



Support EPL

Please take this opportunity to spread the words about all the great things EPL does when candidates knock on your door or when you engage in discussions at candidate forums. Below are a few conversation starters to assist you in voicing support for public libraries:

- **Public libraries are integral to their local communities.** Libraries provide unmatched value and access to a world of knowledge and information in our communities.
- **Public libraries prepare children to be lifelong learners.** Libraries provide access to early literacy tools and resources that are essential for babies' happy and healthy development. Providing the foundation for early literacy sets the course for a child's future and largely determines how well children will do in school, their physical and mental health, behaviour, relationships and general well-being.
- **Public libraries drive innovation.** Libraries are constantly innovating to support growing and changing community needs such as digital literacy and hands-on experiences with technology. Libraries house technology that is not widely accessible to the community.
- **Libraries are critical in the current economy.** Public libraries play a vital role in our continued prosperity, particularly in times of economic uncertainty, rapid population growth, and demographic change, by providing Canadians with easy access to learning resources and enhancing language and digital literacy.
- **Public libraries both shape and save lives by providing an essential service.** Public libraries provide a foundation for a city's long-term economic success and community-building capacity. Libraries are safe, inclusive places where everyone is welcome.
- **Newcomers find refuge at public libraries.** Libraries are central hubs of information and resources for newcomers to get help and settled in their new home.
- **Federal operating grants are another source of funding.** For decades library grants have enabled libraries to continually develop innovative ways of providing Canadians with equitable library service access.

- **Public library funding is dollar for dollar one of the most effective and impactful uses of federal funds.** Every dollar invested in EPL generates \$3.11 of value, equivalent of \$212 per Edmontonian.
- **Public libraries provide universal access to content in all its forms.** Libraries make eContent (such as eBooks and eAudiobooks) available to customers even when costs are exponentially higher than physical books due to restrictive purchase models from major multinational publishers, such as Macmillan Publishers. For example, effective Friday, Nov. 1, all public libraries will only be able to buy one copy of any new Macmillan eBook release, and will have to wait eight weeks before they can buy additional copies. This means you'll have much longer wait times for eBooks and eAudiobooks. Demand stronger eContent for public libraries and voice your concerns directly with government officials and publishers. Start now and [sign this petition today](#) to request Macmillan Publishers to give you access to the new titles you want when you want them.

For more information about our role and impact in the community, view [2018 Annual Report](#).