

2022 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](#)
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- [4. COVID-19 RELIEF & RECOVERY – 2022 PROGRESS REPORT](#)
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INTRODUCTION - LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY PROFILE

Provide a brief description of the community and library, focusing on what has changed in the past year. If provincial funding is primarily used to support your library's core operations, please include a general describe where it is applied (staffing, utilities, collections, etc.).

The Mackenzie Public Library serves a population of approximately 3700 people, including the McLeod Lake Indian band and the District of Mackenzie, 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, and 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 2022, 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.

2022 saw the return of many of our in-library pre-pandemic programs such as storytimes for children, and after-school children's programs, along with new in-library programs such as dungeons and dragons programming for teens.

The Library's Strategic plan's priorities for 2022 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. FEATURED PROJECTS/PROGRAMS

Please describe any featured 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. You do not need to report on every project/program, only highlights/notable examples.

Project/Program Name
Dungeons and Dragons program for teens
Provide a brief description. Please include details such as any partnerships or resources leveraged to accomplish this project/program.
An exciting new program for 2022 was our Dungeons and Dragons program for teens. This program has been extremely popular in our Library and has brought many youths into the Library on a regular basis. This in-person program has created new friendships and connections between youth and other library users, and library staff, and has helped to develop a lifelong love of libraries for the participants.
How does this project/program support the library's strategic goals?
This program helps to develop a literate and resilient and connected community forming new connections between youth and other library users, along with library staff. This program has also brought new patrons into the library with the participants, and we have seen them borrowing books as a result.
How does this project/program support the B.C.'s strategic goal(s) for public library service from the strategic plan, which include:
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Improving Access2. Building Capacity3. Advancing Citizen Engagement

4. Enhancing Governance

This program helps to enhance citizen engagement by bringing together members of the community at a young age. This program has created new library users, who learn that the Library is a place where they can engage in meaningful ways in their community, foster knowledge-sharing, collaboration and lasting reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, and engage people in conversations about the provincial programs, policies and services that affect their lives.

What are the key outcomes of this project/program?

Meaningful connections formed between participants and community members.
Increased library users.
Increased circulation.
Knowledge of library services and programs shared.
Positive associations with the library created.

Did provincial grants enable this project/program? If so, how?

Provincial grants assist with staffing and program costs.

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

3. 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 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 2022. 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)	
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)	Connectivity in the town of Mackenzie, including the Library, continues to be poor, without access to fiber-optic broadband internet. The local government is working to improve this situation.
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. COVID-19 RELIEF & RECOVERY GRANT – 2022 PROGRESS REPORT

Summary and Overview

Please provide an executive summary (overview summary) on the library’s use of the COVID-19 Relief and Recovery Grants. The purpose of this section is not to duplicate the individual projects details, instead provide a short analysis and summary of your overall approach and progress. Please limit to 2 paragraphs and feel free to use bullet points.

Summary and Overview

The emergency planning and preparedness portion of this grant has been put towards a SMART board and stand for the Library. The intention of this technology is that it can be used as a tool in emergency planning and response by local emergency services to assist the community as needed. The SMART board and stand have arrived at the Library and are in the assembly phase of this project.

The remaining portion of this grant is to be spent on refreshing the teen area of the Library. Aging and dysfunctional furniture will be replaced with the use of these funds, creating a more vibrant and functional space for teens spending time in the Library. This project is currently in the design and planning phase.

	Grant budget	Reallocated budget
COVID-19 Relief & Recovery Grant Amount	23110.44	20436.5
Emergency Planning & Preparedness Grant Amount	7703.48	10377.42
Total Grant Amount	3813.92	3813.92

Project Progress Report

Please use this section for:

1. Report progress on projects included interim report **and/ or**
2. New projects developed since interim report (copy and paste tables as needed)


Project/Program/Activity	SMART Board for emergency planning. Equipment purchased is to be used by members of the community in preparing for emergencies, or during emergencies as needed.
Rationale	There is a need for this service as indicated by the local fire chief.
Area of Need	Emergency planning and preparedness
Action/Output/Deliverable	1 SMART Board made available for community use
Outcome/Impact	Emergency services and other groups in Mackenzie will use the technology when needed as a tool for emergency planning and preparation.
Metrics	Successful delivery and installation of equipment
Collaborative Links (if applicable)	Mackenzie Fire Department
Expenditure	\$10377.42
Detailed status update since the interim report (e.g., complete, in progress, pending, deferred, etc.).	Successful purchase and delivery of equipment is complete and is waiting to be assembled before this technology can be made available to the public.
Comments (optional)	A mounting bracket for the SMART Board was lost in the mail for quite some time, hindering the progress of this project. It has arrived at the Library now.

Project/Program/Activity	Teen Space Refreshed. Aging and dysfunctional furniture will be replaced with the use of these fund, creating a more vibrant and functional space for teens spending time in the Library.
Rationale	Aging and dysfunctional furniture.
Area of Need	Covid-19 Relief
Action/Output/Deliverable	Furniture to be ordered and placed in area.
Outcome/Impact	New and easy to sanitize furniture is available for patrons to use.
Metrics	Successful delivery and placement of furniture.
Collaborative Links (if applicable)	
Expenditure	Expected expenditure: \$20436.00

Detailed status update since the interim report (e.g., complete, in progress, pending, deferred, etc.).	This project is currently in the planning and design phase. Expected completion of this project has been moved to the end of 2023.
Comments (optional)	

5. BOARD APPROVAL

Electronic signatures are acceptable where physical signatures are not feasible.

Library Director Signature: 

Date: Feb 28, 2023

Board Chair Signature: 

Date: Feb. 28/23