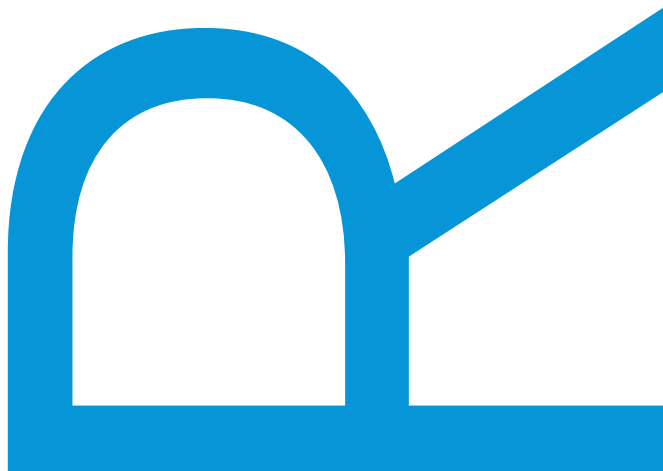




Canada Council  
for the Arts

Conseil des arts  
du Canada



Annual Report  
2019-20

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# PUBLIC LENDING RIGHT



Activities of the  
PLR Commission and  
of the PLR Program





# Public Lending Right Commission

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## ANNUAL REPORT

of the PLR Commission and  
of the PLR Program

---

2019-20



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[www.publiclendingright.ca](http://www.publiclendingright.ca)

4 June 2020



# PLR – How the Program’s Value Stacks Up

## Supporting Authors

Over 17,000 Canadian authors are compensated annually for the availability of their work in libraries from the Public Lending Right through direct payments ranging from \$50 to \$4,500 a year. Eligible work includes original writing, translation, illustration, narration, and photography contained in library books and audiobooks across a range of literary and scholarly genres.

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## Celebrating Libraries

We support and celebrate public access to Canadian content in libraries! PLR surveys the catalogues of public library systems across Canada in order to create its annual payments, working in close collaboration with professional librarians in all regions of the country. By supporting the work of PLR, Canadian public libraries benefit from a strengthened relationship with authors and publishers, further contributing to a strong literary ecosystem for all.

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## Enriching Readers and Listeners

Through its system of annual payments, PLR directly benefits published Canadian authors and provides compensation for new and recently published work in a wide array of genres that can be accessed by the reading public in library collections, year after year, thus enriching the cultural life of current and future generations.

**CELEBRATING 15 YEARS:  
GRANDE BIBLIOTHÈQUE (MONTREAL) 2005-2020**



The Grande Bibliothèque opened its doors at 475, de Maisonneuve Street East, in the heart of Montréal's Quartier Latin, on April 30, 2005.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP

GQB | Photo: istockphoto.com

GQB | Photo: Cedric Lavenant

The Grande Bibliothèque serves as a central library for Montréalers and Montréal libraries, in accordance with an agreement between the city of Montréal and the government of Quebec.



# The Public Lending Right Program

Canada's Public Lending Right (PLR) Program was created in 1986, and has delivered annual compensation to authors ever since. Canadian authors are invited to register their titles with the program during the registration period, which is open from February 15 to May 1 each year. Literary and scholarly works across a range of genres (fiction, poetry, drama, non-fiction, and children's literature) are eligible for consideration. Eligible contributions to a registered title include original writing, illustration, photography, translation, and narration. Eligible titles are checked annually against library catalogue information from a selected group of public library systems across Canada to calculate payments to creators.

Payments to authors begin at \$50 and are determined by the extent to which eligible titles are discovered in the annual library catalogue samplings. The rate of compensation accorded to an eligible title is determined by a payment scale. This sliding scale comprises four levels which correspond to the number of years a title has been registered with the program. Each year the available budget, in tandem with the results of the library sampling and the number of eligible claims, serves to determine the maximum amount that an author can receive. In 2019-20, this amount was \$4,500.00.

