

From: [Mark Phillips](#)
To: [Deanna Snair](#)
Cc: [Chrystal Remme](#); [Abraham Zebian](#)
Subject: FW: March Update Re: Provincial Budget 2025-26 and Library Services
Date: March 19, 2025 2:19:44 PM
Attachments: [image963707.png](#)

From: Julia Merritt

Date: Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 11:26 AM

Subject: March Update Re: Provincial Budget 2025-26 and Library Services

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Good Morning CAOs and Clerks,

I'm writing with an update on the Library Budget for 2025-26.

In February, the Province confirmed there would be no additional funding for libraries, and at that time it was also unclear whether the Province would continue to provide the "Bridge" funding that has been received over the past several years. "Bridge" funding has been year-to-year funding provided to assist with inflation and if we did not receive it would represent an even larger deficit for AVRL.

As of today, I can confirm that the Bridge funding will be received and the Province will be providing the same level of funding as in 2024-25.

The public libraries of Nova Scotia have put in a second request for 2025-26, for funding to offset the increase to minimum wage in 2025. As I understand it, the second request will be considered as part of the Province's 2025-26 operations and so there isn't a timeline on when that request will be considered.

For April, the Library Board will be drafting an interim budget, to be amended as needed based on further information from the Province regarding funding, as well as union negotiations. I will keep you updated as information becomes available.

This information has been shared with the Library Board and you are welcome to share it with your Councils as well. Please note that I am beginning to reach out to set dates to appear in front of Councils during May/June with the annual update as well as any funding formula updates at that time.

Sincerely,

Julia Merritt

Chief Executive Officer

Annapolis Valley Regional Library