
Subject: FW: Prince George Public Library Board Resolution Regarding Provincial Library Funding
Attachments: PGPL Board Resolution Regarding Provincial Library Funding.pdf

From: Paul Burry <pburry@pgpl.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, March 09, 2022 5:29 PM
To: mayorandcouncil <mayorandcouncil@princegeorge.ca>
Cc: Babicz, Walter <Walter.Babicz@princegeorge.ca>; Dalio, Kris <Kris.Dalio@princegeorge.ca>
Subject: Prince George Public Library Board Resolution Regarding Provincial Library Funding

Dear Mayor Hall and Members of Council:

I am writing on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Prince George Public Library, to share a board resolution that was approved at a meeting of the Board held on January 26, 2022.

The resolution addresses the lack of funding support for BC public libraries by the provincial government over many years, urging the government to make a commitment to funding public libraries at a sustainable level that recognizes the impact and importance of the role that libraries play in our communities.

We have shared the resolution with the BC Library Trustees Association, for distribution to the UBCM and NCLGA, adding our voice to the chorus of other public libraries in the province who have expressed their concern over the lack of provincial funding support for public libraries.

Since this topic was raised in a number of questions and comments from council members during our 2022 Budget Presentation to Council in January, we wanted to share this with all of you as well.

Sincerely,
Paul

Paul Burry (he/him)
Library Director

Prince George Public Library

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We gratefully acknowledge that we conduct our work on the ancestral lands of the Lheidli T'enneh.



The Prince George Public Library

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Board of Trustees Resolution

RESOLUTION PASSED AT A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE PRINCE GEORGE PUBLIC LIBRARY, HELD ON January 26, 2022 VIA Zoom virtual meeting software

WHEREAS libraries in British Columbia are largely financed by local governments, and where provincial library funding has remained stagnant for the past 10 years:

AND WHEREAS public libraries are central to communities, providing equitable access to vital resources, including internet, public computers, digital library tools, and in-person service from expert staff;

AND WHEREAS public libraries provide British Columbians with low-barrier services that support jobseekers and small businesses, increase literacy in communities, advance reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, and promote equity and inclusion;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Prince George Public Library Board urges the Government of British Columbia to increase funding for public libraries from \$14 million to \$22 million in the BC Provincial Budget for 2022;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Prince George Public Library Board urges the Government of British Columbia to maintain financial support at a sustainable level in subsequent years following the 2022 Budget.



Mike Gagel
Chair, Board of Trustees
Prince George Public Library

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