

**OKANAGAN REGIONAL LIBRARY
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
AGENDA**

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

9:50 a.m.

Board Meeting Room, 1430 K.L.O. Road, Kelowna, BC

1. ROLL CALL / ESTABLISH QUORUM (majority: 13+)

Quorum: majority of all members of the board [Library Act, Sec. 20(2)]

2. CALL TO ORDER

Chair to call the meeting to order.

3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Okanagan Regional Library respectfully acknowledges that we operate on the traditional and unceded territories of many First Nations. We recognize their enduring presence and stewardship of the land, trees, and water from time immemorial, and we are grateful for the opportunity to serve our communities in these territories. The Okanagan Regional Library is committed to providing culturally safe and respectful spaces, services, and resources.

4. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

All Trustees – Unweighted Vote – Simple Majority (Board Policy Section II.A / Community Charter s.123)

To adopt the agenda of the Board of Trustees meeting of Wednesday, September 9, 2026.

Staff Recommendation:

THAT the Wednesday, September 9, 2026, Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda be adopted.

5. ADOPTION OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

*All Trustees - Unweighted Vote - Simple Majority (Board Policy Section II.C / Community Charter s.123)
(Attached pgs. 1 – 10)*

To adopt the May 20, 2026, Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes and the July 15, 2026, Special Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes.

Staff Recommendation:

THAT the May 20, 2026, Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes be adopted.

Staff Recommendation:

THAT the July 15, 2026, Special Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes be adopted.

6. Population Figures for Levy Calculations and Weighted Votes –Jeremy Feddersen

(5mins)

To update the Board on the annual provincial population figures used for levy calculations and weighted votes.

Recommendation:

THAT the report from the CFO dated September 9, 2026, pertaining to the annual provincial population figures used for levy calculations and weighted votes be received for information.

7. DELEGATIONS

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

8.1 BOARD FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORTS

8.1.1 Okanagan Regional Library 2027 Budget Proposal– Jeremy Feddersen (15mins)

*All Trustees - Weighted Vote - Majority (Library Act Part 3, s.23 & 25, Board Policy Section II.C)
(Attached pgs.16 - 33)*

The 2027 budget vote can be held at this meeting or deferred to the October 21, Board meeting.

To bring forward the draft 2027 budget for the Okanagan Regional Library as approved by the Finance Committee for approval by the Board.

Recommendation:

THAT the Board approve the draft 2027 budget with a levy requirement of \$24,062,498, as presented in the Finance Committee report dated September 9, 2026.

8.1.2 2027 Library Levy Allocation Spreadsheet –Jeremy Feddersen (5mins)

*All Trustees - Unweighted Vote - Simple Majority (Board Policy Section II.A / Community Charter C.26, s.123)
(Attached pg. 34)*

**Subject to approval of the 2027 Budget.*

To receive the 2027 Library Levy Allocation Spreadsheet.

Recommendation:

THAT the 2027 Library Levy Allocation Spreadsheet as presented by the CFO, at the September 9, 2026, Board meeting, be received for information.

9. STAFF REPORTS

9.1 CFO REPORT –Jeremy Feddersen (10mins)

*All Trustees - Unweighted Vote - Simple Majority (Board Policy Section II.C / Community Charter s.123)
(Attached pgs. 35-42)*

To receive for information the Financial Update Report Package to July 31, 2026.

Recommendation:

THAT the CFO report, dated September 9, 2026, pertaining to the Financial Update to July 31, 2026 be received for information.

9.2 CEO REPORT –Danielle Hubbard

(15mins)

All Trustees - Unweighted Vote - Simple Majority (Board Policy Section II.C / Community Charter s.123)

(Attached pgs. 43-47)

To update the Board on the operational and strategic activities of the ORL.

Recommendation:

THAT the CEO report, dated September 9, 2026, be received for information.

9.3 Wildfire Impact and Response Report–Danielle Hubbard

(15mins)

All Trustees - Unweighted Vote - Simple Majority (Board Policy Section II.C / Community Charter s.123)

(Attached pgs. 48-51)

To update the Board on the impacts of the 2026 wildfire season on the ORL, and the ORL's responses.

Recommendation:

THAT the Board receive for information the CEO's report dated September 9, 2026.

9.4 Provincial Funding –Danielle Hubbard

(15mins)

All Trustees - Unweighted Vote - Simple Majority (Board Policy Section II.C / Community Charter s.123)

(Attached pgs. 52-60)

To update the Board on the current state of provincial funding.

Recommendation:

THAT the Board receive for information the CEO's report dated September 9, 2026.

10 CORRESPONDENCE

(Attached pgs. 61)

10.1 Letter from Myrna Tracy, dated June 10, 2026

To receive for information.

11 NEW BUSINESS

12 TRUSTEE ITEMS

13 ADJOURN

All Trustees - Unweighted Vote - Simple Majority (Board Policy Section II.C / Community Charter s.123)

To adjourn the meeting.

Recommendation:

THAT the September 9, 2026, Regular Board meeting be adjourned.

The next ORL Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 21, 2026.

OKANAGAN REGIONAL LIBRARY REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINTUES

Date: Wednesday, May 20, 2026
Location: Boardroom Library Administration Building, 1430 K.L.O. Road, Kelowna, BC and Virtually via MicroSoft Teams

Trustees Present: Neil Todd, Armstrong
Stephanie Hoffman, Coldstream
David Ramey, Enderby
John Manuel, Golden
Gord Lovegrove, Kelowna
Tracy Henderson, Keremeos
Cara Reed, Lake Country
Lori Mindnich, Lumby
Petra Veintimilla, Oliver
Jim King, (Alternate) Osoyoos
Terry Condon, Peachland
George Elliott, Princeton
Bob Evans, Sicamous
Brian Guy, (Alternate) Vernon
Tasha Da Silva, West Kelowna (Board Chair)
Adrienne Fedrigo, Regional District Okanagan Similkameen

Trustees Participating Remotely: Sylvia Lindgren, Salmon Arm
Erin Trainer, Summerland
Mike DeGuevara, Westbank First Nation
Jay Simpson, Regional District Columbia Shuswap

Trustees Absent: Tim Palmer, Revelstoke
Todd York, Spallumcheen
Kevin Kraft, Regional District Central Okanagan
Allysa Hopkins, Regional District North Okanagan

Staff Present: Danielle Hubbard, Chief Executive Officer
Jeremy Feddersen, Chief Financial Officer
Mark Reinelt, Director of Public Services
Colleen Hardie, Director of Human Resources
Jeff Campbell, Chief Technology and Collections Officer
Michal Utko, Director of Marketing and Communications
Corinne Boback, Administrative Services Manager (Recording Secretary)
Shilo Jones, ORL Copywriter
Ashley Machum, Head of Youth Services and PEA Chair

Guests: Jennifer Saville and Lindsay Finnerty, Auditors, MNP

1. ROLL CALL / ESTABLISH QUORUM (majority: 13+)

Quorum: majority of all members of the board [Library Act, Sec. 20(2)]

In accordance with the Library Act, Sec. 20(2), quorum was established with a majority of all members of the Board in attendance.

2. CALL TO ORDER

Chair to call the meeting to order at 10:24 am.

3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Okanagan Regional Library respectfully acknowledges that we operate on the traditional and unceded territories of many First Nations. We recognize their enduring presence and stewardship of the land, trees, and water from time immemorial, and we are grateful for the opportunity to serve our communities in these territories. The Okanagan Regional Library is committed to providing culturally safe and respectful spaces, services, and resources.

4. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

All Trustees – Unweighted Vote – Simple Majority (Board Policy Section II.A / Community Charter s.123)

To adopt the agenda of the Board of Trustees meeting of May 20, 2026.

It was moved and seconded

THAT the May 20, 2026, Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. ADOPTION OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

All Trustees - Unweighted Vote - Simple Majority (Board Policy Section II.C / Community Charter s.123)

To adopt the February 18, 2026, Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes.

It was moved and seconded

THAT the February 18, 2026, Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. DELEGATIONS

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1 BOARD FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORTS

All Trustees - Unweighted Vote - Simple Majority (Board Policy Section II.C / Community Charter s.123)

7.1.1 2025 Audit Findings Report - Jennifer Saville and Lindsay Finnerty, Auditors, MNP

All Trustees - Unweighted Vote - Simple Majority (Board Policy Section II.C / Community Charter s.123)

Jennifer Saville, Auditor, MNP provided the auditor's report for 2025. Jennifer noted no concerns and no incidents of fraud found, and was available for questions and comments from the Board.

It was moved and seconded

THAT the Board receive the verbal information on the Auditor's Findings Report as presented at the May 20, 2026, ORL Board Meeting by MNP.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 7.1.2 **Audited Financial Statements Year 2025** - Jennifer Saville and Lindsay Finnerty, Auditors, MNP
All Trustees - Unweighted Vote - Simple Majority (Board Policy Section II.C / Community Charter s.123)

Jennifer Saville provided a summary of the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending December 31, 2025, and was available for questions and comments from the Board.

Jennifer confirmed that the financial statement disclosure had been completed accurately and was ready for finalization pending Board approval.

It was moved and seconded

THAT the Board approve the 2025 Year-End Financial Statements for the year ending December 31, 2025, as presented at the May 20, 2026, ORL Board Meeting by MNP.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 7.1.3 **Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) Report Year 2025** – CFO Jeremy Feddersen
All Trustees - Unweighted Vote - Simple Majority (Board Policy Section II.C / Community Charter s.123)

Jeremy Feddersen provided a summary on the Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) Report Year 2025 and was available for questions and comments from the Board.

A duplicate entry in Schedule 11 – Provisions of Goods and Services was noted for Jeremy to correct.

It was moved and seconded

THAT the Board approve the Statement of Financial Information Report for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2025, as presented at the May 20, 2026, ORL Board Meeting as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 7.1.4 **Financial Update Report to March 31, 2026** – Jeremy Feddersen
All Trustees - Unweighted Vote - Simple Majority (Board Policy Section II.C / Community Charter s.123)

Jeremy Feddersen provided a summary of the Financial Update Report Package to March 31, 2026, and was available for questions and comments from the Board.

It was moved and seconded

THAT the CFO report, dated May 20th, 2026, pertaining to the Financial Update to March 31, 2026, be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.1.5 **Appointment of Auditor for the 2026 Audit** – CFO Jeremy Feddersen

All Trustees - Unweighted Vote - Simple Majority (Board Policy Section II.C / Community Charter s.123)

Jeremy Feddersen presented his recommendation to appoint MNP as the ORL's auditors for the upcoming year and provided a summary of his positive experience working with MNP. He was available to respond to questions and comments from the Board.

It was further advised that MNP provide the draft audit report in advance of the meeting to allow the Board sufficient opportunity to review and approve the report in good faith.

It was moved and seconded

THAT the Board approve the appointment of MNP as auditors for the ORL's 2026 fiscal year end audit.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. CEO REPORTS

All Trustees - Unweighted Vote - Simple Majority (Board Policy Section II.C / Community Charter s.123)

8.1.1 **CEO Report** – Danielle Hubbard

All Trustees - Unweighted Vote - Simple Majority (Board Policy Section II.C / Community Charter s.123)

Danielle Hubbard provided a summary of the ORL's operational and strategic activities and sought Board approval of the *2025 Annual Report*.

Danielle highlighted updates including the ORL's participation at the SILGA annual convention, the opening of the North Shuswap Branch, the groundbreaking ceremony held for the new Glenmore (Kelowna) branch, as well as the launch of the "Under the Sea" Summer Reading Club, and the Summer Maker Tour program.

Discussion was held regarding the increase in incidents at the Vernon and Downtown Kelowna branches, as well as the need for additional resources to support staff in these locations.

It was moved and seconded

THAT the CEO report, dated May 20, 2026, be received for information;

AND THAT the Board approve the *2025 Annual Report*.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.1.2 **Endorsement of CULC Open Letter on Alberta Bill 28** Danielle Hubbard

All Trustees - Unweighted Vote - Simple Majority (Board Policy Section II.C / Community Charter s.123)

Danielle Hubbard provided a summary of Alberta's recently introduced Bill 28 and requested that the Board consider supporting and endorsing the Canadian Urban Libraries Council's (CULC) Open Letter of opposition to the Bill, as outlined in the report.

The Board unanimously agreed to support the CULC Open Letter and directed that a copy be forwarded to the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs.

