



March 28, 2018

The Honourable Rob Fleming, Minister of Education

via email: EDUC.Minister@gov.bc.ca

**RE: Provincial response to UBCM Resolution B60: Restoration of Previous Provincial Funding Levels for Public Libraries**

Dear Minister Fleming,

Thank you for the consideration and attention that you are giving to the advancement of public libraries in BC. We appreciate the recognition from the provincial government, in the response to UBCM Resolution B60, that the cost of delivering public library services has increased with changing technology and other demands.

We also appreciate the efforts that ADM Squires and the Libraries Branch are making to work with the public library community, as represented by their associations, to better understand our priorities and how public libraries significantly contribute to the government's goals for making life more affordable, delivering services people count on, and building a strong, sustainable economy for all British Columbians.

At our February 5<sup>th</sup> meeting with ADM Squires and with Mari Martin, the Director of the Libraries Branch, the Library Partners (BCLTA, BCLA, ABCPLD, and BCLC)<sup>1</sup> requested that there be communications and process that involve the public library community in any possible operational changes, such as any future reviews of, or changes to, the public library funding framework.

ADM Squires responded with a positive understanding of this request and willingness to bring it to your attention. We appreciate your consideration of including the Library Partners, and the

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<sup>1</sup> The Library Partners are the BC Library Trustees Association, BC Library Association, Association of BC Public Library Directors, and BC Libraries Cooperative

members we represent, in the examination of the library funding framework. The Library Partners look forward to working with the Ministry for the best possible outcomes for public libraries across British Columbia.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jerrilyn Schembri', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jerrilyn Schembri  
President, BCLTA

In partnership with:  
The Association of BC Public Library Directors  
The BC Library Association  
The BC Libraries Cooperative

cc:  
Scott MacDonald, Deputy Minister  
Paul Squires, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Mari Martin, Director, Libraries Branch  
BCLTA Membership, Public Library Boards