The Public Lending Right Commission (PLRC) is a permanent advisory body of the Canada Council for the Arts charged with administrative oversight of the program, with responsibility for maintaining the program's eligibility criteria, sampling methodology, and general policies. The PLRC is comprised of individuals from both official language communities, who provide expertise and guidance to the program as authors, publishers, librarians, and government representatives.



**CELEBRATING 15 YEARS:  
GRANDE BIBLIOTHÈQUE (MONTREAL) 2005-2020**



The Grande Bibliothèque has been visited more than 37,825,000 times since it opened 15 years ago.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP

GQB | Photo: Bernard Fougères

GQB | Photo: Bernard Fougères

The Grande Bibliothèque provides Quebecers with a rich, universal collection that is accessible both in person and online. The BAnQ portal recorded more than 7.7 million visits in 2019-2020.



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**CELEBRATING 15 YEARS:  
GRANDE BIBLIOTHÈQUE (MONTREAL) 2005-2020**



In 2019–2020, the Grande Bibliothèque loaned out more than 5.7 million documents, nearly 1.9 million of which were digital documents.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP

GQB | Photo: Bernard Fougères

GQB | Photo: Bernard Fougères

The Grande Bibliothèque provides various audiences—youth 13 and under, new Canadians, members of cultural communities and people with perceptual or other disabilities—with specialized services.



# Members and Staff

(as of March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020)

## Commission

Genni Gunn (Chair)

WRITER

Mélikah Abdelmoumen (Vice-Chair)

WRITER

Semareh Al-Hillal

PUBLISHER

Marc-André Audet

PUBLISHER

Richard Davis (ex-officio member)

DEPARTMENT OF CANADIAN HERITAGE

Mélanie Dumas (ex-officio member)

BIBLIOTHÈQUE ET ARCHIVES  
NATIONALES DU QUÉBEC

Monica Fuijkschot (ex-officio member)

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA

Karoline Georges

WRITER

Laurie D. Graham

WRITER

Bilal Hashmi

TRANSLATOR

Charles Leblanc

WRITER

Pilar Martinez

LIBRARIAN

Sylvie Thibault

LIBRARIAN

Russell Wangersky

WRITER

## Executive Committee

Genni Gunn (Chair)

Mélikah Abdelmoumen (Vice-Chair)

Semareh Al-Hillal

Marc-André Audet

Charles Leblanc

Pilar Martinez

Sylvie Thibault

Russell Wangersky

## Staff

Peter Schneider (Executive Secretary)

Rachelle Lanoue (Program Officer)

Céline Gratton (Coordinator)

Robyn Huculak (Administrative  
Assistant)

Marilyn Desrosiers (Director)  
Supporting Artistic Practice /  
Canada Council for the Arts



**CELEBRATING 15 YEARS:  
GRANDE BIBLIOTHÈQUE (MONTREAL) 2005-2020**



As the winner of the Grande Bibliothèque's architecture competition, the Patkau/Croft-Pelletier/Gilles Guité group, from Vancouver and Québec City, enlisted the expertise of the Menkès Shooner Dagenais architecture firm to bring the project to life.

The Grande Bibliothèque is set up on six floors, over an area of 33,000 sq. m.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP

Grand staircase GQB | Photo: Bernard Fougères  
Exterior GQB | Photo: Bernard Fougères



Inside, two majestic wood-paneled rooms, inspired by Quebec author Anne Hébert's famous novel, house the Universal Collection, for lending and reference, and the National Collection, where titles obtained via legal deposit are disseminated.



## Message from the Director and CEO



For the second consecutive year, the Council has injected an additional \$2.5 million into the PLR Program, whose total payments to authors have increased by \$5 million between 2018 and 2020. We made this decision because we believe in the value of a program that directly benefits authors, especially as they are the first victims of the digital disruption being felt in the book publishing ecosystem. We also believe in the democratization mission of public libraries and the crucial importance of reading as a vector for emancipation and a stimulus for curiosity, learning and socialization.

