

## 2021 PROVINCIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY GRANT REPORT (PLGR)

### LIBRARY NAME

Alert Bay 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).**

Alert Bay Public Library is situated on Cormorant Island, known to many in the First Nation community as Yalis. The library was founded in 1959 and became part of the Provincial Library system. 2021, as with most Public Libraries, was a very difficult year to maintain or even grow our services to our patrons, and considering the library's limited space to have patron's in the building under COVID-19 Safety Plans, we could only offer the use of one public access computer at a time.

### 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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
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| .Storywalk Display. Because we were still in the "pandemic" and large gatherings were not permitted, we promoted a series of events where we displayed pages of picture books on stakes for children and adults to enjoy. The first event was held on a spot close to the beach where the book "Find the Fish" was promoted and we were fortunate to have the author, Marine Detective, Jackie Hilderling come to further enlarge on the subject.<br>We followed this session with a summer long display in our Village Square with pages from a book about when the "Grizzlies came Home" which was about an event that happened here a few years ago. These programs attracted a fairly good attendance over the summer months. |

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

The second program was the purchase of \$2000.00 worth of Law books, through the LawMatters Courthouse Libraries grant in order to help us with our Truth & Reconciliation Mandate. These books were added to an ever broadening Indigenous Collection.

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

To promote and maintain Literacy in the Community. This was a way to reach the people we normally would reach with bringing authors into a hall or to our schools during the year. We did have over two hundred people see our displays and spend time reading the information we provided with them.

To be a reference and research resource for information about the unique history and cultural identity of our region in general and Cormorant Island in particular. These new books are an addition to the information we already have.

**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.**

|                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                               |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. <b>Improving Access</b> for British Columbians (e.g., connectivity, digital collections, shared services)                                                             | This Indigenous collection has been added to the library's online catalogue and been displayed in the community, face book, etc.                                              |
| 2. <b>Building Capacity</b> for library staff and directors (e.g., training and professional development)                                                                | Our very small staff are endeavouring to communicate with our diverse community                                                                                               |
| 3. <b>Advancing Citizen Engagement</b> (e.g., helping people access government services/resources, fostering community knowledge-sharing, and supporting reconciliation) | We have been actively supporting our two book clubs with inter library support, and with their use of our public access computer in finding the government forms they require |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                             |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| <p>4. <b>Enhancing Governance</b> of the library system (e.g., board/trustee training, developing best practices, strategic planning)</p>                                                                   |  |
| <p><b>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.</b></p> |  |

1st Program Story Walk got out into a community where we had not been active before. We were able to have dialogue with the Namgis First Nation Band concerning our event being held on their land for the first time

2nd Program of Indigenous Law Books has brought some patrons into our building for the first time to sign up for membership cards.

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

First project “Story Walk” involved getting permission from the Village of Alert Bay to hold the events in the Village Square and also obtaining permission from the Namgis First Nation to hold an event on the land in front of the Umista Cultural Central.

The author, Jacki Hilderling also donated copies of her book and volunteered to come over to take part in the event.

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

### 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)                | We kept to our COVID-19 safety plan and our patrons were mostly very cooperative. But, we did deliver more material to our senior patrons than usual.                                                                                                                                              |
| Emergency response (e.g., fires, floods, extreme weather)              | Our problem in 2021, mainly because of the weather, was a recurrence of hydro outages on our Island which closed us down quite frequently.                                                                                                                                                         |
| Financial pressure (e.g., rising costs, reduced revenues)              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Staffing (e.g., recruitment and retention, mental health and wellness) | Because of staff turn over, the problem became one of training new people in the community. Fortunately through our membership with the IslandLink library Federation, we were able to receive help through one of Salt Spring Island’s staff in cataloguing and inter-library loan circulations.  |

|                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Disappearing services in the community (e.g., government, banking, health)                                         | Population has become smaller over past years due to downside of fishing and logging industries so commerce is down in area. Fewer banking hours and fewer restaurants and health facilities.                                                        |
| Connectivity (e.g., low bandwidth, lack of home internet in the community)                                         | We do not have very fast internet on our Island. Virtual programs are not that popular as there is a lack of home computers in the village.                                                                                                          |
| Aging/damaged facilities (e.g., need for repairs, renovations, upgrades/expansions)                                | Our building was constructed in the 1950's for use as a firehall and later as a Village Council Office and now we share it with an Info Centre. It has no windows which open, no ventilation system and is much too small for our collection and us. |
| Community access to the library (e.g., geographic isolation, lack of local public transit, building accessibility) | We are on the main street and quite accessible to the public.                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 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: Joyce M. Wilby\_\_\_\_\_

Date: March

22, 2022

Board Chair Signature: Colin Skinner

Date: March 22, 2022\_\_



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