



NOV 23 2006

Our Ref: 115917/116230

Lawrence Lavender, President
British Columbia Library Trustees' Association
PO Box 4334 Stn Terminal
Vancouver BC V6B 3Z7

Dear Mr. Lavender et al.:

Thank you for your kind letter of November 2, 2006, and for meeting with me and Paige MacFarlane, Assistant Deputy Minister, Partnerships and Planning Department, on October 27 during the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Convention. I enjoyed hearing your perspectives and very much enjoyed speaking at the UBCM library reception.

We appreciated receiving your input concerning per capita operating grants for libraries, participation of the British Columbia Library Trustees' Association (BCLTA) in the pending review of the *Library Act*, and provincial support for federal programs that impact libraries.

The Ministry of Education, through the Public Library Services Branch, continues to work closely with the province's libraries to ensure they remain at the forefront of providing access to lifelong learning, literacy and information technologies.

I would like to take this opportunity to say how much I value the work of the BCLTA, the British Columbia Library Association and the Association of BC Public Library Directors. Again, thank you for your interest in helping to make our province the most literate and best educated jurisdiction in North America.

Sincerely,

Shirley Bond
Minister
Deputy Premier