We are also delighted to welcome new books and new authors: they have received nearly 25% of all our additional investments—in short, the future of the program's staying power and renewal looks good.

I vividly remember how I felt when I received my first PLR payment, in 2012, for my book *Le Facteur C, l'avenir passe par la culture* (100% of the rights as the author) and for its English translation, *No Culture, No Future* (50% for me as the author and 50% for the translator, Jonathan Kaplansky). Though the money itself was nice, more importantly it was a reward for my hard work, it confirmed that my book was available within the public library network and it encouraged me to get to know my readers better. Of course, I am not a prolific author because I am currently busy with other things, but it still made me feel like I was part of a community that was changing the world one book at a time.

How many times have I heard authors, translators and illustrators say that this annual payment validated their career choice and their identity as creators, while standing as a symbol of the social recognition of the role of artists—something we all too rarely see? And, of course, it is a long-term source of income for prolific authors.

I want to thank the authors for creating and the libraries for carrying out their mission of sharing knowledge by developing reading habits. And I want to thank you for reading and encouraging those around you to read. It is the only failsafe way to enlighten the future.

**Simon Brault, O.C., O.Q.**

Director and CEO, Canada Council for the Arts

## Message from the Chair

I am writing this in Vancouver, from home. It feels a little as if everything has ground to a halt, yet I know this is not true. Whether we see them or not, people are working everywhere to make our lives appear as normal as possible. Many government workers are continuing to work from home to try to maintain all the services we're used to. It's a huge job, and one that continues almost unnoticed.

This brings me to the dedicated staff of the Public Lending Right Program, who in February were able to deliver almost \$15 million in payments to close to 18,000 individuals before work-from-home orders were issued in mid-March. The 2020 results set two PLR records: the highest payout in the history of the PLR Program, and the highest-ever maximum payment, of \$4,500.

All this was made possible by the Canada Council's funding infusion of \$5 million to our permanent base budget, an increase that will bolster cultural support to authors, illustrators, translators and other literary creators who are registered with the PLR Program, and whose work is available to the public through Canadian libraries. Over the past two years, the PLR Commission took action to manage the new funding in such a way as to expand the program's outreach, relevance and impact, as well as to support the sustainability of the program.

An expanded library sampling process now collects data from libraries in all provinces and territories of Canada, sampled in all languages, including French, English and Indigenous languages. This has resulted in many authors receiving compensation for works that had not previously received payment.

Updated guidelines on the registration and payment of new works mean that authors now have up to five years following publication to register claims. Payment is limited to 25 years, which frees up some funds each year to support new titles. Newly-registered works receive the top rate of pay for their initial five years.

The Commission has now incorporated audiobooks, both physical and in digital formats, into PLR. This follows the successful adoption of e-books in 2016, and demonstrates the program's ability to respond to changing patterns of use in Canada's libraries.

This is my final annual report, having served seven years on the PLR Commission, the last two as Chair. Over this time, I have had the honour of working and interacting with so many talented individuals, who are dedicated to bettering the livelihoods of authors. I have had the opportunity to have varied, rich experiences along the way. In 2017, for example, I was invited to represent Canadian writers at a PLR roundtable in Hong Kong, where organizers have been working to introduce a PLR system for some time. I have been fortunate enough to have attended and benefitted from four PLR International conferences, in Dublin (2013), The Hague (2015), Paris (2017), and this past September in London at a gathering that celebrated the 40th anniversary of the UK's PLR. After each of these conferences, in which countries presented their programs and limitations, I have come away thinking that we have a terrific program that aims to compensate as many authors as possible for their contribution to literature in public library collections. We have much to be proud of. It's been a privilege to work with everyone around the PLRC table, a privilege I will miss.

Again, I'd like to express our gratitude to Simon Brault, the Canada Council's Director and CEO, for his continued support of the PLR Program.

