

BC Public Library Partners Update October 2018

The BC Public Library Partners are a unified voice for advancing BC public libraries through advocacy and strategic initiatives. The Partners are the BC Library Association, the BC Library Trustees Association, the BC Libraries Cooperative, and the Association of BC Public Library Directors.

The Partners meet with the provincial government to offer advisement and to influence funding and public policy impacting public libraries and the communities they serve. Collectively the Partners have multiple connections to every public library system and know the current challenges and incredible work of public libraries, as well as the possibilities that can be realized when public libraries are fully and sustainably supported and resourced.

The Partners are currently working on a Digital Literacy Proposal for submission to the provincial government. This proposal, if successful, would see the first significant investment in BC public libraries in 15 years. The proposal is a discrete, one time request for targeted funding that is not part of the current \$14m funding envelope and does not detract from our shared and consistent message for sustained annual funding increases.

BC Public Library Partners and the UBCM Convention



Photo credit: FVRL

Over 70 elected officials and government staff attended the BC Public Library Partners' September 12th Union of BC Municipalities Convention event, *Future Focused: Public Libraries and British Columbia*.

The event took place at the Whistler Public Library and featured the Fraser Valley Regional Library Playground. Huge thanks to the boards and staff of both libraries for making the event a success!