

# Strong Libraries — Strong Communities



**1,395,478 Albertans**  
with library cards access  
**322 public libraries.**



**Seven regional library systems support 212 library boards,**  
**307 municipalities and 271 public libraries—reducing costs, eliminating**  
**duplication and providing services otherwise not available in rural areas.**



**Albertans can use more than 21 million**  
**books, CDs, DVDs, audiobooks, and eBooks**  
**from public libraries across the province.**

**Provincially, over 1.4 million Albertans participated**  
**in more than 90,000 programs at public libraries.**



**Yellowhead Regional Library and Northern Lights Library System (YRL/NLLS):**  
a cooperative network of **108 municipalities,**  
serving **134 libraries** and over **470,000** residents in Central Alberta.



**There were 378,150**  
**downloads of**  
**eContent offered**  
**through YRL and NLLS.**

**Member libraries**  
**lent 2,664,407 items**  
**to support**  
**Albertan's learning and**  
**entertainment needs.**



**Member public**  
**libraries offered**  
**17,455 programs...**



**...connecting 250,389**  
**Albertans to literacy,**  
**education, skill**  
**development, and**  
**community resources.**



**605 public computers in**  
**member libraries support free**  
**access to literacy and**  
**employment resources, and**  
**help fight social isolation.**

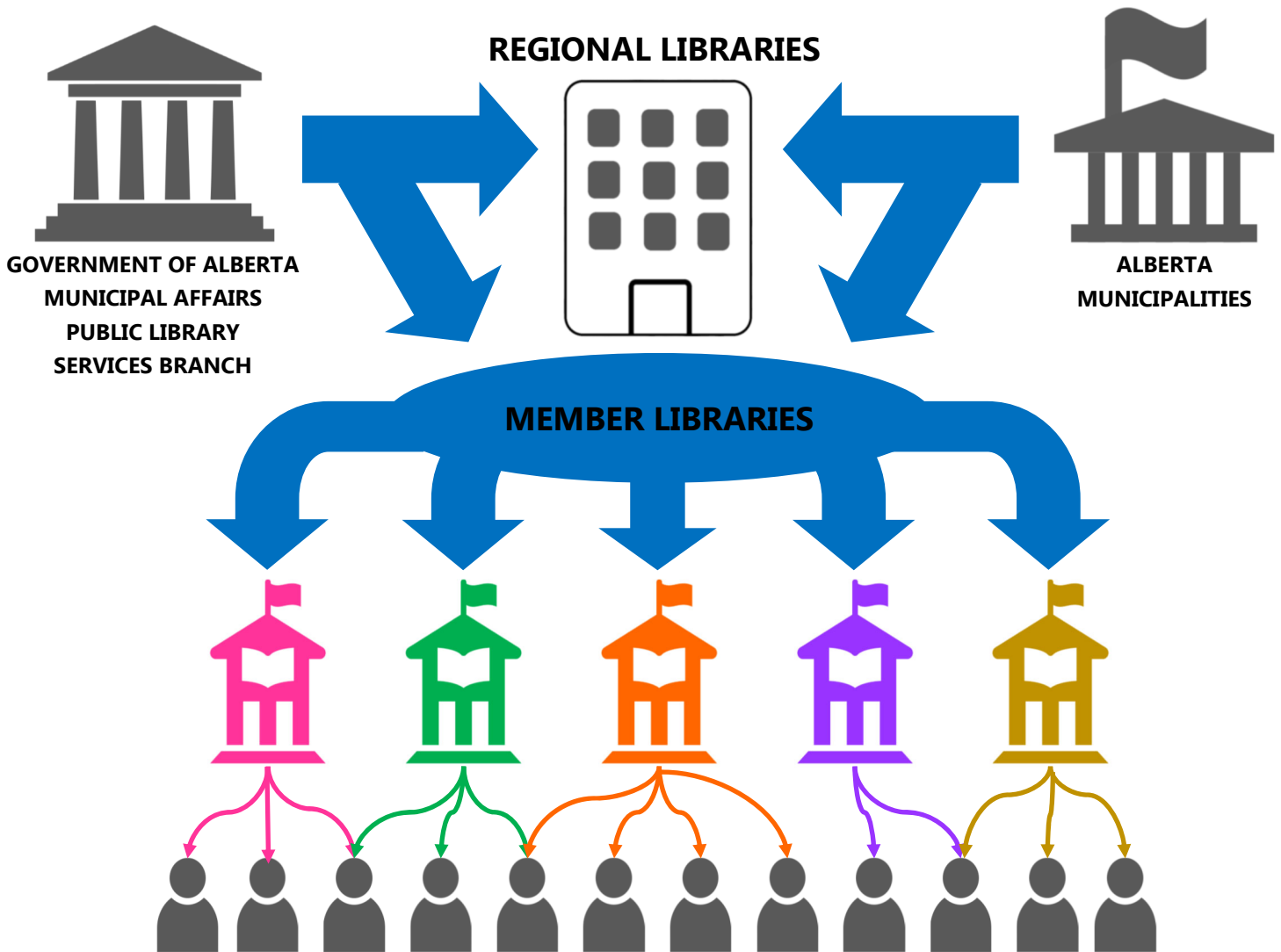


**Stable network and**  
**broadband services**  
**supported 637,653 hours**  
**of computer time at**  
**member libraries.**



**Albertans connected to**  
**free Wi-Fi sessions in**  
**libraries using their**  
**personal laptop,**  
**phone or tablet.**

- YRL and NLLS participate in a province-wide sharing network to borrow print material held by any Alberta library, including universities and colleges.
- We create savings for member libraries through bulk discounts, training, and technical support—this allows member public library staff to focus on local needs and community development.
- We are able to share expertise with regional library partnerships, reducing duplication and costs.



Provincial operating grants to municipal and regional library boards

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**\$29,744,701**

The Government of Alberta supports connectivity in public libraries, eResources, and the resource sharing network

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**\$34,190,857**

Municipal contributions to municipal and regional library boards

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**\$155,817,341**