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PRESS RELEASE

TNRL Recipient of One-Time Provincial Grant

Kamloops, BC - April 11, 2023 - The Thompson-Nicola Regional Library (TNRL) is pleased to announce that it is the recipient of one-time grant funding of \$533,569 from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Public Libraries Branch (PLB).

"I can think of no larger increase to library funding in my 30-plus years of work in public libraries in western Canada," said Chief Librarian Judy Moore. "We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs through the PLB, and the benefits that this grant funding will bring to our communities."

This grant is part of a one-time investment of \$45 million by the Province of BC this spring which is shared between all 71 public library organizations.

The one-time Enhancement Grant funding for the TNRL must be used between 2023 and 2025. Additionally, beginning in 2023, the TNRL will also see an increase to its per capita operating grant by \$17,924, bringing the annual value of this operating grant to \$363,657. The operating grant funding provided by the PLB supports ongoing public library operations and participation in province-wide initiatives. From 2016 to 2021, the Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) population increased by approximately 11,000 residents according to Census data.

Enhancement Grant spending priorities at the TNRL have not yet been determined. Recommendations are planned to be brought to a TNRD Board meeting in spring 2023.

Criteria for usage will be to support local library service enhancement, which may include:

- Helping address shifting demands on services, collections, programs and spaces;
- Responding to local service priorities;
- Making services more accessible and inclusive; and/ or
- Increasing climate readiness and resilience when facing future challenges

The TNRL provides services through 12 libraries, an award-winning Mobile Library, a digital library collection, and Library Home Service. The TNRL has been proudly meeting the lifelong learning, reading and informational needs of residents in the Thompson-Nicola region for nearly 50 years. To learn more, visit: tnrl.ca.

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