



VIA EMAIL

March 31, 2022

Dear Vancouver Public Library Board,

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs is pleased to inform you that Vancouver Public Library will receive total one-time grants of **\$203847.09** to be used to support COVID-19 relief and recovery (including emergency planning).

Confidentiality

Libraries and boards are to keep this information confidential at this time. Please do not formally communicate or announce this funding until authorized to do so and this information has been made public by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. Funds can be used immediately, and libraries can begin planning the use of funds.

COVID-19 Relief and Recovery

B.C.'s public libraries are playing an important role in supporting people and communities through the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding recognizes the critical role libraries play in ensuring people have continued access to information and reading materials in many forms, are digitally and socially connected everyday, and are a safe place in times of emergency. This one-time funding is to be used to cover costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, support emergency response/planning and adapting services for recovery.

Grant Summary:

COVID-19 Relief and Recovery Grant: **\$152885.32**

Emergency Preparedness Grant: **\$50961.77**

The Ministry will deposit those funds electronically into the account at the financial institution that your library has designated.

Funds may be used for the following (but are not limited to):

- Covering unexpected costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic (signage, masks, cleaning, etc.).
- Supporting digital resources, collections and/or virtual services.
- Improving/stabilizing core technical infrastructure used by patrons or staff (i.e., internet connectivity, hardware, and networks).
- Helping people access government services, find information, and apply for jobs.
- Making services, programs, and collections more inclusive and accessible.
- Enhancing community programming.
- Staff training and learning.
- Developing an emergency plan and supporting community preparedness.
- Participating in community emergency planning.
- Adapting physical or virtual spaces to make them safer and more accessible.

This funding is part of an overall set of one-time grants for public libraries and provincial initiatives which totals \$8 million.

Conditions

A short interim report is due **August 15, 2022**, outlining how your library plans to use these funds. Further details are also required to be reported in your annual Provincial Public Library Grant Report (PLGR) due **March 1, 2023**. A template will be provided to facilitate reporting on how funds were used and to help identify key outcomes.

Please be aware that the Ministry will reclaim any portion of the grants should your library not use the funds received for the purposes outlined in this letter.

The Ministry is committed to open public access to information and is bound by the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. The Ministry may release any or all information submitted for these reports to the public.

Also, as a condition of assistance, recipients of this funding are asked to acknowledge the Province of British Columbia's support on written and digital materials related to this grant. The following acknowledgement may be used:

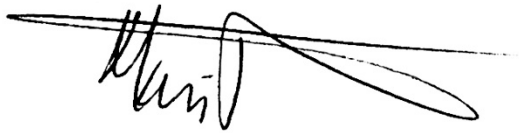
"We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia through the Ministry of Municipal Affairs."

Permission is required on the use of [BC's Visual Identity](#). As a 3rd Party, your library must review this [guide](#) on the use of logos.

If you have questions about the use of these funds or alignment with provincial direction, please contact the Public Libraries Branch team at publib@gov.bc.ca or 1-800-663-7051. We are happy to work with you to identify opportunities and initiatives for the benefit of your library system and communities.

Thank you again for working to support people in your community and ensuring they have safe, equitable and inclusive access to important services and information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mari Martin', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mari Martin
Director

pc: Library Director, Christina de Castell (christina.decastell@vpl.ca)