

# Appendix B: How Libraries are Financed?

## Regional Library Systems

The municipalities' representatives on **regional library boards** have the legal responsibility of setting the amount of library levies to be paid by municipalities in each regional library.

In April, each library system receives a letter from the provincial government regarding its share of the resource sharing grant. The amount of the provincial grant for regional libraries is calculated based on a formula using these three components:

- **Headquarters:** This component recognizes that it is essential to have a headquarters in order to have resource sharing within a regional library system and within the province. A headquarters is responsible for carrying out the activities necessary for resource sharing, for example, interlibrary loans, co-ordinated ordering and sharing of the library materials, block exchanges, vehicles, insurance, computers and training branch staff.
- **Materials Expenditure:** This component recognizes that the library materials purchased by a library system are shared using mechanisms like block exchanges, interlibrary loans and reciprocal borrowing.
- **Open Hours:** This component recognizes that library functions related to resource sharing occur at or in support of the local branch, e.g. reciprocal borrowing, finding and sending interlibrary loans, courier service.

In addition to the municipal levy distributed to local libraries by the region, local library boards may put forward a budget directly to their municipalities to cover costs related to the library building and/or activities; in the case of larger centres, this process includes the negotiation of a library mill rate.

Local library boards may also fund-raise for a number of reasons including: special programs, heating, power, electricity, computer replacement, programming supplies, upgrades to the building, furniture, a new furnace, new windows and in a few cases for staff or open hours.

## Municipal Library Systems

The two **municipal library boards** (Regina and Saskatoon) negotiate the amount of the library mill rate with the city council.

They each sign Library Service Agreements with the province also. Provincial funding to municipal libraries is to be used to support resource sharing by helping the library to cover the added costs incurred as they share their resources with non-residents.

## Northern Library System

The **Pahkisimon Nuye?áh Library System** receives most of its funding from provincial government grants.

The Pahkisimon Nuye?áh Library System is funded by the Province. For Northern community public libraries, the Provincial government will match an amount equal to \$1 for every dollar contributed to a Northern Community Public Library in the year through local contributions up to a set maximum amount. This fund is administered by the Pahkisimon Nuye?áh Library System. "Local contributions" means any monetary contributions from a community or band council, person, community, Indian band, agency, organization, association, institution or body, but does not include monies received from the Government of Saskatchewan. If the Northern Community Public Library is housed in a school, the funds that the school expends to maintain the joint library can be counted towards receiving the provincial grant. The Provincial government will only match the school's expenditures up to the amount of the community contribution to a maximum of 50% of the set maximum amount.

Saskatchewan Library  
Trustees' Association

