

2021 PROVINCIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY GRANT REPORT (PLGR)

LIBRARY NAME

Mackenzie Public Library

CHECKLIST

For the PLGR to be considered complete, please ensure you have provided information for each of the following sections. Suggested word counts have been included for each question, but feel free to include more or less text as needed – text boxes will expand as you type. Click on a title in the list below to jump to that section of the document.

- ☐ [1. INTRODUCTION - LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY PROFILE](#)
- ☐ [2. MAJOR PROJECTS/PROGRAMS](#)
- ☐ [3. KEY CHALLENGES](#)
- ☐ [4. SUBMISSION AND APPROVAL](#)

1. INTRODUCTION - LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY PROFILE

Provide a brief description of the community and library, focusing on what has changed in the past year (up to 500 words).

The Mackenzie Public Library serves a population of approximately 3700 people, including the McLeod Lake Indian band and the District of Mackenzie, with the main industries being logging, lumber, market pulp, and tourism. Housed in the District of Mackenzie Recreation Centre, the Library is the hub of the community, is near both local schools, and the central Mackenzie Mall. Being the hub of the community means that the Library is often bustling with community members, visitors, and seasonal workers.

The town and the Library have seen many challenges in the last few years. Mackenzie's lumber industry was hit hard by the economic downturn in 2018/2019, but also due to COVID-19 in 2020 and 2021. After being curtailed in June 2020, Paper Excellence announced its permanent closure of the Mackenzie Pulp Mill in 2021. With indefinite curtailments and mill closures came an exodus of residents from the community. In 2021, the Library had to continue to be flexible and resilient in the face of these challenges to be able to respond to the needs of the community.

The Library's Strategic plan's priorities for 2021 include: supporting and developing a literate, resilient, and connected community, increasing our capacity to provide high-quality library services, identifying, and reducing barriers to Library services, and maintaining our trusted position and positive reputation within the community.

2. MAJOR PROJECTS/PROGRAMS

Please describe any new or major ongoing projects/programs the library has delivered in the past year. To report on multiple projects/programs, "copy" the blank table below and insert additional tables as needed using the "paste" function. Use one table per project/program.

Project/Program Name

Sports Equipment Lending Library for Youth
--

Provide a brief description of the activities involved in this project/program.

In 2021, the Mackenzie Public Library received a donation of \$10,000 from CN rail to spearhead a new initiative in the Library, where youth from Mackenzie and McCleod Lake Indian Band could easily borrow a variety of recreation equipment from the Library, encouraging outside play during the COVID-19 pandemic, and encourage a healthy lifestyle in general amongst youth in the community.

As a result, the Library now has a large area in the Library dedicated to this project, where anyone from the community can easily borrow recreation equipment from the Library. The recreation equipment is broad in scope, including everything from soccer balls to snow sleds.

The Library also received a donation of \$3,365 from Canada Post to support this initiative and in 2022, we will follow through with this project.

How does this project/program support the library's strategic goals and/or community?

This project helped to support the Library's strategic goal of maintaining our trusted position and positive reputation within the community. The Recreation Equipment Lending Library is popular with many members of the community, with the equipment being frequently loaned out. Notably, this collection attracts members of the community that might not otherwise visit the Library, thus allowing us to showcase all that we offer to a larger segment of the population. The benefits to the community are great, as this collection promotes a healthy and more connected community. Equipment can be loaned out easily with just a library card.

How does this project/program support the B.C.'s strategic goal(s) for public library service? Please provide information for as many goals as applicable.

<p>1. Improving Access for British Columbians (e.g., connectivity, digital collections, shared services)</p>	
<p>2. Building Capacity for library staff and directors (e.g., training and professional development)</p>	

3. Advancing Citizen Engagement (e.g., helping people access government services/resources, fostering community knowledge-sharing, and supporting reconciliation)	This project encouraged reluctant library users to visit the Library, allowing for increased citizen engagement as awareness of the library and government resources were shared with new patrons and existing.
4. Enhancing Governance of the library system (e.g., board/trustee training, developing best practices, strategic planning)	
What are the key outcomes of this project/program? Please refer to the logic model in the appendix of the 2021 PLGR Guide for examples of how to write short, medium, and long-term outcomes.	
<p>Increased awareness of Library programs and services</p> <p>Increased number of Library users</p> <p>Improved health and wellness within the community</p> <p>Maintained or improved our trusted position and positive reputation within the community</p>	
Did the project/program involve any partnerships? If so, what was the partner's role (e.g., funding, outreach, service delivery)?	
CN Rail: funding	

[Copy and insert additional tables below for each additional project/program as needed]

Project/Program Name
IPads for Community Connections
Provide a brief description of the activities involved in this project/program.
<p>In 2021, the Mackenzie Public Library received a donation of \$5,945 from the Community Foundations of Canada through the Government of Canada to start a lending library of iPads. The iPads are borrowed from the Library with the main goal of helping members of the community connect with others through the use of technology during the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, this project reduced barriers to Library and government services and resources, all while reducing the digital divide within the community.</p>
How does this project/program support the library's strategic goals and/or community?

