

The Prince George Public Library

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Mayor and Council City of Prince George 1100 Patricia Boulevard Prince George, BC V2L 3V9 December 4th, 2023

Dear Mayor Yu and Members of Council:

I am writing on behalf of the Board of Trustees (The Board) of the Prince George Public Library (PGPL) to request approval from the City of Prince George for The Board to enter into agreements with the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation and Regional District of Fraser-Fort George, for the purpose of expanding eligibility for participation on The Board to community members who reside within the library's service area but outside of the municipality of Prince George.

According to the BC Library Act (Part 2 Section 5(2)), library trustees at a municipal public library must be "residents or electors of the municipality" in order to be eligible to serve on the library board. At PGPL, this means that although residents outside of the municipality may be eligible for free library services through the service agreement between the City of Prince George and the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George, those residents are ineligible to serve as members of The Board.

However, the Library Act also includes a provision (Part 5 Section 48) that permits a library board to "enter into a written agreement to cooperate in the provision of library services with one or more of the following: [...] (c) a regional district; [or] (d) an aboriginal government." Such agreements may include "the appointment of one or more members to the library board of a municipal library by a [...] regional district or aboriginal government that enters into the agreement with that library board."

Section 48 of the legislation further stipulates that before it can pursue any such agreements, "the library board of a municipal library must obtain the approval of the municipality that established the municipal library." We respectfully request that approval through the sending of this letter.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Anna Duff

Chair, Prince George Public Library Board of Trustees

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