**Genni Gunn**  
Chair, PLRC

## Message from the Executive Secretary

When the results of the Public Lending Right (PLR) Program were mailed in February, staff had no idea that the developing COVID-19 emergency would soon have such a profound impact on our daily routines. The registration period opened on February 15, and initial volume indicated that we would achieve a record number of new applications in 2020, in large part owing to the heightened level of interest and awareness of PLR in the author community, spurred by the Canada Council's transformative investment of \$5M in new funding and the expansion of the program's sampling to include library data from all provinces and territories across Canada.

Despite new measures of confinement imposed on us in mid-March, we have been able to recalibrate our operations and continue to serve new and returning clients while respecting physical distancing. An extended registration period and the move to virtual meetings for staff and for the members of the Commission are key elements in our approach to ensuring that PLR, as a flagship program of the Canada Council, continues to serve its vital role in providing direct financial support to creators of literary works.

Recent events have highlighted as never before the growing relevance and public appetite for access to digital versions of literary and scholarly works, including audiobooks, through their public library systems. The Commission introduced registration for audiobooks in 2019, following on the successful introduction of ebook registration in 2016. This is a concrete example of the work that has been done in recent years to ensure that PLR remains relevant and able to respond to the evolving nature of libraries and changing patterns of public use, and to provide compensation.

The most recent round of library catalogue sampling conducted on behalf of the program included 32 distinct networks selected from all provinces and territories, the largest number in the program's history. Although it is not possible for the program to survey every library in Canada, it is the ongoing work of the staff and Commission to make continual improvements to the sampling model and to pursue potential new networks in order to provide greater coverage and regional representation over time. The sampling exercise is highly technical and depends on sustained collaboration and goodwill between our staff and library technicians who provide access to catalogues.

The past year also witnessed the program's adoption of new tools and resources to support the certification of registered works for payment. We are now working with powerful databases of bibliographic information, including the Library and Archives Canada Voilà portal and WorldCat, a global inventory of records, both of which are hosted by the non-profit Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) in Ohio, USA. We owe sincere thanks to Commission member Monica Fuijkschot and to our in-house team of technology specialists for making this a reality.

To illustrate this year's report, we have chosen to highlight a major anniversary in the domain of public libraries, one with a direct connection to the PLR Commission. The Grande Bibliothèque, Montréal's central library and a world-class institution combining vast public collections, archival resources, and cultural programming spaces, opened its doors fifteen years ago, in 2005. Over the years, we have been proud to work with the dedicated librarians and collections development experts in Montréal on a wide range of research activities and initiatives intended to benefit PLR and its thousands of participants. To our Commission member, Mélanie Dumas, who is the Director of Public Collections at the Grande Bibliothèque, and to all her colleagues, we send our heartfelt wishes for a happy anniversary year. We also look forward to the future of all libraries, on behalf of authors, book publishers, and perhaps most importantly, readers and listeners.

**Peter Schneider**  
Program Manager and Executive Secretary

## Comments on the Statistical Report

The report on the 34th year of the Public Lending Right (PLR) Program provides an overview of the impact of additional budgetary resources, newly-introduced program criteria, the ongoing results of the application of the payment scale, and the minimum and maximum payment thresholds.

As is standard practice, the program statistics are based on three elements: number of authors, number of titles, and payments.



\$2.5M in new funding was added to the PLR Program's author payment budget in 2019-20, bringing the total payment envelope to \$14,781,301.02.

Starting with the 2018-19 program cycle, payment to eligible title share claims is now capped at a maximum duration of 25 years. This limit serves to provide definition to the program's payment scale and requires the annual weeding of older claims, as a means of ensuring the program's sustainability and ability to provide substantial compensation to newly-registered works.

The tables on program growth indicate that 265 author files were closed in 2019 owing to the 25-year limit on active title claim registration. This figure represents the total number of individuals with no new claims registered since 1994. At the same time, 869 new authors registered with PLR for the first time in 2019. The number of registered authors now stands at 19,942. The number of active registrants is expected to increase over the coming years, as more new authors register with PLR each year than are retired from active status.

