

April 1, 2026

Dear Municipal Administrators,

Thank you for being a member of the Yellowhead Regional Library (YRL). This consortium delivers resources, training and support to local libraries, leverages our collective buying power, and helps ensure equitable access to materials in a range of formats.

We greatly value the collaboration we have with you, and together we can grow stronger in our services to residents in our region.

From time to time, adjustments are needed to the municipal levy amount (also known as the membership fee) to sustain our operations, and to meet growing public demand for services. YRL last sought, and received, an increase to the municipal levy amount in 2008. And, while we have been able to manage with modest inflationary increases over the past six years, it is no longer sustainable.

At the YRL Board of Trustees meeting on March 9, 2026, the Board voted to recommend an increase to the municipal levy to the members.

The proposal calls for the municipal levy to increase by \$0.75 per capita in 2027, from \$4.85 to \$5.60 per capita.

Member Councils will decide if this increase goes ahead. To pass, it requires written notification from two-thirds of the Parties to the [YRL Master Membership Agreement](#), representing two-thirds of the member population. If the double-majority is achieved, then the levy rate increase will apply to all member municipalities.

To support this request, the following information is attached:

- *The Case for Investment – Enabling Sustainable YRL Funding* summarizes the need for the increase
- *Business Case for Proposed Increase to Municipal Levy* fully explains the rationale for the increase
- *2026 Actual and 2027 Proposed Municipal Levies* outlining the current and proposed levy rates, and the difference between the two
- *2025 YRL Annual Report*
- *2025 Return on Investment (ROI) Statement* for your library(s) (if applicable)

Libraries
**VALUE
BEYOND**
words

Members are asked to notify YRL **by July 30, 2026**, of their decision, by providing a written copy of the resolution (sample notifications below); YRL will tabulate the results and provide written notice back to the municipal members on the outcome.

YRL Board representatives and Administration are available to meet with CAOs and Councils to answer any questions; please contact Laurie Haak at lhaak@yrl.ab.ca to arrange a meeting or presentation.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Yours truly,



Tara Elwood, Board Chair
Yellowhead Regional Library



Karla Palichuk, Director
Yellowhead Regional Library

SAMPLE NOTIFICATION IN FAVOUR

Be it resolved, that in accordance with resolution # _____, passed on [Date], the [City, County, Town, Village, Summer Village] of _____ agrees to an amendment to Schedule C of the Yellowhead Regional Library Master Membership Agreement to allow for a municipal levy increase from \$4.85 per capita to \$5.60 per capita, effective January 1, 2027.

Date: _____

Mayor Name: _____

Mayor Signature: _____

SAMPLE NOTIFICATION OPPOSED

Be it resolved, that in accordance with resolution # _____, passed on [Date], the [City, County, Town, Village, Summer Village] of _____ opposes an amendment to Schedule C of the Yellowhead Regional Library Master Membership Agreement to allow for a municipal levy increase from \$4.85 per capita to \$5.60 per capita, effective January 1, 2027.

Date: _____

Mayor Name: _____

Mayor Signature: _____