

July 15, 2019

1/2
DISTRICT OF TAYLOR

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The Honourable Rob Fleming
Ministry of Education
PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E9
EDUC.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Fleming,

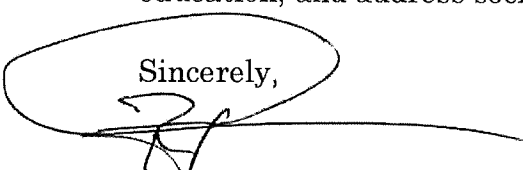
Re: Provincial Support for Libraries

At the Regular Council Meeting held on June 17, 2019, District of Taylor Mayor and Council reviewed correspondence received from the City of Victoria requesting favourable consideration and a resolution of support to restore Provincial support for libraries.

Mayor and Council fully support the resolution passed by the City of Victoria to restore Provincial support for libraries and respectfully request that the Province of British Columbia restore library funding to a level that reflects both inflationary cost increases since 2009 and the value of this system to the Province.

The District of Taylor values the universal access to information and learning resources provided by libraries and believe that Provincial restoration of library funding supports Provincial initiatives to eliminate poverty, improve access to education, and address social justice in British Columbia.

Sincerely,



Rob Fraser
Mayor

Cc: Premier John Horgan via email: premier@gov.bc.ca
MLA Dan Davies via email: dan.davies.MLA@leg.bc.ca
UBCM Member Municipalities via email

* see Victoria's original resolution attached.

2/2

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