

**Government of Alberta** ■  
Municipal Affairs

**Public Library Services**  
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Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4R7  
Canada  
Telephone: 780 427-4871  
[www.albertalibraries.ca](http://www.albertalibraries.ca)

July 31, 2019

Ms. Vicki Lefebvre, Chair  
Ms. Julie Walker, Director  
Northern Lights Library Board  
PO Bag 8, 5615 48 Street  
Elk Point, AB T0A 1A0

Dear Ms. Lefebvre and Ms. Walker:

In keeping with the Government of Alberta's commitment to supporting and providing equitable access to public library service, we are pleased to enter into a project grant with your regional library system to expand service to on-reserve and on-settlement populations. This is now year four of this important initiative. As such, you will find that the grant conditions have evolved and you are asked to report on your library initiatives through an online reporting tool. Attached is a document on promoting Indigenous representation of board members, staff and volunteers. A detailed financial report is also required.

Staff at PLSB are working on a number of collaborative projects to extend service to Indigenous people in Alberta to augment your direct services.

- New cataloguing standards are being developed with the University of Alberta.
- In partnership with the Edmonton Public Library, a proof of concept for the digital platform *Voices of Amiskwaciy* has been rolled out.
- PLSB is working collaboratively with the Canadian Federation of Libraries Association, University of Alberta and Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak (the Women of the Metis Nation of Canada) to create an information kit for use in public libraries to raise awareness about missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, two-spirited and transgendered people.
- An Indigenous Services page has been included on the website: <http://www.municipalaffairs.alberta.ca/public-library-service-indigenous-services>.
- We are happy to present at conferences and open to working with Indigenous liaisons to build and nurture relationships between Indigenous community members/organizations and libraries.
- A *Best Practices – Indigenous Services* has been developed.

The amount of \$80,032 (Eighty Thousand Thirty Two Dollars) will be direct deposited into your account once you sign and return the attached Project Grant. This amount represents 50% of the per capita 2018-2019 Indigenous population grant. We anticipate paying a second installment once Budget 2019 receives Legislative approval (November).

- Alexander First Nation
- Beaver Lake First Nation
- Cold Lake First Nation
- Saddle Lake First Nation (includes Whitefish/Goodfish First Nation)
- Kehewin First Nation
- Heart Lake First Nation
- Frog Lake First Nation
- Buffalo Lake Metis Settlement
- Elizabeth Metis Settlement
- Fishing Lake Metis Settlement
- Kikino Metis Settlement

The Government of Alberta is pleased to contribute these funds for the equitability of public library service for all people in Alberta.

PLSB is committed to continuing funding public library service to on-reserve and on-settlement populations. In an effort to maximize the effectiveness of this grant, the conditions may change for the fiscal year 2020-2021. Please be aware of this possibility for your 2020 budgets.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns (especially if you would like Colette and/or myself to present to your board).

Sincerely,

Diana Davidson  
Director