

From: "Minister of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage" <min_ccth@novascotia.ca>

Date: March 17, 2026 at 09:36:12 ADT

To: NSFM Info <Info@nsfm.ca>

Cc: david.mitchell@bridgewater.ca, Juanita Spencer <jspencer@nsfm.ca>, Evan Lanni <ELanni@nsfm.ca>, "Deputy Minister of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage" <DM_CCTH@novascotia.ca>

Subject: RE: Public Library Funding

Dear Mayor David Mitchell and Juanita Spencer:

Thank you for your letter dated February 10, 2026, on behalf of the NSFM requesting additional information on the current state of the library funding formula and its impacts on municipalities.

I am aware of the challenges that the public libraries face as they serve their communities. I also appreciate additional challenges that municipalities have in both providing support to the libraries in their communities and the uncertainty around the state of municipal contributions.

In anticipation of a change to the library funding model, municipalities were provided notice of a potential change to mandated municipal contributions. Though the work and recommendations of the Library Funding Review Committee were considered in the 2025/26 budget process, no changes were made to the library funding model. As a result, mandated municipal contributions did not change for 2026/27.

Outside of the library funding model, the province is pleased to have provided an additional \$1.6 million to public libraries over 2024/25 and 2025/26 to help offset operating pressures. The additional funding does not impact municipal contributions.

Thank you for your letter and your ongoing commitment to Nova Scotia's public libraries.

Sincerely,

Hon. Dave Ritcey
Minister
Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage