



June 26, 2024

VIA EMAIL

Ref: 274908
Kevin Lowe
Board Chair
Vancouver Public Library
350 West Georgia Street
Vancouver V6B 6B1

Re: Public Library Grant Award Letter June 2024

Dear Board Chair Kevin Lowe:

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Public Libraries Branch (PLB) is pleased to inform you that the library will receive the following grants to support public library services and provincial programs:

- **Per Capita Operating Grant 2024 - \$1181731.32** to support ongoing public library operations and participation in province wide programs.
- **Resource Sharing Grant 2024 - \$19120.64** to support libraries in materials sharing by alleviating the costs involved in running and managing their interlibrary loan service.
- **BC OneCard Grant 2024 - \$40207** to enable active patrons of any public library in B.C. to use their library card to borrow from other libraries throughout the province.
- **Literacy and Equity Grant 2024 - \$50800** to support access to lifelong learning and literacy experiences through the expansion of library collections, programs, and service.

Funding, although distributed as four library grants, may be combined to ensure libraries support provincial priorities and help fulfil the goals outlined in [B.C.'s Strategic Plan for Public Library Service and our recently refreshed version.](#)

- Library Enhancement Grant. This year, public libraries are also receiving an **additional one-time library enhancement grant**. The amount allocated to your library is **\$55197.28**.

It may be used to support local library service enhancements, including helping address shifting demands on services, collections, programs, and spaces. This grant may also be used to respond to local service priorities, making services more accessible and inclusive, and/or increasing climate readiness and resilience when facing future challenges. It can be used in conjunction with previous enhancement grants distributed in 2023.

Process

The ministry will deposit the total amount of **\$1347056.24** electronically into the account of the financial institution that your library has designated. The ministry will email a notice to your library upon payment.

The *Public Libraries Provincial Grants Allocations* document is available [online](#) and lists the funds allocated to each library for 2024.

Please ensure a copy is saved for use in preparing the library's financial statements. The public library board is responsible for ensuring that conditions of provincial funding (as outlined in this letter) are met each year.

Reporting

In accordance with the conditions placed on these ministry grants and as part of the accountability framework, libraries must submit the specific reports outlined below to detail how provincial funding was used.

Continued provincial funding for the library is contingent on the completion and filing of these three reports:

- 2024 Provincial Public Library Grants Report (PLGR) – **due March 1, 2025**
- 2024 Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) - **due May 15, 2025**
- 2024 Annual Survey of B.C.'s Public Libraries – **due May 15, 2025**

Further reporting and accountability information, including instructions and templates, will be made available from the [Public libraries reporting and accountability - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](#). Instructions and templates will be revised each year and will be sent well in advance of reporting deadlines.

Additional Conditions

Please be aware that the ministry will reclaim any portion of the grants should the library not use the funds for their intended purposes and meet the accountability requirements outlined in this letter. Libraries are also expected to be in compliance with the Library Act and other applicable legislation. Questions about the intended purposes and use of funding can be directed to the Public Libraries Branch at the contact information provided below.

The Province is committed to open public access to information and bound by the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA). The Province may release any or all information submitted in these reports to the public. The Province may release any or all information submitted for these reports to the public in accordance with the FIPPA.

Grant Recognition

As a condition of assistance, recipients of this funding are asked to acknowledge the province's assistance on written and digital materials wherever reasonable. The following acknowledgement may be used:

"We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia through the Ministry of Municipal Affairs."

As a reminder, permission is required to use [B.C.'s Visual Identity](#). As a third party, each organization must review these [guidelines](#) on the use of the BC Mark (logo).

Strategic Context

Libraries have a crucial role by ensuring people have access to vital information and technology, delivering quality services, and helping to connect people with government programs and initiatives. Libraries are responding to people's evolving needs; this challenges boards, directors, and staff to further develop their skills and abilities and enhance their governance practices.

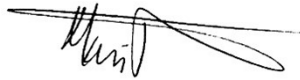
This summer, the ministry will be introducing a refreshed provincial strategic plan for public library service. This plan renews our priorities and keeps us focused on our actions as we look ahead. We will continue working with our valued partners to guide B.C.'s public library system, helping to ensure people continue to have access to library resources and services that enrich their lives and strengthen community connections.

Appreciation

On behalf of the ministry, I would like to express appreciation to the library board and staff. Through your dedication and hard work, you are having a positive impact on people's lives by delivering community focused library services, programs and collections that people can rely on. By participating in provincial, regional and local partnerships you are also expanding and broadening what is available to the people of your communities. You are ensuring that people have vital access to information and foundational skills they need to thrive. Working together, we can ensure that British Columbians benefit from more innovative, accessible, and equitable library services.

If you have any questions about this letter or grant use, please do not hesitate to call 1-800-663-7051 or email PUBLIB@gov.bc.ca or reach out to me directly at mari.martin@gov.bc.ca .

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mari Martin', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mari Martin
Director, Public Libraries Branch

pc: Library Director Christina de Castell