It was moved and seconded

THAT the Okanagan Regional Library Board receive for information the CEO's May 20, 2026, report on Bill 28, the *Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026*;

AND THAT the Okanagan Regional Library Board endorse the Canadian Urban Libraries Council's Open Letter, dated April 14, 2026, that expresses concerns over Bill 28, the *Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026*.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.1 BOARD POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1.1 Updates to the Board Policy and Regulations Manual - Adrienne Fedrigo and Danielle Hubbard

All Trustees - Unweighted Vote - Simple Majority (Board Policy Section II.C / Community Charter s.123)

Danielle Hubbard provided a summary of her recent attendance at the Canadian Urban Libraries Council (CULC) conference in Calgary and noted that, following further discussion regarding Alberta's Bill 28, she did not believe it was the appropriate time to proceed with the originally proposed changes to the "Materials" section of the *Board Policy and Regulations Manual* that had been discussed at the Policy and Planning Committee.

Mark Reinelt provided a summary of the recommended changes to the *Board Policy and Regulations Manual*, as outlined in the report, and was available for questions and comments from the Board.

It was moved and seconded

THAT the Board approve the amendment to "C: Lost and Damaged Material" under *Section III: Library Membership* of the *Board Policy and Regulations Manual* as outlined in the report from the Policy and Planning Committee dated May 20, 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

It was moved and seconded

THAT the Board approve the amendments to "C. Collection Guidelines – Periodicals" under *Section V: Materials* of the *Board Policy and Regulations Manual* as outlined in the report from the Policy and Planning Committee dated May 20, 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

It was moved and seconded

THAT the Board approve deleting in its entirety "E. Confidentiality and Privacy" under *Section III: Library Membership of the Board Policy and Regulations Manual* as outlined in the report from the Policy and Planning Committee dated May 20, 2026;

AND THAT the Board approve the new *Board Privacy Policy No. 006*.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.1.2

One Employee Model Statement - Adrienne Fedrigo and Danielle Hubbard

All Trustees - Unweighted Vote - Simple Majority (Board Policy Section II.C / Community Charter s.123)

Danielle Hubbard introduced the proposed "One Employee Model" statement for inclusion at the beginning of the "Personnel" section of the *Board Policy and Regulations Manual*, as directed by the Board, and was available for questions and comments from the Board.

It was moved and seconded

THAT the Board approve the drafted "one employee model" statement for inclusion at the opening of the "Personnel" section (Section X) of the *Board Policy and Regulations Manual* as outlined in the report from the Policy and Planning Committee dated May 20, 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.1.3

New Social Media and RIM Board Policies - Adrienne Fedrigo and Danielle Hubbard

Trustees - Unweighted Vote - Simple Majority (Board Policy Section II.C / Community Charter s.123)

Danielle Hubbard provided a summary on the new *Social Media Policy* and *Records and Information Management Policy* and was available for questions and comments from the Board.

It was moved and seconded

THAT the Board approve the new *Social Media Policy No. 005* as outlined in the report dated May 20, 2026, from the Policy and Planning Committee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

It was moved and seconded

THAT the Board approve the new *Records and Information Management Policy No. 007* as outlined in the report dated May 20, 2026, from the Policy and Planning Committee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. CORRESPONDENCE

11. NEW BUSINESS

12. TRUSTEE ITEMS

13. ADJOURN

The May 20, 2026, Regular Board of Trustees Meeting was adjourned at 11:51 am.

The next ORL Board meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2026.

Tasha Da Silva, Chair, West Kelowna
Adopted: September 9, 2026

DRAFT

OKANAGAN REGIONAL LIBRARY REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINTUES

Date: Wednesday, July 16, 2026
Location: Virtually via Microsoft Teams

Trustees David Ramey, Enderby
Participating John Manuel, Golden
Remotely: Gord Lovegrove, Kelowna
Tracy Henderson, Keremeos
Cara Reed, Lake Country
Lori Mindnich, Lumby
Petra Veintimilla, Oliver
Terry Condon, Peachland
Erin Trainer, Summerland
Tasha Da Silva, West Kelowna (Board Chair)
Kevin Kraft, Regional District Central Okanagan
Jay Simpson, Regional District Columbia Shuswap
Adrienne Fedrigo, Regional District Okanagan Similkameen

Trustees Absent: Neil Todd, Armstrong
Stephanie Hoffman, Coldstream
Myers Bennett, Osoyoos
George Elliott, Princeton
Tim Palmer, Revelstoke
Sylvia Lindgren, Salmon Arm
Bob Evans, Sicamous
Todd York, Spallumcheen
Kari Gares, Vernon
Mike DeGuevara, Westbank First Nation
Allysa Hopkins, Regional District North Okanagan

Staff Present: Danielle Hubbard, Chief Executive Officer
Jeremy Feddersen, Chief Financial Officer
Corinne Boback, Administrative Services Manager (Recording Secretary)

Tyler Fey, Vice President, CUPE 1123
Ashley Machum, PEA President, ORL Chapter

1. ROLL CALL / ESTABLISH QUORUM (majority: 13+)

Quorum: majority of all members of the board [Library Act, Sec. 20(2)]

In accordance with the Library Act, Sec. 20(2), quorum was established with a majority of all members of the Board in attendance.

2. CALL TO ORDER

Chair to call the meeting to order at 10:15 am.

3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Okanagan Regional Library respectfully acknowledges that we operate on the traditional and unceded territories of many First Nations. We recognize their enduring presence and stewardship of the land, trees, and water from time immemorial, and we are grateful for the opportunity to serve our communities in these territories. The Okanagan Regional Library is committed to providing culturally safe and respectful spaces, services, and resources.

4. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

All Trustees – Unweighted Vote – Simple Majority (Board Policy Section II.A / Community Charter s.123)

To adopt the agenda of the Board of Trustees meeting of Wednesday, July 15, 2026.

It was moved and seconded

THAT the Wednesday, July 15, 2026, Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. CEO REPORT

All Trustees - Unweighted Vote - Simple Majority (Board Policy Section II.C / Community Charter s.123)

5.1 Provincial Funding Reduction

Danielle Hubbard summarized the province's reduction in funding for "large urban libraries" and proposed the Board sent a letter to the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs expressing concerns.

Danielle advised that she would be meeting with Minister Boyle, along with the CEOs of other impacted libraries, to discuss the funding reduction. The CEO group intends to request that the funding be restored.

Discussion also included concerns regarding the province's classification of "rural" versus "urban" communities.

The Board recommended revisions to the draft letter. Danielle Hubbard and Tasha Da Silva will incorporate the suggested edits prior to forwarding the letter to the Minister.

The Board expressed its support for Danielle engaging with the media regarding the funding reduction.

It was moved and seconded

THAT the Board instruct staff to send a letter to the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs in response to the recent provincial funding reallocation, as discussed in the CEO Report dated July 15, 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. ADJOURNMENT

To adjourn the Special Regular Board of Trustees meeting of July 15, 2026.

It was moved and seconded

THAT the Special Regular Board of Trustees meeting of July 15, 2026, be adjourned at 10:47 am.

The next ORL Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 9, 2026.

Tasha Da Silva, Chair, West Kelowna
Adopted: September 9, 2026

ORL Regular Board Report

For Information

To: Okanagan Regional Library Board

From: Jeremy Feddersen, CFO

Date: September 9, 2026

Subject: Population Figures for Levy Calculations and Weighted Votes

Voting Entitlement: Unweighted Vote – Simple Majority

Purpose:

To update the Board on the annual provincial population figures used for levy calculations and weighted votes.

Recommendation:

THAT the CFO report, dated September 9, 2026, pertaining to the population figures for Levy Calculations and Weighted Votes be received for information.

Executive Summary:

Population figures are received annually from the province. The population figures are used for levy calculations and all weighted Library Board votes.

The Library Act, Part 3, Voting on Expenditures, Section 23 states: “(1) on questions involving the expenditure of money (a) each member of the library board has one vote plus one additional vote for each complete 1000 after the first 1000 of the population of the municipality represented by the member or the electoral participating areas of the regional district represented by the member, and (b) a majority of the weighted votes cast decides those questions.”

Changes to this year’s votes are:

- a) Kelowna increased by 2, from 167 to 169
- b) Westbank First Nation increased by 1, from 13 to 14.
- c) Okanagan Similkameen Regional District, Electoral Areas A, B, C, D, E, F & G increased by 1, from 19 to 20.

All other votes remain the same. In accordance with Board Policy, Section II, the attached revised weighted votes will be effective immediately through to August 2027. The Library Levy Allocation Spreadsheet will be presented under the Finance Committee Report.

ORL Regular Board Report

For Information

Respectfully submitted by:

Jeremy Feddersen, CFO

Attachment(s):

Attachment No. 1: Revised Weighted Vote Sheet 2025/26

Approved for Board Agenda

Danielle Hubbard, CEO

Attachment No. 1: Revised Weighted Vote Sheet 2026/2027

Okanagan Regional Library Board - Weighted Vote Sheet

Effective August 2026 to September 2027

Municipalities & First Nations	Population	Weighted Vote
Armstrong	5,643	5
Coldstream	11,380	11
Enderby	3,292	3
Golden + Electoral Area A	8,115	8
Kelowna	169,767	169
Keremeos	1,779	1
Lake Country	17,637	17
Lumby	2,257	2
Oliver	5,262	5
Osoyoos	5,724	5
Peachland	6,302	6
Princeton	3,050	3
Revelstoke	9,464	9
Salmon Arm	20,891	20
Sicamous	2,854	2
Spallumcheen	5,843	5

ORL Regular Board Report

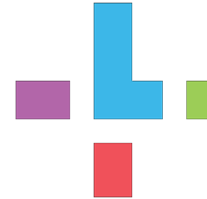
For Information

Summerland	12,343	12
Vernon	49,527	49
West Kelowna	40,274	40
Westbank First Nation	14,006	14
Municipal & First Nation Totals	395,410	386

ORL Regular Board Report

For Information

Regional District Electoral Participating Areas	Population	Weighted Vote
Central Okanagan, Electoral Areas I, J	5,913	5
Columbia Shuswap, Electoral Areas B,C,D,E,F	20,664	20
North Okanagan, Electoral Areas B, C, D, E, F	22,200	22
Okanagan Similkameen, E. Areas A,B,C,D,E,F,G, I	20,171	20
Regional District Totals	68,948	67
Regional Library Total	464,358	453



REPORT

To: Okanagan Regional Library Board
From: Finance Committee
Date: September 9, 2026
Subject: Okanagan Regional Library 2027 Budget Proposal

Purpose:

To bring forward the draft 2027 budget as approved by the Finance Committee for the Okanagan Regional Library for approval by the Board.

Executive Summary:

This report will highlight the significant changes proposed and provide some background that should be useful for the Board's decision-making.

Recommendation:

THAT the Board approve the draft 2027 budget with a levy requirement of \$24,062,498 as presented in the Finance Committee report dated September 9, 2026.

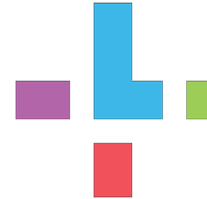
Budget Overview and Challenges

This proposed 2027 budget is the result of many hours of careful review and consultation within the ORL as well as with the Finance Committee.

The staff at the ORL have done an excellent job of managing costs responsibly, despite significant increases in operating expenses over the past several years. In developing this budget, we have carefully reviewed expenditures across the organization and made adjustments wherever possible to ensure that we remain lean and efficient while continuing to provide the high-quality services our communities expect.

As a result, the proposed 2027 budget contains minimal new funding requests. At the same time, as the organization continues to grow and evolve, some additional investments are necessary. The requests included in this budget have therefore been carefully considered and are limited to those deemed important enough to maintaining our operations, supporting our staff, and continuing to deliver excellent library services throughout the region.

Population Pressure



The ORL provides services for a diverse geographic area that is very desirable and continues to draw in new residents. The population figures for 2027 have been estimated using the average growth from the previous 5 years. Using the population figures provided by the Province (Appendix 1), growth throughout the ORL service area is estimated at 2.3% for 2027. With the current budget ask, the levy per capita remains very consistent with previous years. This can be seen in Appendix 2.

To provide context for the ORL's funding requirements, a review was undertaken to assess how the ORL compares with other library systems across the province. The results demonstrate that the ORL continues to operate at the lower end of the funding range, with its per capita levy falling within the bottom half of comparable library systems.

This comparison is particularly noteworthy because many other library systems receive additional support from their municipalities for costs such as administration, information technology, facilities, human resources, and other operating expenses. As these costs may be funded outside of their library levy, direct comparisons can understate the relative cost efficiency of the ORL's operations.

Using the most current comparative data available (2024), the ORL's levy was \$44.27 per capita, compared with a provincial average of \$56.12 per capita. This means the ORL's levy was \$11.85 per capita, or approximately 21%, below the provincial average, while continuing to fund and deliver a broad range of library services across the region.

