

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Langley City Hall, 20399 Douglas Crescent, Langley, BC Canada V3A 4B3 mayor@langleycity.ca

June 11, 2019

0110.00

The Honourable Rob Fleming Minister of Education PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

VIA Email: EDUC.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Fleming:

Re: Restoration of Library Funding

At its June 10, 2019 Regular Council meeting, the Council for the City of Langley considered correspondence from the Mayor of the City of Victoria requesting a resolution of support to advocate for the restoration of provincial funding for libraries. The correspondence is enclosed for reference.

Council subsequently passed the following resolution:

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.

Yours truly,

CITY OF LANGLEY



Val van den Broek Mayor

Enclosure

Cc Fraser Valley Regional Library City of Victoria

THE PLACE TO BE

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