of four (4) per month, which is where more than 85% of our users fall in usage. This shift will occur as on November 1st, 2025.

Given that the number of patrons using Hoopla is increasing by about 2% per month (3-5 new users), this will allow us to maintain our current budget for Hoopla for 2026 and accommodate the expected growth in Hoopla usage and patron count.

We appreciate your patience as we continue to navigate these circumstances!