

**From:** Ann Goodhart [agoodhart@westvanlibrary.ca]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 30, 2009 10:30 AM  
**Subject:** Possible provincial cuts to libraries

Dear Friend,

I am sending this to you because you are, or have been a strong supporter of the West Vancouver Memorial Library. For the first time in 90 years, provincial support for public libraries is in jeopardy. While I understand that hard decisions must be made in Victoria, I feel that the provincial grants to public libraries give incredible value for money across the province. Over the years these funds have fostered the development of a strong cooperative network of libraries across BC. Each local library is able to offer resources to their patrons that would be well beyond their means without the leadership and support of the province. This has been especially true in the last few years with the province's strategic plan for public libraries, Libraries Without Walls. Here are just a few of the services we are able to provide thanks to the funding of the province:

- BC One Card
- Every Child a Library Card
- Interlibrary loan
- Materials for the vision impaired
- InterLINK and other library federations in the province
- Summer reading
- Early childhood literacy initiatives
- Askaway on-line reference service
- Basic suite of online resources available to every man, woman and child in BC
- Equity and technology grants to help libraries keep pace with changing demographics and technologies
- Per capita operating grants (since 1919)
- Secondment grants that allow small libraries to draw on the expertise of larger ones

Decisions are being made in Victoria as you read this that may affect our grants for this year and beyond. Please take a moment to visit [www.stopbclibrarycuts.ca](http://www.stopbclibrarycuts.ca), a website sponsored by the BC Library Trustees Association to learn more, sign an on-line petition or find the address of the Minister for a personal letter.

In these difficult economic times, citizens of BC are turning to their public libraries for more and more service, not less.

Thank you for your support of public libraries in the past and the future.

Regards,

Ann

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