Inflation Pressure

Inflationary pressures continue, though the impact appears to have stabilized somewhat. Current CPI figures for British Columbia are showing increases year over year of 2.9% (May 2025 vs. May 2026). In reality, we are seeing costs for most products and services remain high, with the impacts of inflation seen all through the organization. To address this, I have applied an inflationary figure of 2.5%, which is lower than the previous year by 0.5%. This was done in an effort to keep the overall increase as low as possible.

REQUIRED CHANGES, REALLOCATIONS, and INFLATION (COLUMNS D & F)

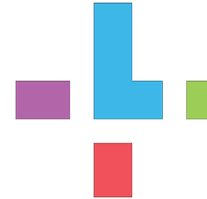
In this section, I will highlight any changes to the budget that differ from the standard inflation rate discussed above.

INCOME (RECEIPTS)

Other Income

Adjustments in this section are inflationary increases for Sunday openings, with the addition of Sunday openings being given the green light in Armstrong (Hooray!).

Transfers From Reserves



The addition of a makerspace reserve has been included in this year's budget. This reserve has more or less existed as part of other reserves, however this carve-out is designed to track the spending on makerspace equipment in order to have a better understanding of the costs associated with it, along with having a clearer budget that branches can draw from.

EXPENDITURES (DISBURSEMENTS)

Remuneration and Employee Benefits

A small increase beyond inflation was included for Employee Benefits to match to actual, as this line has been historically off budget by approximately the same amount over the past few years, and this change should serve to rectify the discrepancy.

Rent and Property Expenses

Rent obligations are contractual, and several leases will have increases from one year to the next. We work very hard to find suitable facilities and manage contracts to ensure we are paying competitive rates. As many of our municipal locations are up for renewal in 2027, there is some uncertainty on this line, though historically our negotiations have been consistent with market, which I've used to estimate for the year.

LTD Principal, Actuarial, and Interest

These amounts are adjusted to agree with the schedules provided to the ORL related to its MFA borrowings through the Central and North Okanagan Regional Districts. The decrease this year is due to adjusting the rates based on those schedules.

Technology & Data Lines

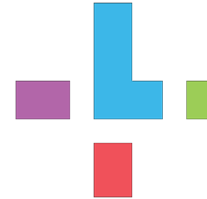
An item was included in this line that was outside of inflation though is under contract. This line is the ongoing cost of the Brave Sensor systems, a motion-detection system installed in the public washrooms of our urban branches as a safety measure. The start-up costs were funded through the Provincial Enhancement Grant, with the knowledge that the ongoing operating costs would need to be included in the 2027 budget.

Transfers to Reserves

The adjustments to increase the amounts going into the various reserves are intended to stabilize the balances and ensure these reserves continue to meet operational needs. The adjustment to the Makerspace reserve is largely offset in the section above, with the net effect of adding \$10,000 to the reserve each year to build up the balance. For furniture, a decrease of \$100,000 was made in the 2025 budget based on the balance at the time, but that adjustment appears to have been slightly too large, resulting in a worrying depletion of the reserve balance.

New Items (COLUMN G)

These items make up the budget "asks", which are brought forward from our Senior Leadership Team and discussed together to determine the most critical new initiatives for the year ahead.



Other Income

After some discussion and research into other library systems, it's been determined that we should recognize donation income as part of the budget, as historically we have had consistent income on this line. An amount of \$100,000 has been included, which is a conservative budget figure based on past giving. Over the past seven years, we have averaged \$224,528 of annual donation income, though this can fluctuate from year to year. The amount included is considered a conservative baseline, based on income from "Friends" groups and other consistent giving streams.

Technology and Data Lines

This budget request came from our Chief Technology and Collections Officer and is a response to feedback received from other organizations that have recently been the targets of crippling cyber attacks. Please see Appendix 3 for further information relating to this request.

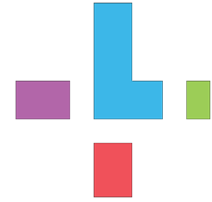
Next Steps

The path forward will be determined once the Board has had the opportunity to review and vote on this draft budget. If the Board chooses to approve the 2027 budget as presented, it will be adopted and shared with our partners. Alternatively, the Board may decide to defer a decision until the following meeting but will then be fairly obligated to approve a budget at its October 21st meeting. An approval no later than the end of November will enable the ORL to provide information to all the member communities according to the Library Act, allowing our member communities to fold this levy accurately into their own budgets and financial plans.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Feddersen'.

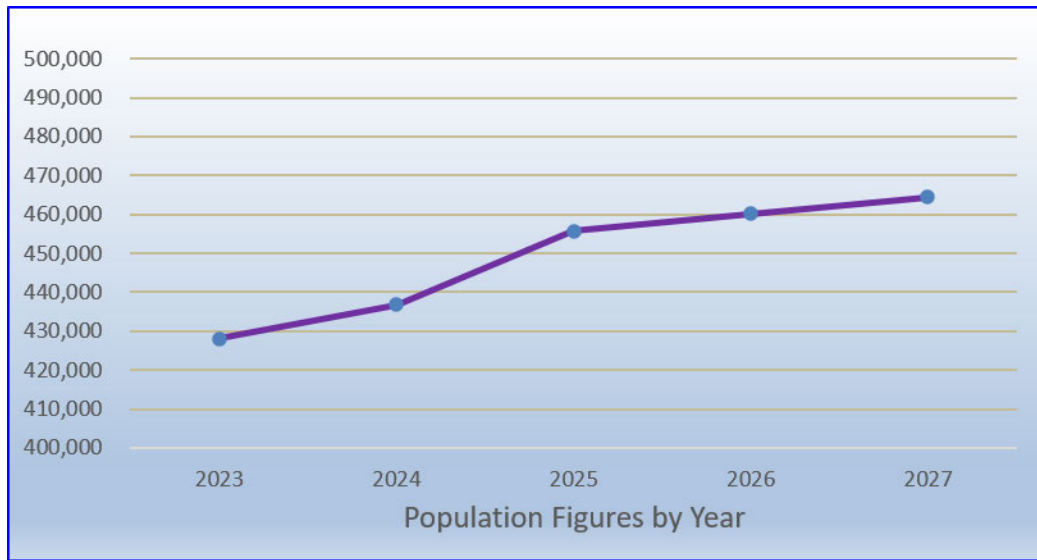
Jeremy Feddersen,
Chief Financial Officer

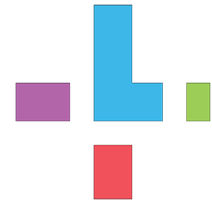


APPENDICES TO THE BUDGET

Appendix 1: Population growth throughout the ORL System

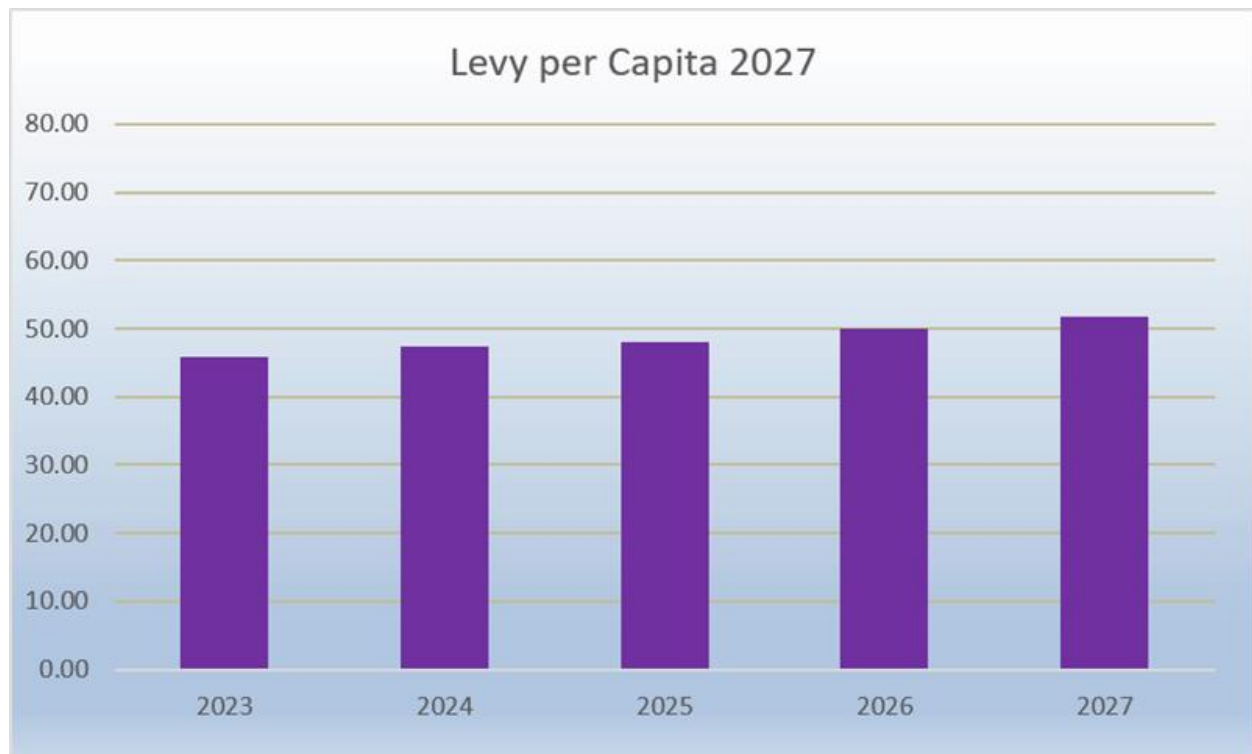
* Growth for 2027 is estimated to be equal to the 5-Year average from 2022-2026 of 2.3%.

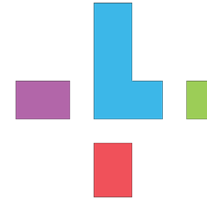




Appendix 2: 4-year comparison of the Levy per Capita to 2027

*Growth for 2027 is based on assumptions below





Appendix 3

Expansion of Endpoint Security (EDR) Coverage

Recommendation

Expand the ORL's existing Fortinet endpoint detection and response (EDR) software from its current 125 devices to all 650 ORL-managed computers and laptops. Current coverage protects leadership and remote staff only; this request closes the gap across the remaining fleet.

Context

A recent cyberattack on the ORL's public computers — an attack that EDR software is designed to detect and stop — demonstrated the risk of leaving the majority of our devices unmonitored. The impact of the attack was contained this time. Without automated detection across the full fleet, future incidents may not be caught in time to contain, which is a major cyber security vulnerability.

Cost

\$87,338 annually — 660 licenses at \$132.33 each, including a 10-license buffer for normal growth and replacement. This figure is an ongoing *operational* expenditure, not a one-time capital cost. Per-device pricing reflects our current vendor agreement; any fleet expansion beyond the buffer would require a future amendment at the same rate.

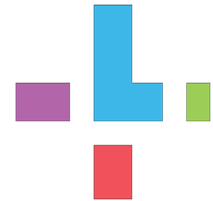
Funding

The full annual cost is covered through the following mechanisms:

- **\$50,000** as a new request.
- **\$37,338** offset through operational efficiencies identified within the existing IT budget, and potentially supplemented by drawing down the IT Reserve

Consequence of Not Proceeding

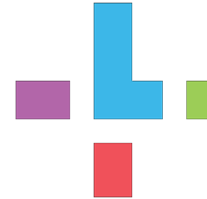
Leaving 650 devices unprotected risks service disruption across branches, exposure of patron data, and potential liability under BC privacy legislation. Recovery cost from a serious cyber security breach — staff time, IT resources, reputational damage, and possible breach notification — would almost certainly exceed this investment. The decision is not between spending and not spending; it is between a planned, preventative cost and an unpredictable, reactive one.