The number of cheques issued by the program increased from 17,255 to 17,976 this year. As in years past, the minimum payment provided by the program was \$50. In this year's program cycle, the average payment increased significantly from \$712 to \$822; the median author payment also increased markedly, from \$353.40 to \$401.04. The maximum per-title payment (7 X the Category I hit rate) was noticeably improved, increasing from \$412.30 to \$467.88. The maximum payment to an individual was set at \$4,500.00.

The PLR Commission has successfully modeled and implemented an expanded approach to library sampling, which took effect in 2018: works created in all languages are now searched in a selection of library catalogues from each province and territory. Library data from each province and territory has been incorporated in the sampling, significantly extending the program's reach and bringing greater benefit to all active registrants.

**CELEBRATING 15 YEARS:  
GRANDE BIBLIOTHÈQUE (MONTREAL) 2005-2020**



The numerous reading areas, chairs and lamps were created from plans drawn up by Michel Dallaire Design Industriel, the firm that won the furniture design competition in fall 2001.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP

GBQ | Photo: Michel Legendre

GBQ | Photo: Jean Corbeil



One of the Grande Bibliothèque's missions is to support Quebec's documentation milieu.



## Statistical Activity Report

### Overview of the 34th Year of the PLR Program

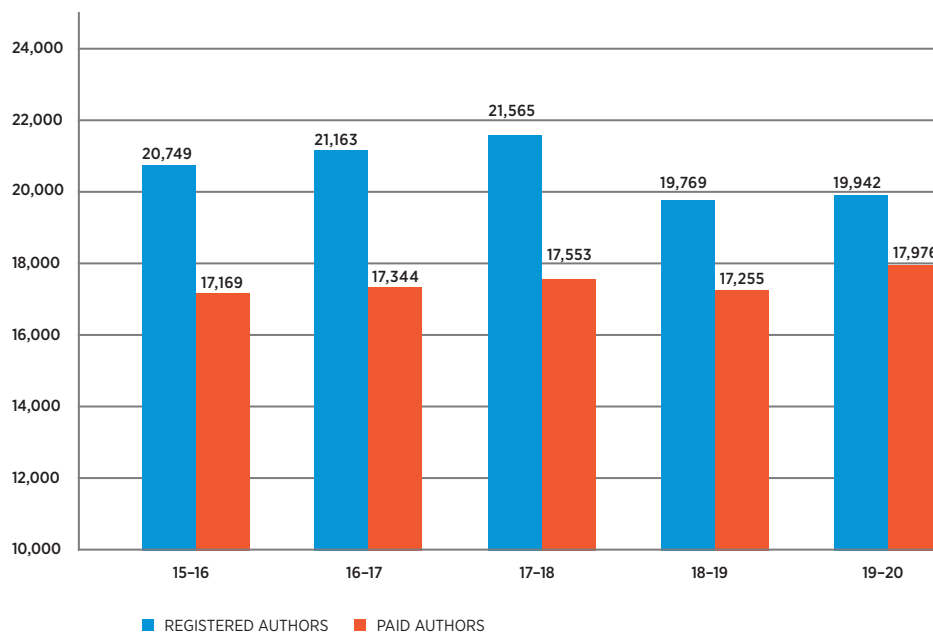
	2018-19	2019-20	Variation
Authors Registered	19,769	19,942	0.88%
Authors Receiving a Payment	17,255	17,976	4.18%
Authors Not Meeting the \$50 Threshold	1,824	1,336	-26.75%
Registered Titles	83,640	85,933	2.74%
Eligible Titles	83,120	85,421	2.77%
Titles Receiving a Payment	75,981	78,232	2.96%
Amount Distributed to Authors	\$12,282,713	\$14,781,301	20.34%
Average Payment	\$711.83	\$822.00	15.48%
Minimum Payment	\$50.00	\$50.00	0.00%
Median Payment	\$353.40	\$401.04	13.48%
Maximum Payment	\$4,123.00	\$4,500.00	9.14%
Maximum Amount Paid Per Book (Category I)	\$412.30	\$467.88	13.48%
Maximum Amount Paid Per Book (Category II)	\$329.84	\$374.29	13.48%
Maximum Amount Paid Per Book (Category III)	\$288.61	\$327.53	13.49%
Maximum Amount Paid Per Book (Category IV)	\$206.15	\$280.70	36.16%

**Note:** In 2018-19, a 25-year cap was introduced. As a result, 19,692 titles were removed from the Program and 2,040 author files were closed.

