From: BCLTA
To: BCLTA-Liaisons (bclta-liaisons@interchange.ubc.ca);
BCLTA - Library Board Chairs (lib-bd-chairs@interchange.ubc.ca);
Subject: BCLTA - Request for Letters to the Minister of Education
Date: Wednesday, September 05, 2007 10:03:00 PM
Attachments: Sept 06 2007 Hon Shirley Bond OneCard.pdf

To: Library Board Chairs and BCLTA Liaisons

In the fall of 2006, at the urging of BCLTA, library boards from across BC wrote to the Minister of Education to request that the 'OneCard grants' for public libraries be repeated and become a permanent part of each library's annual operating grant from the province. Thanks to your efforts - this campaign was successful and the grants can be considered ongoing funds as they are now an established line-item in the PLSB budget.

As you all know, part of any successful on-going advocacy relationship is a series of communications. Our next step as a library community is to say thank you. At BCLTA we recently wrote to thank the Minister - a copy of our letter is attached.

We strongly encourage you to write to the Minister to let her know how these dollars are being used in your local library system - i.e. what this additional funding means to you, what type of improvements you are able to make with this sustained funding (e.g. hours, staff, outreach, internet access, literacy programs, etc.) and the benefits for your community. Your local 'story' is really important.

BCLTA would appreciate receiving a copy of your letter so we can use this information in our ongoing advocacy efforts with the provincial government.

Some of you may be ahead of us on this idea and may have already sent a thank-you to the Minister. If so, could you still please send us a copy for our records.

The Minister's office address is:

The Honourable Shirley Bond, MLA
Minister of Education and Minister Responsible for Early Learning and Literacy
PO Box 9045
STN PROV GOV'T

Victoria BC V8W 9E2

The office copies for BCLTA should be sent to:

British Columbia Library Trustees' Association
PO Box 4334 Station Terminal
Vancouver BC V6B 3Z7

or emailed to admin@bclta.org

Thank you for your participation and support. Working together we can achieve great things.

Sincerely,
Peter Wainwright
President