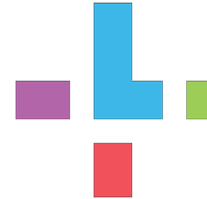
Okanagan Regional Library

Appendix 4

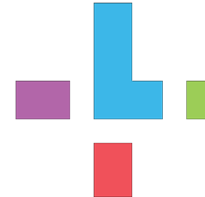
Draft Budget 2027 Worksheet



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	REQUIRED	STARTING	Inflation and	New Items	RECOMMENDED	% Change
	2025	2025	2026	CHANGES	POINT	Contractual Increases		2027 BUDGET	
INCOME (RECEIPTS)									
OTHER INCOME									
PROVINCIAL GRANT	-\$1,038,411	-\$1,082,170	-\$1,038,411	\$45,742	-\$992,669			-\$992,669	
GRANTS - FEDERAL	-\$49,000	-\$54,954	-\$49,000		-\$49,000			-\$49,000	
GRANTS - OTHER	-\$6,500	\$0	-\$6,500		-\$6,500			-\$6,500	
TOTAL OTHER GRANT REVENUE	-\$55,500	-\$54,954	-\$55,500	\$0	-\$55,500	\$0	\$0	-\$55,500	
SICAMOUS	-\$24,237	-\$24,237	-\$25,838		-\$25,838	-\$1,034		-\$26,871	
VERNON	-\$27,929	-\$27,929	-\$29,773		-\$29,773	-\$1,191		-\$30,964	
PRINCETON	-\$12,221	-\$12,221	-\$13,028		-\$13,028	-\$521		-\$13,549	
ARMSTRONG	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	-\$9,764		-\$9,764	
FINES, DAMAGE & REPLACEMENT	-\$52,500	-\$54,140	-\$52,500		-\$52,500			-\$52,500	
MEETING ROOM RENTAL	-\$19,207	-\$10,924	-\$19,207		-\$19,207			-\$19,207	
PRINTING REVENUE	-\$29,975	-\$41,016	-\$29,975		-\$29,975			-\$29,975	
KEYCARD REVENUE	-\$250	-\$1,255	-\$250		-\$250			-\$250	
INTEREST AND EXCHANGE GAIN REV	-\$185,000	-\$118,283	-\$185,000		-\$185,000			-\$185,000	
COPIER REVENUE	-\$9,525	-\$9,520	-\$9,525		-\$9,525			-\$9,525	
BOOK BAGS, NON-RES, EAR BUDS, SUNDRY	-\$5,000	-\$18,159	-\$5,000		-\$5,000			-\$5,000	
SUNDRY	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0			\$0	
MEMBER EXTRA SERVICE	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0			\$0	
INTER LIBRARY LOANS NET	\$150	\$5,064	\$150		\$150			\$150	
DONATIONS REVENUE	\$0	-\$166,381	\$0		\$0		-\$100,000	-\$100,000	
TOTAL OTHER REVENUE	-\$301,307	-\$414,614	-\$301,307		-\$301,307		-\$100,000	-\$401,307	
SUBTOTAL BEFORE TRANSFERS FROM RESERVES	-\$1,459,605	-\$1,616,125	-\$1,463,856	\$45,742	-\$1,418,115	-\$12,509	-\$100,000	-\$1,530,624	4.56%
TRANSFERS FROM RESERVES	-\$1,459,605	-\$1,616,125	-\$1,463,856	\$45,742	-\$1,418,115	-\$12,509	-\$100,000	-\$1,530,624	4.56%
TRANSFERS FROM RESERVES									
IT REPLACEMENT RESERVE	-\$341,007	-\$337,404	-\$341,007		-\$341,007			-\$341,007	
DONATIONS	\$0	-\$109,574	\$0		\$0			\$0	
BRANCH FURNISHINGS	-\$165,000	-\$135,229	-\$165,000		-\$165,000			-\$165,000	
VEHICLE REPLACEMENT	-\$40,000	-\$7,044	\$0		\$0			\$0	
NON-OWNED BUILDING MAINTENANCE	-\$50,000	-\$17,162	-\$150,000		-\$150,000			-\$150,000	
ORL OWNED BUILDING MAINTENANCE	-\$30,000	-\$70,674	-\$100,000		-\$100,000			-\$100,000	
STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	-\$100,000	-\$71,321	-\$40,000		-\$40,000			-\$40,000	
MAKER SPACE REPLACEMENT	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	-\$20,000		-\$20,000	
STAFF APPRECIATION	\$0	-\$9,449	\$0		\$0			\$0	
ENHANCEMENT GRANT	\$0	-\$359,682	\$0		\$0			\$0	
CAPITAL BUILDING PROJECTS	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0			\$0	
	-\$726,007	-\$1,117,539	-\$796,007	\$0	-\$796,007	-\$20,000	\$0	-\$816,007	2.51%
TOTAL RECEIPTS AND RESERVE TRANSFERS	-\$2,185,612	-\$2,733,664	-\$2,259,863	\$45,742	-\$2,214,122	-\$32,509	-\$100,000	-\$2,346,631	3.84%



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	
EXPENDITURES (DISBURSEMENTS)	BUDGET 2025	ACTUAL 2025	BUDGET 2026	REQUIRED CHANGES	STARTING POINT	Inflation and Contractual Increases	New Items	RECOMMENDED 2027 BUDGET	% Change
REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS									
REMUNERATION	\$10,520,577	\$10,525,734	\$11,088,797		\$11,138,289	\$315,617.31		\$11,453,906	
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$1,983,564	\$2,043,461	\$2,052,989		\$2,052,989	\$121,855		\$2,174,844	
WCB	\$59,315	\$81,040	\$74,144		\$74,144	\$18,536		\$92,680	
	\$12,563,456	\$12,650,235	\$13,215,930	\$0	\$13,265,422	\$456,008	\$0	\$13,721,430	3.82%
RENT AND PROPERTY EXPENSES									
RENT (NET OF INTERNAL RENT)	\$1,787,534	\$1,703,429	\$1,840,728		\$1,840,728	45,371		\$1,886,099	
LTD PRINCIPAL & INTEREST	\$1,555,846	\$1,385,847	\$1,517,781	-\$131,934	\$1,385,847			\$1,385,847	
PROPERTY EXPENSES	\$2,029,334	\$2,091,558	\$2,120,214		\$2,120,214	\$88,005		\$2,208,219	
	\$5,372,714	\$5,180,834	\$5,478,724	-\$131,934	\$5,346,790	133,376	\$0	\$5,480,166	0.03%
LIBRARY ELECTRONIC MATERIALS	\$1,736,176	\$1,941,882	\$1,786,744		\$1,786,744	44,669		\$1,831,413	2.50%
OTHER EXPENSES									
BOARD EXPENSES	\$21,367	\$11,750	\$21,367		\$21,367			\$21,367	
BOOK DEPOSIT GRANTS	\$3,200	\$5,500	\$5,500		\$5,500			\$5,500	
COLLECTION AGENCIES	\$3,000	-\$1,937	\$3,000		\$3,000			\$3,000	
EQUIPMENT REPAIRS	\$15,081	\$16,726	\$15,533		\$15,533	\$388		\$15,921	
INSURANCE	\$65,644	\$72,631	\$70,613		\$70,613	\$1,765		\$72,378	
INTEREST & BANK CHARGES	\$11,500	\$14,508	\$11,500		\$11,500	\$287		\$11,787	
MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS	\$136,678	\$139,606	\$140,778		\$95,778	\$8,519		\$104,297	
MEMBERSHIPS	\$21,601	\$23,727	\$22,249		\$22,249	\$5,556		\$27,805	
PENTICTON LIBRARY FEE	\$49,778	\$45,320	\$51,271		\$51,271	\$1,282		\$52,553	
POSTAGE & FREIGHT	\$69,393	\$40,663	\$71,475		\$71,475	\$1,787		\$73,262	
PROFESSIONAL FEES	\$72,305	\$73,815	\$79,474		\$79,474	\$1,987		\$81,461	
PROGRAMS - CHILDRENS	\$20,126	\$48,112	\$21,015		\$21,015	\$525		\$21,540	
PROGRAMS - OTHER	\$133,861	\$86,625	\$142,077		\$142,077	\$3,552		\$145,629	
PROGRAMS	\$149,502	\$134,737	\$163,092		\$163,092	\$4,077		\$167,169	
RECRUITMENT, TRAVEL & SUNDRY	\$17,135	\$2,389	\$17,649		\$17,649	\$441		\$18,090	
STAFF DEVELOPMENT, & MEETINGS	\$125,440	\$135,699	\$149,203		\$149,203	\$3,730		\$152,933	
SUNDRY (FAMA/REALLOCATIONS)	\$4,361	\$0	\$4,492		\$0	\$0		\$0	
SUPPLIES-GENERAL	\$75,971	\$83,845	\$78,250		\$78,250	\$1,956		\$80,206	
SUPPLIES-COPIERS	\$20,549	\$11,430	\$21,165		\$21,165	\$529		\$21,694	
SUPPLIES - CAT/PROC	\$33,219	\$6,271	\$34,216		\$34,216	\$855		\$35,071	
SUPPLIES-CIRC	\$19,669	\$38,769	\$20,259		\$20,259	\$0		\$20,259	
BINDING & MENDING	\$23,221	\$1,875	\$23,918		\$23,918	\$598		\$24,516	
SUPPLIES	\$167,600	\$142,190	\$177,808		\$177,808	\$3,938		\$181,746	
STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0		\$0	
TECHNOLOGY & DATA LINES	\$673,255	\$767,941	\$718,453		\$718,453	\$45,238	\$50,000	\$813,691	
COMMUNICATIONS	\$83,175	\$86,347	\$83,175		\$83,175	\$0		\$83,175	
TRANSPORTATION	\$147,890	\$168,637	\$177,327		\$177,327	\$4,433		\$181,760	
VIRTUAL BRANCH	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000		\$10,000			\$10,000	
	\$1,857,419	\$1,880,249	\$1,993,959	\$0	\$1,944,467	\$83,428	\$50,000	\$2,077,895	4.21%
DISBURSEMENTS BEFORE CAPITAL									
EXPENDITURES & RESERVE TRANSFERS	\$21,504,765	\$21,653,200	\$22,450,356	-\$131,934	\$22,318,422	\$717,481	\$50,000	\$23,085,904	2.83%



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	
	BUDGET 2025	ACTUAL 2025	BUDGET 2026	REQUIRED CHANGES	STARTING POINT	Inflation and Contractual Increases	New Items	RECOMMENDED 2027 BUDGET	% Change
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES									
BOOKS AND OTHER PHYSICAL ITEMS	\$1,391,352	\$1,391,352	\$1,433,093		\$1,433,093	\$35,827		\$1,468,920	
IT EQUIPMENT	\$372,627	\$0	\$383,806		\$383,806	\$9,595		\$393,401	
ALL OTHER CAPITAL	\$256,791	\$0	\$264,495		\$264,495	\$65,297		\$330,792	
	\$2,020,770	\$1,391,352	\$2,081,394	\$0	\$2,081,394	\$118,331	\$0	\$2,199,725	5.69%
SUBTOTAL	\$23,525,535	\$23,044,552	\$24,531,750	-\$131,934	\$24,399,816	\$835,813	\$50,000	\$25,285,629	
TRANSFERS TO RESERVE									
TO BRANCH FURNISHING RESERVE	\$45,000	\$45,000	\$45,000		\$45,000	\$155,000		\$200,000	
TO IT REPLACEMENT RESERVE	\$311,008	\$311,008	\$200,000		\$200,000			\$200,000	
TO STAFF APPREC OR DEVELOPMENT RESERVE	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$11,500		\$11,500			\$11,500	
TO NON-OWNED BUILDING MINTC RESERVE	\$32,000	\$32,000	\$32,000		\$32,000			\$32,000	
TO VEHICLE REPLACEMENT RESERVE	\$25,425	\$25,425	\$15,000		\$15,000			\$15,000	
TO STRATEGIC INITIATIVES RESERVE	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0			\$0	
TO MAKERSPACE RESERVE	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$30,000		\$30,000	
TO CAPITAL BUILDING PROJ RESERVE	\$114,000	\$114,000	\$375,000		\$375,000	\$200,000		\$575,000	
TO ORL OWNED BUILDINGS RESERVE	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000		\$60,000			\$60,000	
	\$588,933	\$588,933	\$738,500	\$0	\$738,500	\$385,000	\$0	\$1,123,500	52.13%
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS AND RESERVE TRANSFERS	\$24,114,468		\$25,270,250	-\$131,934	\$25,138,316	\$1,220,813	\$50,000	\$26,409,129	4.51%
FUNDING REQUIREMENT	\$21,928,856		\$23,010,387	-\$86,192	\$22,924,194	\$1,188,304	-\$50,000	\$24,062,498	4.57%
PERCENT CHANGE FROM 2026									4.57%

Okanagan Regional Library

Budget 2027

The proposed 2027 budget reflects extensive review and consultation with ORL staff and the Finance Committee. Despite rising operating costs, ORL has continued to manage expenses carefully and operate efficiently while maintaining high-quality library services.

This budget includes minimal new funding requests, with additional investments limited to essential priorities needed to support staff, maintain operations, and meet the evolving needs of communities throughout the region.

Okanagan Regional Library

Budget 2027 – How We'll Get There

Key Items Walkthrough

- Start with 2026 Budget
- Required changes/reallocations are first applied, leading us to...
- “2026 starting point”, to which the inflation/contractual increases and new items are applied.



Okanagan Regional Library

Budget 2027 Challenges

Population

Growth in the ORL service area has slowed somewhat, though using the 5 year average is estimated to be around 2.3%.

To determine where we stand on a levy-per-capita basis, I compared our rate to those of other systems in BC where it was determined that we are well below the average.

Inflation

A figure of 2.5% was applied this year to most lines that are directly impacted by inflation. This is in recognition that inflation is currently higher (2.9% when the budget was prepared), though we have worked hard to reduce spending in order to keep overall ask low.

Okanagan Regional Library – 2027 Budget

Reallocations, Required Changes, & Contractual Changes

Changes aside from Inflation:

- Transfer from Reserve

The addition of a makerspace reserve has been included in this year's budget. This reserve has more or less existed as part of other reserves, however this carve-out is designed to track the spending on makerspace equipment in order to have a better understanding of the costs associated with it, along with having a clearer budget that branches can draw from. An adjustment to add to the reserve is included later.

- Technology and Data Lines

An amount for the ongoing support for the Brave sensors was included (\$16K), which was previously discussed at the board level as part of the enhancement grant.

Okanagan Regional Library – 2027 Budget

Reallocations, Required Changes, & Contractual Changes

Changes aside from Inflation:

- Transfers To Reserve

The adjustments to increase the amounts going into the various reserves are intended to stabilize the balances and ensure these reserves continue to meet operational needs. The adjustment to the Makerspace reserve is largely offset in the section above, with the net effect of adding \$10,000 to the reserve each year to build up the balance. For furniture, a decrease of \$100,000 was made in the 2025 budget based on the balance at the time, but that adjustment appears to have been slightly too large, resulting in a worrying depletion of the reserve balance.

Okanagan Regional Library – 2027 Budget

New Items

Proposed changes to the budget:

Other Income – Inclusion of a conservative amount of Donor Income was added this year. For context, we have averaged \$225k over the past 5 years.

Technology and Data Lines – Expansion of EDR coverage. Details of this important addition are included in appendix 3.

Thank you all for your time and please let me know if you have any questions!



Okanagan Regional Library
Library Levy Allocation Spreadsheet
January 1, 2027 to December 31, 2027

	Provincially supplied formula input factors which determine percentage of ORL budget paid						(50% A/total A + 50% B/total B)												
	"A"			"B"			"C"			"D"						"E" = (D / A)		Quarterly Excludes	
	POPULATION			CONVERTED VALUE OF LAND AND IMPROVEMENTS			APPORTIONMENT PER \$100 OF SHARED COSTS			Current Year				Change due		PER CAPITA LEVY		Amounts paid for	
	2027	2026	% Change	2027	2026	% Change	2027	2026	Change per \$100 of shared costs	Levy 2027	Prior Year Levy 2026	Total Difference in levy		apportionment formula	to budget increase	2027	2026	additional service	2027
Municipalities																			
Armstrong	5,643	5,767	-2.2%	\$157,767,848	\$158,466,944	-0.4%	0.994	1.018	-0.023	\$239,281	\$234,182	\$5,099	2.2%	(\$5,364)	\$10,462	\$42.40	\$40.61	\$59,820.26	
Coldstream	11,380	11,553	-1.5%	\$463,130,956	\$470,608,814	-1.6%	2.361	2.417	-0.056	\$568,070	\$556,104	\$11,966	2.2%	(\$12,872)	\$24,838	\$49.92	\$48.14	\$142,017.59	
Enderby	3,292	3,279	0.4%	\$87,159,815	\$87,022,264	0.2%	0.568	0.571	-0.003	\$136,713	\$131,403	\$5,310	4.0%	(\$667)	\$5,978	\$41.53	\$40.07	\$34,178.30	
Golden + E.Area A	8,115	8,124	-0.1%	\$388,730,725	\$372,725,843	4.3%	1.827	1.803	0.024	\$439,584	\$414,784	\$24,801	6.0%	\$5,580	\$19,220	\$54.17	\$51.06	\$109,896.04	
Kelowna	169,767	167,310	1.5%	\$8,425,380,911	\$8,333,399,705	1.1%	38.936	38.746	0.191	\$9,369,064	\$8,915,515	\$453,549	5.1%	\$43,895	\$409,654	\$55.19	\$53.29	\$2,342,265.97	
Keremeos	1,779	1,775	0.2%	\$47,739,649	\$45,987,485	3.8%	0.309	0.306	0.002	\$74,257	\$70,496	\$3,761	5.3%	\$514	\$3,247	\$41.74	\$39.72	\$18,564.14	
Lake Country	17,637	17,497	0.8%	\$818,257,593	\$771,457,713	6.1%	3.905	3.805	0.100	\$939,690	\$875,564	\$64,126	7.3%	\$23,039	\$41,087	\$53.28	\$50.04	\$234,922.57	
Lumby	2,257	2,246	0.5%	\$66,907,109	\$67,253,549	-0.5%	0.407	0.410	-0.003	\$97,949	\$94,348	\$3,601	3.8%	(\$682)	\$4,283	\$43.40	\$42.01	\$24,487.25	
Oliver	5,262	5,274	-0.2%	\$192,347,656	\$192,834,536	-0.3%	1.038	1.049	-0.011	\$249,810	\$241,371	\$8,438	3.5%	(\$2,484)	\$10,923	\$47.47	\$45.77	\$62,452.42	
Osoyoos	5,724	5,737	-0.2%	\$329,015,951	\$337,610,681	-2.5%	1.423	1.457	-0.034	\$342,406	\$335,159	\$7,247	2.2%	(\$7,724)	\$14,971	\$59.82	\$58.42	\$85,601.59	
Peachland	6,302	6,200	1.6%	\$291,004,445	\$290,402,606	0.2%	1.392	1.390	0.002	\$334,957	\$319,929	\$15,028	4.7%	\$383	\$14,646	\$53.15	\$51.60	\$83,739.34	
Princeton	3,050	3,241	-5.9%	\$104,840,849	\$101,386,960	3.4%	0.585	0.602	-0.017	\$140,874	\$138,610	\$2,264	1.6%	(\$3,896)	\$6,160	\$46.19	\$42.77	\$35,218.48	
Revelstoke	9,464	9,171	3.2%	\$517,310,027	\$483,973,599	6.9%	2.287	2.191	0.096	\$550,390	\$504,135	\$46,256	9.2%	\$22,190	\$24,065	\$58.16	\$54.97	\$137,597.62	
Salmon Arm	20,891	20,613	1.3%	\$718,490,507	\$709,941,535	1.2%	4.011	3.992	0.019	\$965,143	\$918,544	\$46,599	5.1%	\$4,399	\$42,200	\$46.20	\$44.56	\$241,285.67	
Sicamous	2,854	2,841	0.5%	\$165,938,236	\$157,525,947	5.3%	0.714	0.697	0.017	\$171,840	\$160,487	\$11,353	7.1%	\$3,839	\$7,514	\$60.21	\$56.49	\$42,959.92	
Spallumcheen	5,843	5,779	1.1%	\$211,024,197	\$212,092,847	-0.5%	1.147	1.151	-0.005	\$275,881	\$264,934	\$10,947	4.1%	(\$1,116)	\$12,063	\$47.22	\$45.84	\$68,970.29	
Summerland	12,343	12,492	-1.2%	\$516,194,088	\$520,353,531	-0.8%	2.595	2.642	-0.047	\$624,325	\$607,831	\$16,495	2.7%	(\$10,803)	\$27,298	\$50.58	\$48.66	\$156,081.35	
Vernon	49,527	49,167	0.7%	\$1,882,602,914	\$1,863,849,416	1.0%	9.948	9.942	0.006	\$2,393,846	\$2,287,750	\$106,096	4.6%	\$1,427	\$104,669	\$48.33	\$46.53	\$598,461.39	
West Kelowna	40,274	40,093	0.5%	\$1,807,563,936	\$1,794,205,268	0.7%	8.768	8.784	-0.016	\$2,109,837	\$2,021,318	\$88,518	4.4%	(\$3,732)	\$92,251	\$52.39	\$50.42	\$527,459.20	
Municipal Totals	381,404	378,159	0.9%	\$ 17,191,407,412	\$16,971,099,243	1.3%	83.216	82.973	0.243	\$ 20,023,918	19,092,466	\$931,452		\$55,924	\$875,528	\$52.50	\$50.49	\$5,005,979.39	
Regional Districts																			
CORD I,J	5,913	5,901	0.2%	\$374,984,313	\$379,357,306	-1.2%	1.556	1.577	-0.021	\$374,411	\$362,960	\$11,451	3.2%	(\$4,920)	\$16,371	\$63.32	\$61.51	\$93,602.77	
CSRD B,C,D,E,F	20,664	20,838	-0.8%	\$779,140,506	\$773,135,173	0.8%	4.135	4.172	-0.037	\$995,041	\$960,054	\$34,987	3.6%	(\$8,520)	\$43,507	\$48.15	\$46.07	\$248,760.32	
NORD B,C,D,E,F	22,200	22,009	0.9%	\$752,802,982	\$741,656,790	1.5%	4.236	4.222	0.014	\$1,019,301	\$971,459	\$47,842	4.9%	\$3,274	\$44,568	\$45.91	\$44.14	\$254,825.14	
OSRD A,B,C,D,E,F,G, I	20,171	19,893	1.4%	\$798,083,575	\$926,827,562	-13.9%	4.129	4.449	-0.320	\$993,443	\$1,023,700	-\$30,257	-3.0%	(\$73,695)	\$43,437	\$49.25	\$51.46	\$248,360.82	
Regional District Totals	68,948	68,641	0.4%	\$ 2,705,011,376	\$2,820,976,831	-4.1%	14.056	14.420	-0.364	\$ 3,382,196	3,318,174	\$64,022		(\$83,861)	\$147,883	\$49.05	\$48.34	\$845,549.05	
Westbank First Nation	14,006	13,339	5.0%	\$ 497,492,825	\$ 468,814,387	6.1%	2.728	2.606	0.121	\$ 656,384	\$ 599,747	\$56,637	9.4%	\$27,937	\$28,700	\$46.86	\$44.96	\$164,096.06	
Regional Library Total	464,358	460,139	0.9%	\$20,393,911,613	20,260,890,461	0.7%	100.00	100.00	0.000	\$ 24,062,498	23,010,387	\$1,052,111		\$0.00	\$1,052,111	\$51.82	\$50.01	\$6,015,624.50	

To: Okanagan Regional Library Board
From: Chief Financial Officer
Date: September 9th, 2026
Subject: Financial Update Report to July 31, 2026 (7 Months)

Voting Entitlement: Unweighted Vote – Simple Majority

Purpose:

To receive for information the Financial Update Report Package to July 31, 2026.

Executive Summary:

Please find attached the Financial Update Report Package to July 31, 2026. Results for the period demonstrate that the ORL is operating within its budget and that there haven't been any significant challenges for the organization in the 2026 fiscal year.

Please also note the change in format, as the items discussed below are meant to highlight those areas of the budget that are outside of the normal variances and therefore warrant further information.

Recommendation:

THAT the CFO report, dated September 9th, 2026, pertaining to the Financial Update to July 31, 2026 be received for information.

Background:

The attached **Appendix 1** provides the Board with a financial report to July 31, 2026. The report has been prepared on a modified cash basis, meaning not all accounting accruals have been made.

DISCUSSION

Receipts

Tax Levy

- Levies from the City of Revelstoke were not received as of July 31st. I have followed up with them to let them know and they have committed to catching up.

From Government & Own Resources

- MFA Actuarial Debt Adjustment – This entry is not typically made until fiscal year end. As a note, I plan on changing the presentation of this item to be clearer as part of next year's budget by removing this line and netting it out from the LTD Principal, Actuarial, and Interest line below.

ORL Regular Board Report

For Information

- The Province of BC Grant has been graciously restored for the current year, and should be received sometime in the near future. This was a huge win for the Board, Danielle, and the other library leaders!