This project supported several of the Library's strategic plan priorities including, supporting a connected community, reducing barriers to Library services, and maintaining our positive reputation within the community.

How does this project/program support the B.C.'s strategic goal(s) for public library service? Please provide information for as many goals as applicable.

5. Improving Access for British Columbians (e.g., connectivity, digital collections, shared services)	This project improved access for British Columbians through the use of more readily available digital technology through the Library.
6. Building Capacity for library staff and directors (e.g., training and professional development)	
7. Advancing Citizen Engagement (e.g., helping people access government services/resources, fostering community knowledge-sharing, and supporting reconciliation)	This project advanced citizen engagement by allowing patrons to easily access digital technology, affording access to library and government services and resources. Digital social platforms assisted in improving connections between people and helped to foster a community of connectedness and knowledge-sharing.
8. Enhancing Governance of the library system (e.g., board/trustee training, developing best practices, strategic planning)	

What are the key outcomes of this project/program? Please refer to the logic model in the appendix of the 2021 PLGR Guide for examples of how to write short, medium, and long-term outcomes.

<p>Increased access to library and government services and resources to Mackenzie and McLeod Lake residents</p> <p>Decreased the digital divide in the community</p> <p>Increased connections between people during the COVID-19 pandemic</p>
<p>Did the project/program involve any partnerships? If so, what was the partner's role (e.g., funding, outreach, service delivery)?</p>
<p>Community Foundations of Canada through the Government of Canada: funding</p>

<p>Project/Program Name</p>	
<p>Children's Storytimes</p>	
<p>Provide a brief description of the activities involved in this project/program.</p>	
<p>The Mackenzie Public Library continued to offer in-person children's early literacy storytime programming for pre-school-aged children throughout most of 2021, as well as providing modified options for parents and caregivers not able to physically visit the Library during the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	
<p>How does this project/program support the library's strategic goals and/or community?</p>	
<p>This ongoing program at the Library helps to foster a love of reading and sets a foundation of early literacy skills for children through stories, games, crafts, and songs. This is one of the cornerstone programs at the Library and supports our strategic priority of supporting and developing a literate, resilient, and connected community, along with maintaining our trusted position and positive reputation within the community.</p>	
<p>How does this project/program support the B.C.'s strategic goal(s) for public library service? Please provide information for as many goals as applicable.</p>	
<p>9. Improving Access for British Columbians (e.g., connectivity, digital collections, shared services)</p>	

10. Building Capacity for library staff and directors (e.g., training and professional development)	
11. Advancing Citizen Engagement (e.g., helping people access government services/resources, fostering community knowledge-sharing, and supporting reconciliation)	
12. Enhancing Governance of the library system (e.g., board/trustee training, developing best practices, strategic planning)	
What are the key outcomes of this project/program? Please refer to the logic model in the appendix of the 2021 PLGR Guide for examples of how to write short, medium, and long-term outcomes.	

Improved literacy within the community
 Improved connections within the community
 Maintains a positive reputation within the community

Did the project/program involve any partnerships? If so, what was the partner's role (e.g., funding, outreach, service delivery)?

3. KEY CHALLENGES

The following topics have been identified as recurring themes in previous years' PLGRs. The intent of this section is to collect detailed information in a structured, consistent format.

Please select the most significant challenges that the library has faced in the past year that you wish to comment on. Leave any other listed topics blank.

Use the 'Other' row to include any ongoing or past challenges that are not included in this list. If you have more than one 'Other' item to add, please insert additional rows into the table.

Challenge	Briefly describe how this challenge has impacted the library/community, and what steps the library took to address it in 2021. Please specify if any provincial funding was used, e.g., annual library funding, the technology grant, other non-PLB provincial grants (up to 250 words per topic).
COVID-19 (e.g., safety protocols, proof of vaccination)	The Library has had to be flexible during the pandemic as new directives from the Provincial Health Officer related to the COVID-19 pandemic were implemented or removed, in order to continue to serve the community in the best possible way. All the Library's programs were altered in some way to adapt to the changes in 2021. We continued to offer in-person pre-school storytimes for the first half of 2021, with increased safety measures, however, some of our programs such as Book Club were offered virtually, for

	example. The Library remained open to the public in 2021 with increased communicable disease precautions and safety measures.
Emergency response (e.g., fires, floods, extreme weather)	
Financial pressure (e.g., rising costs, reduced revenues)	
Staffing (e.g., recruitment and retention, mental health and wellness)	
Disappearing services in the community (e.g., government, banking, health)	
Connectivity (e.g., low bandwidth, lack of home internet in the community)	
Aging/damaged facilities (e.g., need for repairs, renovations, upgrades/expansions)	
Community access to the library (e.g., geographic isolation, lack of local public transit, building accessibility)	

Vulnerable communities (e.g., people experiencing homelessness, addiction, mental health crisis)	
Other (please specify)	

4. SUBMISSION AND APPROVAL

Electronic signatures are acceptable where physical signatures are not feasible.

Library Director Signature: 

Date: 2022-03-29

Board Chair Signature: 

Date: 2022-04-12