

SUBJECT LINE

**URGENT – 2009 Library Grant Freeze – Call to Action**

BULLETIN TEXT

Attention Library Board Chairs/BCLTA Liaisons:

BCLTA is extremely concerned about the current **freeze on provincial grants** to libraries as well as **potential cuts to library funding in the upcoming provincial budget**. We strongly urge all library boards to review this "[Briefing Note re Provincial Funding](#)" and **fax/write the Minister and the Premier** stressing the importance of maintaining provincial support for libraries. This is a matter of the utmost importance and urgency – **please get your letter on the fax machine and ensure that your local government does the same**. We cannot afford to lose this funding – British Columbians are depending on us to preserve access to library services across this province.

A delegation representing BCLTA, the BC Library Association, the Association of BC Public Library Directors, and the Union of BC Municipalities will be meeting with the Honourable Dr. Margaret MacDiarmid, Minister of Education and Minister Responsible for Early Learning and Literacy, in Victoria on the afternoon of Tuesday, July 28<sup>th</sup> to discuss the dire situation facing public libraries.

In addition, a press release and backgrounder on the library community's provincial funding concerns will be provided to the provincial and local media on Monday, July 27<sup>th</sup> and also conveyed to all local governments in BC for information and action.

**Please visit BCLTA's "[2009 Provincial Grant Freeze](#)" webpage** for a list of resources on this topic, including correspondence from BCLTA to the provincial government, briefing notes and fact sheets on provincial funding, and media coverage as it becomes available.

Please also click on the following link to read an article published this morning on the late notification about 2009 provincial library funding: [Overdue Library Fees, Monday Magazine, by Sean Holman](#).