From Reserves and Internal Rent

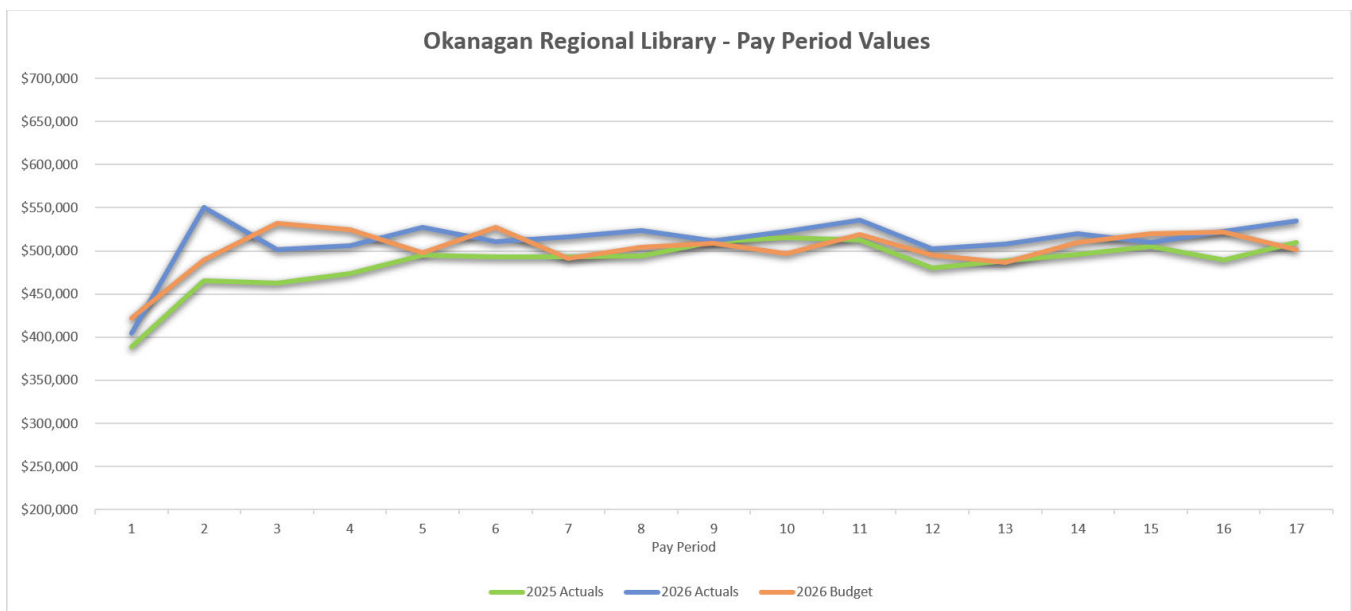
- The transfers from reserves are an accounting adjustment that relates to planned amounts drawn out of reserves for technology replacement, furnishings, and amounts from the donation reserves for programming and capital expenditures.

Total receipts to July 31st \$13,006,827

Disbursements

Remuneration and benefits are tracking very close to budget on a period-by-period basis, however July had a third pay period that hit the budget that has skewed the budget to the end of the month. This is outlined in the graph below:

Graph: Pay Period Values: 2025 Actual, 2026 Actual, 2026 Budget



Rent and Property Expenses

- LTD payments appear under budget this period, as these are large invoices received at various times throughout the year that make it difficult to match timing. This line should be on budget at end of year unless a change to our loans is made.
- Property expenses continue to be higher than budget due in large part to some large HVAC repairs in our owned buildings. We expect property expenses to be a line item that will continue to require extra attention as our buildings get older, though I will work to ensure this line stays as close to budget as possible.

Library Materials

- This line, along with Books and Other Physical Material, form the combined Library Collections Budget. These two lines are perennially on budget as the team does a great job tracking these figures.

Other Expenses

- Penticton Library Fee is an annual amount that came in earlier than the budget had anticipated. However, this line is likely to come in a little under budget on the year as a whole.

Total disbursements before capital expenditures and reserve transactions are \$13,788,163.

Capital Expenditures

- These figures will come up as part of year-end process; these transactions are accounting adjustments related to reserve funded activities. The exception to this is "Books and Other Physical Materials", which was previously discussed with the Library (electronic) materials. These capital expenses are offset by corresponding revenue lines and should not have a net effect on the bottom line.

Total disbursements to July 31st are \$14,415,181.

The net disbursements over receipts to July 31st are \$-1,408,353.

BUDGET AND COST IMPACTS

There are no budget or cost impacts that would derive from this report.

CONCLUSION

The ORL's financial results to July 31st demonstrate that the ORL is holding close to its budget, with no areas of concern that require the Board's approval at this time.

Strategic Plan Alignment:

Strive for organization and service excellence.

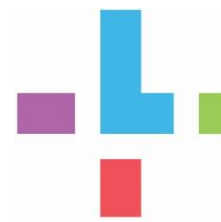
Respectfully submitted by:



Jeremy Feddersen, CPA, CA
Chief Financial Officer

Approved for Board Agenda

Danielle Hubbard, CEO



Okanagan Regional Library
Appendix 1
Interim Financial Report
(Receipts & Disbursements)
January 1, 2026 to July 31, 2026



**OKANAGAN REGIONAL LIBRARY
RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS
To July 31, 2026**

	ACTUAL YR.TO D	BUDGET YR.TO D	VARIANCE YR.TO D	BUDGET -YEAR--
RECEIPTS				
TAX LEVY ON MUNICIPALITIES AND REGIONAL DISTRICTS				
ARMSTRONG, CITY	\$117,091	\$117,091	-\$0	\$234,182
CENTRAL OKANAGAN RD	\$181,480	\$181,480	-\$0	\$362,960
COLDSTREAM, DISTRICT	\$278,052	\$278,052	-\$0	\$556,104
COLUMBIA SHUSWAP RD	\$480,027	\$480,027	-\$0	\$960,054
ENDERBY, CITY	\$65,702	\$65,702	-\$0	\$131,403
GOLDEN, CITY	\$207,392	\$207,392	\$0	\$414,784
KELOWNA, CITY	\$4,457,758	\$4,457,758	-\$0	\$8,915,515
KEREMEOS, VILLAGE	\$35,248	\$35,248	\$0	\$70,496
LAKE COUNTRY, DISTRICT	\$437,782	\$437,782	-\$0	\$875,564
LUMBY, VILLAGE	\$47,174	\$47,174	-\$0	\$94,348
NORTH OKANAGAN RD	\$485,729	\$485,730	\$0	\$971,459
OLIVER, TOWN	\$120,686	\$120,686	-\$0	\$241,371
OKANAGAN SIMILKAMEEN RD	\$511,850	\$511,850	-\$0	\$1,023,700
OSOYOOS, TOWN	\$167,580	\$167,580	-\$0	\$335,159
PEACHLAND, DISTRICT	\$159,964	\$159,965	\$0	\$319,929
PRINCETON, TOWN	\$75,819	\$75,819	\$0	\$151,638
REVELSTOKE, CITY	\$126,034	\$252,068	\$126,034	\$504,135
SALMON ARM, CITY	\$459,272	\$459,272	\$0	\$918,544
SICAMOUS, DISTRICT	\$93,163	\$93,163	-\$0	\$186,325
SPALLUMCHEEN, TOWNSHIP	\$132,467	\$132,467	\$0	\$264,934
SUMMERLAND, DISTRICT	\$303,915	\$303,916	\$0	\$607,831
VERNON, CITY	\$1,158,761	\$1,158,762	\$0	\$2,317,523
WESTBANK FIRST NATION	\$299,874	\$299,874	-\$0	\$599,747
WEST KELOWNA, CITY	\$1,010,659	\$1,010,659	-\$0	\$2,021,318
	\$11,413,479	\$11,539,512	\$126,032	\$23,079,023



	ACTUAL YR.TO D	BUDGET YR.TO D	VARIANCE YR.TO D	BUDGET -YEAR--
FROM GOVERNMENT & OWN RESOURCES				
PROVINCE OF BC - PER CAPITA GRANT	\$992,669	\$1,038,411	\$45,742	\$1,038,411
GRANTS - FEDERAL	\$0	\$24,500	\$24,500	\$49,000
GRANTS - OTHER	\$1,510	\$0	-\$1,510	\$6,500
FINES, FEES AND DAMAGED MATERIALS	\$25,892	\$30,625	\$4,732	\$52,499
SPACE RENTALS	\$5,655	\$11,204	\$5,549	\$19,207
PRINTING REVENUE	\$27,388	\$17,486	-\$9,902	\$29,975
KEYCARD REVENUE	\$847	\$146	-\$701	\$251
INTEREST AND EXCHANGE	\$74,955	\$107,917	\$32,962	\$185,000
COPIER REVENUE	\$7,565	\$5,571	-\$1,994	\$9,550
SUNDRY INCOME	\$2,019	\$2,690	\$671	\$5,000
MFA ACTUARIAL , DEBT REDUCTION	\$0	\$230,043	\$230,043	\$394,360
INTER LIBRARY LOANS, NET	\$22	\$88	\$65	\$150
SUBTOTAL GOVERNMENT & OWN RESOURCES	\$1,138,523	\$1,468,680	\$330,157	\$1,789,904
TRANSFERS FROM RESERVES	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$796,007
ORL OWNED BUILDINGS, RENT CHARGEBACK	\$454,825	\$454,825	\$0	\$909,650
	\$454,825	\$454,825	\$0	\$1,705,657
TOTAL RECEIPTS	13,006,827	13,463,016	456,189	26,574,584



**OKANAGAN REGIONAL LIBRARY
RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS
To July 31, 2026**

	ACTUAL YR.TO D	BUDGET YR.TO D	VARIANCE YR.TO D	BUDGET -YEAR--
DISBURSEMENTS				
REMUNERATION AND FRINGE BENEFITS				
REMUNERATION	6,652,032	6,468,465	-183,567	11,088,797
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	1,239,332	1,197,577	-41,755	2,052,989
WCB	61,971	43,250	-18,721	74,143
	7,953,335	7,709,292	-244,043	13,215,930
RENT AND PROPERTY EXPENSES				
RENT	1,553,061	1,604,387	51,326	2,750,378
LTD PRINCIPAL, ACTUARIAL AND INTEREST	869,145	1,115,416	246,271	1,912,142
PROPERTY EXPENSES	1,279,479	1,236,791	-42,688	2,120,213
	3,701,685	3,956,594	254,909	6,782,733
LIBRARY MATERIALS	1,134,563	1,042,455	-92,107	1,787,066
OTHER EXPENSES				
BOARD EXPENSES	5,850	12,464	6,614	21,367
BOOK DEPOSIT GRANTS	5,500	3,208	-2,292	5,500
COLLECTION AGENCY	-421	1,750	2,171	3,000
EQUIPMENT REPAIRS & RENEWALS	6,021	9,061	3,041	15,533
INSURANCE	41,782	41,191	-591	70,613
INTEREST & BANK CHARGES	8,472	6,708	-1,764	11,500
MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS	54,679	82,121	27,441	140,778
MEMBERSHIPS	17,309	12,979	-4,331	22,249
PENTICTON LIBRARY FEE	46,200	29,908	-16,292	51,271
POSTAGE & FREIGHT	29,868	41,694	11,826	71,476
PROFESSIONAL FEES	41,782	46,360	4,578	79,474



	ACTUAL YR.TO D	BUDGET YR.TO D	VARIANCE YR.TO D	BUDGET -YEAR--
PROGRAMS	58,277	88,435	30,158	151,603
RECRUITMENT, TRAVEL & SUNDRY	716	10,296	9,580	17,650
STAFF DEVELOPMENT & MEETINGS	56,590	87,035	30,446	149,203
SUPPLIES	77,944	95,840	17,896	164,297
TECHNOLOGY EXPENSES	411,309	419,097	7,789	718,453
TELEPHONE & INTERNET	49,827	51,139	1,312	87,667
TRANSPORTATION	86,877	103,441	16,564	177,328
VIRTUAL BRANCH	0	5,833	5,833	10,000
	998,580	1,148,560	149,980	1,968,961
DISBURSEMENTS BEFORE CAPITAL EXPENDITURES AND TRANSFERS TO RESERVES	13,788,163	13,856,902	68,739	23,754,689
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES				
BOOKS AND OTHER PHYSICAL MATERIALS	627,018	835,971	208,953	1,433,093
TECHNOLOGY ASSETS	0	0	0	383,806
FURNITURE, EQUIPMENT & OTHER	0	0	0	264,495
	627,018	835,971	208,953	2,081,394
TRANSFERS TO RESERVES				
TO BRANCH FURNISHING RESERVE	0	0	45,000	45,000
TO CAPITAL PROJECTS RESERVE	0	0	375,000	375,000
TO IT REPLACEMENT RESERVE	0	0	200,000	200,000
TO NON-OWNED BUILDING MNTC RESERVE	0	0	32,000	32,000
TO OWNED BUILDING MNTC RESERVE	0	0	60,000	60,000
TO STAFF APPRECIATION OR DEVELOPMENT RESERVE	0	0	11,500	11,500
TO VEHICLE REPLACEMENT RESERVE	0	0	15,000	15,000
	0	0	738,500	738,500
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	14,415,181	14,692,873	1,016,192	26,574,583
NET DISBURSEMENTS OVER RECEIPTS	-1,408,353	-1,229,856		

ORL Regular Board Report

Request for Decision

To: Okanagan Regional Library Board

From: Danielle Hubbard, CEO

Date: September 9, 2026

Subject: CEO Report

Voting Entitlement: *Unweighted Vote – Simple Majority*

Purpose:

To update the Board on the operational and strategic activities of the ORL.

Executive Summary:

The CEO Report is a quarterly summary of operational and strategic activities at the ORL. This quarter, the report includes information on two new initiatives to increase the ORL's eResource offerings.

