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April 6, 2020

Honourable Rob Fleming Ministry of Education PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt Victoria BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Fleming

## Ref: 219065

I am writing on behalf of the Fort St. John Public Library Board to thank the Ministry of Education for the one-time grant of \$20,374 towards the enhancement of digital services, technology and broadband connectivity initiatives.

We recognize our common purpose with the Libraries Branch in supporting the delivery of public library services that foster the aspirations of our community and the potential of individuals. Provincial funding to public libraries is focused on increasing access to information and services throughout the province while allowing each library to continue to be responsive to the needs of its communities. By working together, we can provide people with access to the information, technology, digital and learning resources and services they need everyday and in times of emergency.

The Fort St. John Public Library is committed to continuing to work with the Libraries Branch on Provincial strategic priorities. In accordance with conditions placed on all Ministry grants, the Fort St. John Public Library will submit an interim report on how our library plans to use these funds and further detail how the funds were used in our 2021 Provincial Library Grant Report. We will demonstrate how initiatives will fund improved access, connectivity, skill development and digital inclusion programs. We thank the Ministry for their recognition of the importance in increasing equity between communities and enabling all citizens to participate in an increasingly digital world.

Thank you again on behalf of all the residents of Fort St. John, Area B and Area C, for the Ministry's ongoing funding of public libraries in British Columbia.

Sincerely

Andy Ackerman, Fort St. John Public Library Chair

cc:

Dan Davis, MLA, Peace River North

Mari Martin, Director, Libraries Branch