

January 13, 2026

Honourable Christine Boyle  
Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs  
PO Box 9844 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9T2  
Email: [HMA.minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HMA.minister@gov.bc.ca)

Dear Minister Boyle,

As the President of the North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA), I am writing to seek your support for several critical resolutions adopted by our association at the 2025 Annual General Meeting & Convention in Prince Rupert, British Columbia (BC). These resolutions are essential to enhancing the capabilities and resilience of our municipalities and regional districts:

- **R27. Provincial Funding for Public Libraries.** *Sponsor: City of Prince George*  
Calls for increased annual core funding for libraries in line with inflation and immediately to \$30 million, noting they provide front-line community services, including for people with mental health and addiction challenges, as well as housing support.
- **R28. Increased Funding for Public Libraries.** *Sponsor: District of Hudson's Hope*  
Calls for increased stable, long-term funding for public libraries, ensuring they remain accessible, inclusive, and innovative centers for learning and community engagement.
- **R29. Increased Capital Funding for Libraries.** *Sponsor: Town of Smithers*  
Calls for dedicated capital funding program to assist in upgrading, expanding, and constructing library facilities.

We are committed to working with your ministry to identify solutions that will provide the support our local governments need. We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you (either virtually or in person) to discuss these resolutions in more detail and explore potential collaboration and next steps. Please contact [admin@nclga.ca](mailto:admin@nclga.ca) for any scheduling. Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,



Gladys Atrill  
President, NCLGA  
[www.nclga.ca](http://www.nclga.ca)

cc: Resolution Sponsors, Parliamentary Secretary, Minister of Finance, Minister of Education, Minister of Health

## Full Resolutions

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### R27. Provincial Funding for Public Libraries

Submitted by: City of Prince George

**WHEREAS** core funding for public libraries in British Columbia has remained unchanged since 2009, despite BC's population growing 29%, limiting their ability to expand and evolve their programming as demand for their services increases;

**AND WHEREAS** the operational requirements of public libraries increasingly require significant and diverse resources to provide front-line community services, including supporting patrons with mental health and addiction issues as well as barriers to housing, providing critical locations of refuge during extreme weather events, providing services to new Canadians, and supporting the process of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that NCLGA and UBCM call on the provincial government to increase core funding for public libraries on a yearly basis in line with inflation and immediately increase annual core funding for libraries to \$30 million as requested by the BC Public Library Partners and recommended by the province's Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services.

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### R28. Increased Funding for Public Libraries

Submitted by: District of Hudson's Hope

**WHEREAS** public libraries serve as vital community hubs that provide welcoming, inclusive spaces where individuals of all ages—including children, students, job seekers, seniors, and marginalized populations—can gather, study, work, and engage in cultural and educational activities while benefiting from free access to books, literacy programs, digital resources, and essential services;

**AND WHEREAS** funding for public libraries has remained stagnant since 2010, despite increasing financial pressures due to rising operational costs, the need for technological advancements, and growing community demand for expanded services;

**AND WHEREAS** stable and increased funding would enable public libraries to enhance critical programs, expand collections, improve infrastructure, and ensure equitable access to resources across all communities;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that NCLGA and UBCM urge the provincial government to increase stable, long-term funding for public libraries, ensuring they remain accessible, inclusive, and innovative centers for learning and community engagement.

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### R29. Increased Capital Funding for Libraries

Submitted by: Town of Smithers

**WHEREAS** public libraries in British Columbia lack adequate, stable, and dedicated capital funding for local government-owned library facilities, hindering their ability to provide essential educational, cultural, and social services that support community well-being;

**AND WHEREAS** public libraries face increasing demand for services, technology, and infrastructure improvements, yet many struggle with aging facilities and insufficient resources to meet these growing needs;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that NCLGA and UBCM urge the provincial government to establish a dedicated capital funding program to assist local governments in upgrading, expanding, and constructing library facilities to meet community needs.

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