Recommendation:

THAT the CEO report, dated September 9, 2026, be received for information.

Operational and strategic updates

Leadership & Strategy

- Thanks to the advocacy work done by the ORL and other libraries, the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs has indicated a restoration of 2026 funding. See *Provincial Funding Report*.
- 2026 has been a challenging wildfire year. See *Wildfire Impact and Response Report*.
- The ORL is working with other library systems to host a library reception at UBCM. See *attachment No. 1*.
- The ORL has been accepted for two Minister Meetings (Emergency Management & Climate Readiness; and Social Development & Poverty Reduction) at UBCM this year.
- We have been accepted for four staff meetings (Emergency Management & Climate Readiness; Social Development & Poverty Reduction; Health; and Housing and Municipal Affairs) the week before UBCM.
- CEO Danielle Hubbard will be delivering a guest lecture about library governance to MLIS students at Dalhousie University this fall.
- Policy development continues, particularly in the areas of information management and privacy.

Facilities

- The ORL's RDOS branches were activated as Cooling Centres in July.
- The ORL received \$25,000 through SPARC BC's Local Community Accessibility Grant Program to improve safety and accessibility across the system, including the development of floorplans, branch capacity limits, and evacuation maps for each branch.
- Thanks to new facility processes, branch improvements are prioritized and addressed promptly.

ORL Regular Board Report

Request for Decision

- Recent improvements include privacy enhancements to the Peachland washrooms; new paint in Vernon and Revelstoke; shelving upgrades in Osoyoos; kitchen upgrades in Princeton; and an interactive sensory wall installed in the children's area in downtown Kelowna.

Human Resources

- Negotiations with PEA have been rescheduled to November due to the provincial State of Emergency in August. Negotiations with CUPE are set to commence in September.
- Leadership Essentials training was completed for Large Branch supervisors in the late spring and commenced for the Senior Leadership Team in September.

Public Services

- Summer Reading Club saw record-breaking participation. Final stats will be shared in October.
- The Maker Tour offered interactive STEAM programming at every branch with 1,014 attendees.
- The ORL is again hosting a Children's and Teen Services conference in October.
- The Ontario Library Association (OLA) has invited Director of Public Services Mark Reinelt to be the Public Library Spotlight Speaker at the upcoming OLA Super Conference, speaking about emotional labour and trauma in public library work.
- Year-to-date, the ORL has experienced 340 incidents system-wide (193 in Kelowna Downtown, and 45 in Vernon). At this time last year, the system total was 275, with 142 in Kelowna and 61 in Vernon.
- North Shuswap, Princeton, Oliver, and South Shuswap have experienced incidents for the first time.

Information Technology and Collections

- 46,138 physical items have been added to the ORL's collection since January 1.
- We are expanding our eResource offerings through the Palace Project and a new Reciprocal Lending Arrangement with OverDrive. *See Attachment 2.*
- The IT Department has supported ORL staff with 1,339 support tickets to date this year.
- Yubikeys have been introduced for critical staff positions at the ORL to increase cybersecurity.

Marketing and Communications

- The *2025 Annual Report* has been mailed to all local government offices.
- So far this year, the ORL has offered over 1,070 programs and distributed over 146,000 promotional materials, including bookmarks, brochures, program guides, and outreach materials.
- We are producing in-house designed and built display systems to save cost and increase promotion.
- The ORL is exploring federal grant opportunities with the Community Action Initiative (Social Wellbeing Grant), with the potential to expand services for our vulnerable sectors.

Strategic Plan Alignment:

1. Cultivate learning, literacy, creativity and imagination.
2. Offer a welcoming, inclusive space to gather, and connect.
3. Embrace local heritage, and culture.
4. Develop and nurture community partnerships.
5. Strive for organization and service excellence.

ORL Regular Board Report

Request for Decision

Respectfully submitted by:

Danielle Hubbard, CEO

Attachment(s):

Attachment 1: *UBCM Library Reception Invite*

Attachment 2: *Palace Project and Reciprocal Lending Arrangement*

Approved for Board Agenda

Danielle Hubbard, CEO

BC Public Libraries Matter

Building stronger communities together



ASSOCIATION OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA
PUBLIC LIBRARY
DIRECTORS

You Are Invited

Stay invested – Join us for light refreshments and an evening of conversation and connection as we celebrate the extraordinarily positive impacts public libraries make in communities.

**Sept 15
2026**

WHO

UBCM attendees

WHEN

Drop in between 7:30 and 9:30 PM
Tuesday, September 15, 2026

WHERE

**Vancouver Public Library
Central Branch Rooftop**
350 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, BC V6B 6B1

- Public libraries strengthen local economies, support lifelong learning, connect people and create inclusive spaces where everyone belongs.

Stay Invested



For more info contact – ed@abcpld.ca

Attachment 2: Palace Project and Reciprocal Lending Arrangement

The Acquisitions Department (which falls under Jeff Campbell, Chief Technology and Collections Officer), has been working on cost-effective options for expanding the ORL's eResource offerings, ie. the number, variety, and availability of eBooks and audiobooks we can provide to our patrons. Both initiatives described below are in the onboarding stage. Jeff and his team will deliver a presentation on these initiatives at the October Board meeting. In the meantime, here is a short explanation of each project:

- **The Palace Project** is a free app that brings eBooks and audiobooks from multiple vendors into one place. Through Palace, the ORL has added roughly 32,000 new titles — including previously unavailable Audible-exclusive content like *Project Hail Mary* and the *Dungeon Crawler Carl* series.
- **A new Reciprocal Lending Arrangement (RLA) with OverDrive**, Fraser Valley Regional Library (FVRL), and Greater Victoria Public Library (GVPL) gives ORL patrons browsing and borrowing access to partner libraries' eBook and audiobook collections. This partnership expands access to backlist titles, increases collection depth, and offers more reading and listening choices for everyone.

To: Okanagan Regional Library Board

From: Danielle Hubbard, CEO

Date: September 9, 2026

Subject: Wildfire Impact and Response Report

Voting Entitlement: Unweighted Vote

Purpose:

To update the Board on the impacts of the 2026 wildfire season on the ORL, and the ORL's responses.

Executive Summary:

2026 has been a difficult wildfire season, particularly because of the Bald Range Wildfire. This report describes the disruptions experienced by Bald Range and other fires, and describes the ORL's response to supporting staff, communities, and local governments.

Recommendation:

THAT the Board receive for information the CEO's report dated September 9, 2026.

Background:

As everyone is aware, extreme temperatures, drought conditions, and wildfires are becoming increasingly common in the Okanagan. 2026 has been no exception. The ORL has developed proactive measures to help mitigate and manage the impacts of the wildfire season on staff and operations, and to assist our local communities. The following measures were in place before summer 2026:

- Two years ago, we added an **Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) Advisor** to our exempt staff. This position monitors wildfires and other threats throughout the year.
- We have developed **clear guidelines** that articulate under what circumstances branches close for conditions including temperature and air quality thresholds, staffing levels, and evacuation alerts. These guidelines are recirculated to all staff every spring.
- These guidelines also articulate under what circumstances **staff of each union are paid**, versus required to draw from their banks, in alignment with our Collective Agreements, in cases of emergency.
- We have agreements with many of our local governments (RDOS, Armstrong, Lumby, Enderby, Vernon, and Kelowna) to serve as **official Cooling Centres**.
- The ORL's **Emergency Response Team** consists of the OH&S Advisor, Director of Human Resources, Director of Public Services, and CEO. When an emergency or urgent situation arises, this team immediately connects to make timely decisions.

ORL Regular Board Report

For Information

- During wildfire season (July and August), all members of the Senior Leadership Team are required to monitor ORL communications throughout the weekend and evenings to **be ready to respond to crises at any time**.

2026 Wildfire Season:

The 2026 wildfire season impacted the ORL in two stages – first, Bradley Creek and Quilpituk Creek fires along Westside Road, and second, the Bald Range fire in and around Summerland.

Bradley Creek and Quilpituk Creek Wildfires:

These two fires ignited on August 1, closing Westside Road, devastating the North Okanagan Indian reservation, and threatening to encroach on Armstrong and Falkland before being deemed “under control” on August 8. Although Highway 97 between Vernon and Falkland was threatened, it was never closed at times when the ORL delivery van would travel that route. ORL deliveries do not travel along Westside Road.

Communities along Westside Road were evacuated, including the North Westside community where the ORL supports a book deposit. Fortunately, the deposit was not damaged. Evacuees were directed to Vernon and West Kelowna. Those two ORL branches saw an influx in use, with many evacuees seeking assistance from ORL staff in emotional support and in accessing Emergency Support Services, insurance forms, etc. One ORL staff member lost their home to the Bradley Creek Fire and others were impacted by the evacuation alerts.

Bald Range Wildfire:

This fire ignited northwest of Summerland the evening of August 7. Within hours, Highway 97 between Peachland and Penticton was closed, and thousands of residents in and around Summerland were evacuated. The fire continued to expand for many days.

The ORL’s Emergency Response Team met the evening of August 7. We closed the Summerland and Peachland branches and contacted all the staff of those locations to ensure their safety. The whole Senior Leadership Team met the morning of August 8. Over the next two weeks, the ORL responded to the crisis in the following ways:

- I sent out daily “**Wildfire Globals**,” ie. update memos to all ORL staff. (Example: Attachment 1)
- Updates were sent to the **ORL Board**.
- The ORL provided **care packages to evacuee centres** in Penticton and West Kelowna.
- All **due dates were extended** for Summerland and Peachland patrons, and all fines incurred on materials lost or damaged by fire were waived throughout the system. Email notifications to these effects were sent to all Summerland and Peachland patrons.
- **Van delivery routes** were modified so all ORL branches south of Summerland continued to receive book deliveries throughout this time.
- On request of the RDOS, we **opened the Princeton Branch** on Friday, August 14, to support evacuees.
- Regular updates were posted on the ORL **website and social media**.
- The Emergency Response Team **monitored the situation** through evenings and weekends.

ORL Regular Board Report

For Information

- The Emergency Response Team and Senior Leadership Team was in continual contact and had regular **Emergency Check-In meetings**.
- We maintained contact with all **evacuated staff**. On Thursday, August 13, Mark (Director of Public Services) and I travelled to Penticton to take impacted staff out for a meal.
- The HR Department assisted staff with **mental health supports**.

On August 17, public access to downtown Summerland was restored. On August 18, Operation Super Force (Mark, Renata our OH&S Advisor, Greg our Facilities Lead, and Kiran our IT Analyst) conducted a thorough inspection of the branch. Remarkably, it was largely unscathed. After running air scrubbers for several days, replacing the HVAC filters, clearing burnt debris from the eaves, and a solid janitorial treatment, the branch **reopened on Saturday, August 22**. Mark went out for the opening to provide additional support to staff.

The Peachland library was only closed on Saturday, August 8. By the following week, it was safe to open. The ORL made arrangements for District of Peachland staff to operate out of our West Kelowna branch should Peachland's district offices be evacuated. Fortunately, this did not happen.

Several other library systems, including Penticton Public Library and Yellowhead Regional Library in Alberta, extended full membership to our evacuated patrons during this time.

The ORL had been scheduled to negotiate with the Professional Employees Association the week of August 10. Due to the state of crisis, negotiations have been rescheduled to the third week of November.

Strategic Plan Alignment:

1. Value: Responsiveness
2. Value: Organizational Responsibility

Attachments:

Attachment 1: *Wildfire Global, August 11*

Respectfully submitted by:

Danielle Hubbard, CEO

Approved for Board Agenda

Danielle Hubbard, CEO



ANNOUNCEMENT

TO: All ORL Staff

FROM: Danielle Hubbard, CEO

DATE: August 11, 2026

SUBJECT: Wildfire Update – Peachland Reopened, Summerland Remains Closed

Hello Everyone,

A quick update on the wildfire situation:

- **Peachland Library** reopened today and is operating as usual.
- **Summerland Library** remains closed while evacuation orders remain in place.

If you have been personally impacted and haven't already spoken with Mark (Director of Public Services), please contact him at mreinelt@orl.bc.ca or **778-363-6850** when you are safely able so we can support you and plan branch operations.

With Highway 97 likely remaining closed, material deliveries to our southern libraries may be delayed. We have an alternate delivery route in place and are working to minimize disruptions. More information will be shared when we're able. Due dates have been extended for patrons in the affected communities. Please continue to waive fees on materials lost to wildfires.

I've attached a printable wildfire resource list for patrons. A printed brochure is also available on the PLUS. If your library is receiving regular truck deliveries, please use the brochure version instead: <https://orl.plus/product/wildfire-emergency-information>.

We're working with United Way and our Kelowna Friends of the Library Group to create care packages for evacuees. As always, Human Resources (humanresources@orl.bc.ca) can help you access mental health and counselling supports.

