

July 23, 2009

The Honourable Gordon Campbell  
Premier of British Columbia  
Box 9024  
STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E1

Dear Premier,

On behalf of the Trustees of the Kitimat Library, we urge you to sustain public library funding so that we may proceed with fulfilling our goal of raising the level of literacy in our community and federated region in response to your election promise to make BC the most literate jurisdiction on the continent.

Our library participates in a wide range of programs, not only at a community level but across the region through federation work, and provincially. The work libraries undertake (such as Interlibrary Loan, Virtual Reference, OneCard Membership, Federation services, Integrated Library System database, Union Catalogue, Summer Reading Program, Reading Link Challenge, Immigrant & ESL programs, reading, writing, mathematics and computer tutorials) is integral to improving literacy in the community, in the region and provincially. Without ongoing financial support many of these programs will cease and the gains made in the past will quickly come to a halt.

You will be discussing the budget next month. We urge you to sustain library funding even though we understand that these are lean economic times. Literacy cannot be put on hold nor wait for a turn in the economy – we need to keep making advances so that the vision of BC becoming the most literate jurisdiction in North America becomes a reality.

Budgets are about choices. Please choose Literacy. Please continue to fund public libraries.

Yours faithfully,

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Cc:

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