



*City of Pitt Meadows*  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

August 2, 2019

File: 0400-50/19

The Honourable Rob Fleming  
Ministry of Education  
PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9EN  
EDUC.Minister@Kov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Fleming:

**Re: City of Victoria's resolution requesting provincial support for libraries**

At our July 30, 2019 special meeting, Pitt Meadows City Council unanimously passed the following resolution with respect to the above:

*"THAT Council:*

- A. Support the City of Victoria's resolution for the restoration of provincial library funding; AND*
- B. Request that the Mayor write to the Minister of Education expressing Council's support of enhanced library funding."*

Libraries are important cornerstones of a healthy community, giving all people equal access to information and resources, while at the same time providing a sense of place for gathering. Our Council is in full support of the City of Victoria's resolution and look forward to supporting it in September at the upcoming UBCM convention.

Yours Truly,

Mayor Bill Dingwall  
BGS, LL.B., CPHR

Encl: May 29, 2019 correspondence from City of Victoria

cc: MLA Lisa Beare *via email* [lisa.beare.mla@leg.bc.ca](mailto:lisa.beare.mla@leg.bc.ca)  
Pitt Meadows City Council *via consent agenda*  
Victoria City Council *via email* [chavelka@victoria.ca](mailto:chavelka@victoria.ca)  
UBCM Member Municipalities *via email*

THE CITY OF VICTORIA



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

May 29, 2019,

To The Union of British Columbia Municipalities,

I am writing on behalf of Victoria City Council, requesting favourable consideration and resolutions of support to restore Provincial support for libraries.

At the May 23, 2019 Council Meeting, Council approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS WHEREAS libraries are a social justice equalizer that provide universal access to information and learning materials irrespective of income levels;

WHEREAS libraries are now so much more than books, building community and a sense of inclusion;

WHEREAS restoring funding to libraries supports the BC Government's agenda to eliminate poverty, improve access to education, and address social justice in BC;

WHEREAS funding rates have been frozen since 2009 and inflationary costs have increasingly been put on municipal property tax payers which is a regressive approach to funding public libraries;

WHEREAS municipalities face downloading from upper levels of government and have few tools to raise funds,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council request the Mayor write to the Minister of Education, the Premier, and all local MLAs strongly advocating for the restoration of library funding to a level that reflects both inflationary cost increases since 2009 and the value of this system to the Province.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to other municipalities in the Capital Regional District and across BC requesting their favourable consideration.

We eagerly look forward to your support on this matter.

Sincerely,

Lisa Helps  
Victoria Mayor