Thank you for continuing to support one another and our patrons during this challenging time.

Sincerely,

Danielle Hubbard, CEO
Okanagan Regional Library

To: Okanagan Regional Library Board

From: Danielle Hubbard, CEO

Date: September 9, 2026

Subject: Provincial Funding

Voting Entitlement: Unweighted Vote

Purpose: To update the Board on the current state of provincial funding.

Executive Summary:

The Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs has indicated they will restore the ORL's expected provincial funding for 2026. The Ministry has also indicated that consultation will take place before deciding on funding levels and models for future years.

Recommendation:

THAT the Board receive for information the CEO's report dated September 9, 2026.

Background:

At the July 2026 special meeting of the ORL Board, I presented a report about provincial funding. At that time, the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs had recently announced a reduction in funding for "large urban libraries" from \$1.78 per capita to \$1.62 per capita for "urban" regional districts, resulting in a \$45,742 funding decrease for the ORL.

The Board passed the following motion: "THAT the Board instruct staff to send a letter to the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs in response to the recent provincial funding reallocation, as discussed in the CEO Report dated July 15, 2026."

After the July Board meeting, the following advocacy efforts were made:

- The ORL sent a letter to the Ministry (Attachment 1).
- City of Vernon Council sent a letter to the Ministry and Councillor Gares was interviewed by Castanet on behalf of Vernon Council.
- District of Peachland Council sent a letter to the Ministry.
- I joined the CEOs of three other impacted library systems in meeting with the Deputy Minister.
- Minister Boyle visited Vancouver Public Library and met with the CEO.
- Minister Boyle accepted a meeting with the CEO and Board Chair of Greater Victoria Public Library.
- I was interviewed by Castanet, AM 1150 (Vista Radio), and CBC Radio.

On August 13, the ORL received a letter from the Ministry (Attachment 2), stating that that the Ministry has "identified one-time supplemental funding to help address the funding variance in the per capita grant." This is

very positive, and I believe a direct result of the advocacy efforts identified above. On September 3, we received confirmation of funding restoration from the province (Attachment 3).

The Ministry's letter also states that "Over the coming months, the Ministry will engage with library representatives to confirm our understanding of the key issues facing the sector and gather feedback on how the available provincial funding can best be used to support the goal of a strong, collaborative, and equitable public library system."

The ORL sent a letter of thanks to the Ministry (Attachment 4) that also expresses the desire to be involved in the engagement process the Ministry referenced. I will keep the Board informed as I hear more from the Ministry.

Strategic Plan Alignment:

1. Strive for organization and service excellence.

Attachments:

Attachment 1: *ORL response letter to the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs*

Attachment 2: *One-time supplemental funding letter from the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs*

Attachment 3: *Funding restoration confirmation letter from the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs*

Attachment 4: *ORL thank you letter to the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs*

Respectfully submitted by:

Danielle Hubbard, CEO

Approved for Board Agenda

Danielle Hubbard, CEO



July 21, 2026

Constituency:
Unit 100 – 75 W. Broadway
Vancouver, BC, V5Y 1P1

Christine.Boyle.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Dear Minister Boyle,

On behalf of the Board of the Okanagan Regional Library (ORL), I am writing to express my disappointment with the recent reallocation of provincial funds for large urban libraries, a “reallocation” that amounts to an annual **funding decrease of \$45,742** for the ORL. This decrease is particularly steep in the face of inflation and undermines the province’s partnership with local governments, which fund the overwhelming majority of public library services. At UBCM 2025, delegates passed Special Resolution 3, “Increased Library Funding from the Province is Overdue,” reflecting a clear and united call from local governments for renewed provincial investment.

Public libraries play a greater social and economic role than ever before, serving as heating and cooling centres, and support hubs for newcomers, the unhoused, and other vulnerable populations. The opioid crisis profoundly impacts the operations of urban libraries. Reducing funding now effectively shifts these growing costs onto local governments, undermining the shared responsibility needed to sustain these essential community services.

The lack of consultation or forewarning is just as disappointing as the funding loss itself. The Public Libraries Branch issued no communication about the per capita funding change prior to dispensing annual grants on June 22. The grant letters themselves provided no explanation, leaving Library directors and boards scrambling to determine the rationale behind the funding change. Note that June 22 is halfway through the 2026 fiscal year, and well into the 2027 budgeting cycle.

The impact of reducing funding to large urban libraries extends beyond urban centres, as larger libraries throughout the province assist rural libraries with consortia purchasing and staff support. As a regional library serving both urban and rural communities, the ORL's per capita funding reduction demonstrates how classification methodologies that do not accurately reflect local realities can effectively reduce support for rural and smaller communities.

Speaking as the Chair of a Board comprised of 24 locally elected officials, **I request that the provincial government engage with and support the needs of local governments. I further request that provincial per capita funding for large urban libraries be restored for the 2026 fiscal year.** Thank you for hearing our concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tasha Da Silva', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tasha Da Silva

Okanagan Regional Library Board Chair

Councillor of the City of West Kelowna

Tasha.dasilva@westkelownacity.ca

CC: Danielle Hubbard, ORL CEO, dhubbard@orl.bc.ca



August 13, 2026

Reference: 193164

Tasha Da Silva
Board Chair
Okanagan Regional Library
Email: c/o dhubbard@orl.bc.ca

Dear Tasha Da Silva:

I am writing to re-confirm our government's support for public library services and to recognize that challenges you are experiencing both locally and across the library system.

As you have already identified and acknowledged, it has become increasingly difficult for the Public Libraries Branch to sustain historical funding levels and calculations within the library grants budget while ensuring equitable allocations and sustaining established provincial services such as interlibrary loan that public libraries depend on.

Given the realities of the current fiscal environment, the Province is not in a position to meet all the funding pressures facing individual libraries and is faced with the difficult challenge of determining how limited provincial resources can continue to deliver the greatest possible benefit for British Columbians.

We have heard clearly that adjusting certain per-capita grant rates to balance the continued population growth without the benefit of extraordinary additional funding was a surprise to the affected public libraries. I recognize that an adjustment this far into your operating year adds challenges to the job of delivering library services to our communities when there may be limited room to adapt budgets and plans.

Working within the Ministry, we have identified one-time supplemental funding to help address the funding variance in the per capita grant experienced by 15 libraries in June 2026. As one of these libraries, you will be receiving more information shortly about a supplemental grant.

While I cannot commit to changes to the base budget for 2027, I do believe the supplemental funding provides us with an opportunity and a responsibility to have frank discussions about the future of provincial support for public libraries.

Page 1 of 2

Throughout my conversations with library leaders, I have been encouraged by a consistent message: libraries do not view themselves as competing interests. Rather, they recognize that the strength of British Columbia's public library system lies in the contributions of libraries of all sizes and types working together in support of a common goal — serving the people of British Columbia.

Over the coming months, the Ministry will engage with library representatives to confirm our understanding of the key issues facing the sector and gather feedback on how the available provincial funding can best be used to support the goal of a strong, collaborative, and equitable public library system. These conversations will help inform future decisions about provincial funding priorities and ensure that government has a clear understanding of sector perspectives as it considers how best to allocate limited resources. There will be an opportunity as library boards to participate in this dialogue.

While these conversations will undoubtedly be challenging, I am confident that they can be grounded in the same principle that has guided public libraries in British Columbia for generations — libraries achieve their greatest success when they work together.

Sector partners have been calling for increased grant funding, and I recognize that this is not the response you had hoped to hear at this time. But it is a response that accurately reflects where we are today and provides an opportunity to shape changes to grant framework based on shared understanding and priorities.

As we face ongoing fiscal constraints, preserving that collaborative approach will be more important than ever. Provincial funding is one part of our strategic direction, and with it we must remain focused on ensuring its maximum impact to support individual libraries and the broader public library system that benefits all British Columbians.

By continuing to build on that foundation of partnership and shared purpose, we can help ensure that British Columbians continue to benefit from a strong, resilient, and equitable public library system for years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Boyle', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Christine Boyle
Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs

cc: Teri Collins, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs
Tara Faganello, Assistant Deputy Minister, Local Government Division
Mari Martin, Director, Public Libraries Branch
Danielle Hubbard, Director, Okanagan Regional Library



September 1, 2026

Tasha Da Silva
Board Chair
Okanagan Regional Library
1430 KLO Road
Kelowna, V1W 3P6
C/O: dhubbard@orl.bc.ca

Dear Board Chair Tasha Da Silva,

Re: Supplemental Grant Award Letter July 2026

The Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs is writing to inform you that the library will receive a one-time supplemental per capita grant for 2026 calculated using the 2021 Census/Library Service Areas populations and the grant rate of \$0.14. When combined with the per capita grant provided in June 2026, the total amount of these grants will provide the equivalent of \$1.78 per capita.

The ministry will deposit the total amount of **\$45,289** into your designated financial institution's account. An email will confirm once the transfer is complete.

These funds are expected to be used in conjunction with funds already received. Public library grants are intended to support the overall extension and improvement of quality public library service in BC, enabling services beyond walls, offering resources that are accessible, in both physical and digital formats, and fostering literacy, arts and culture, reconciliation, and recreation.

The *Public Libraries Provincial Grants Allocations* document is available [online](#) and lists the funds allocated to each library for 2026 as well as the description of each grant. Please save a copy for your financial statements.

Conditions and Reporting

Public libraries must comply with the *Library Act*, other applicable legislation, and meet provincial grant reporting and accountability requirements. The library board is responsible for ensuring all conditions outlined in this letter are met annually.

Also, in accordance with conditions placed on all government grants, the ministry will reclaim any portion of the grant should the library not use the funds received for the purposes outlined in this letter. The library is required to engage the ministry on any change to the expected use of the funds as discussed.

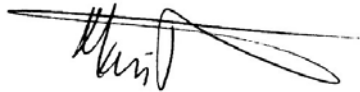
No additional reporting is required for this grant. Library boards are expected to submit the following annual reports:

- 2026 Provincial Public Library Grants Report (PLGR) – **due March 1, 2027**
- 2026 Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) – **due May 14, 2027**
- 2026 Annual Survey of BC's Public Libraries – **due May 14, 2027**

Additional instructions, templates, and updates will be available from the [Public Libraries Reporting and Accountability](#) webpage. Instructions will include specific details on submissions and reporting details.

If you have any questions about this letter or grant use, please do not hesitate to call 250-886-2584 or email at mari.martin@gov.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

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

Mari Martin
Director, Public Libraries Branch

CC: Danielle Hubbard, Library Director Okanagan Regional Library



August 17, 2026

Constituency:
Unit 100 – 75 W. Broadway
Vancouver, BC, V5Y 1P1

HMA.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Boyle,

On behalf of the Board of the Okanagan Regional Library (ORL), I am writing to wholeheartedly thank you for the one-time supplemental funding identified in your letter of August 13, 2026. Truly – this gesture of understanding and support is immensely meaningful and valuable for the ORL. Thank you!

We look forward to hearing how we can be involved in the engagement work to come. As one of the largest library boards in BC, we are familiar with the challenges – and strengths – inherent in collaboration. Thank you again for all your support!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tasha Da Silva".

Tasha Da Silva
Okanagan Regional Library Board Chair
Councillor of the City of West Kelowna
Tasha.dasilva@westkelownacity.ca

CC: Danielle Hubbard, ORL CEO, dhubbard@orl.bc.ca

Correspondence

Subject: For ORL Board of Directors

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

*** [EXTERNAL] This message comes from an external organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders. ***

Dear Mark Reinelt, Director of Public Services.

Please share the following with the ORL Board of Directors.

Thank you.

Myrna Tracy

Dear Okanagan Regional Library Board of Directors.

I have been a very frequent user of the library for many years. Over the last year or so, I have noticed a deterioration of service in a number of areas. I am sending this email to bring these observations to your attention.

My experience around making suggestions for purchase has changed. It used to be that my suggestions would be purchased in the vast majority of instances. Now, at least half of the suggestions that I put forward are not approved. Also, the new policy of not placing a hold automatically when my suggestion is accepted has eliminated a valued service. It used to be automatic.

My experience around general collections has also deteriorated. I notice that about half of the titles that I am seeking are not available in book format but only available in an electronic format (either e-book or e-audio). If physical books are more expensive to purchase, then I can understand. If that is not the case, then I do not understand this trend.

Speaking of expense, I have been wondering if the ORL is receiving sufficient funding. If not, please give me a suggestion for how I may advocate for increased funding. If funding is not an issue, what are the causes of the deterioration of ORL services that I have previously enjoyed? And what can be done to reinstate lost services?

I look forward to receiving a response from you. My phone number is [REDACTED] if you prefer to contact me that way.