## New Authors

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
<b>New authors registered</b>			
English			467
French			402
<b>Total</b>	<b>806</b>	<b>807</b>	<b>869</b>
<b>New authors receiving payment</b>			
English			382
French			346
<b>Total</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>654</b>	<b>728</b>
<b>Amounts paid to new authors</b>			
English			\$166,422
French			\$129,317
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$196,248</b>	<b>\$252,669</b>	<b>\$295,739</b>

## Registered Authors and Paid Authors (2015-2020)



## Distribution of Author Payments

### 1. Payments by Range and by Language (2019–20)

Payments	Language	Authors	% of Total Authors	Total Paid	% of Total Budget
From \$50.00	<b>E</b>	5,662	31.50%	\$1,130,183	7.65%
To \$401.04	<b>F</b>	3,332	18.54%	\$689,842	4.67%
	<b>E+F</b>	<b>8,994</b>	<b>50.04%</b>	<b>\$1,820,025</b>	<b>12.31%</b>
From \$401.05	<b>E</b>	2,266	12.61%	\$1,296,921	8.77%
To \$822.00	<b>F</b>	1,369	7.62%	\$807,302	5.46%
	<b>E+F</b>	<b>3,635</b>	<b>20.23%</b>	<b>\$2,104,223</b>	<b>14.24%</b>
From \$822.01	<b>E</b>	605	3.37%	\$547,998	3.71%
To \$999.99	<b>F</b>	349	1.94%	\$317,226	2.15%
	<b>E+F</b>	<b>954</b>	<b>5.31%</b>	<b>\$865,224</b>	<b>5.85%</b>
From \$1,000.00	<b>E</b>	1,376	7.65%	\$1,924,428	13.02%
To \$1,999.99	<b>F</b>	1,062	5.91%	\$1,485,986	10.05%
	<b>E+F</b>	<b>2,438</b>	<b>13.56%</b>	<b>\$3,410,413</b>	<b>23.07%</b>
From \$2,000.00	<b>E</b>	477	2.65%	\$1,162,663	7.87%
To \$2,999.99	<b>F</b>	375	2.09%	\$917,779	6.21%
	<b>E+F</b>	<b>852</b>	<b>4.74%</b>	<b>\$2,080,443</b>	<b>14.07%</b>
From \$3,000.00	<b>E</b>	303	1.69%	\$1,102,558	7.46%
To \$4,499.99	<b>F</b>	231	1.29%	\$837,915	5.67%
	<b>E+F</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>2.98%</b>	<b>\$1,940,472</b>	<b>13.13%</b>
Maximum	<b>E</b>	256	1.42%	\$1,152,000	7.79%
\$4,500.00	<b>F</b>	313	1.74%	\$1,408,500	9.53%
	<b>E+F</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>3.16%</b>	<b>\$2,560,500</b>	<b>17.32%</b>
Total	<b>E</b>	10,945	60.89%	\$8,316,751	56.27%
	<b>F</b>	7,031	39.11%	\$6,464,550	43.73%
	<b>E+F</b>	<b>17,976</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$14,781,301</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Note:** The figures in this table may not add due to rounding.

**Median:** The median of a population is the point that divides the distribution of scores in half. In February 2020, 8,994 authors (50.04%) received \$401.04 or less. They shared 12.31% of the budget.

**Average:** In February 2020, the average payment was \$822.00. 12,629 authors (70.27%) received \$822.00 or less. They shared 26.55% of the budget. 5,347 authors (29.75%) received more than \$822.00. They shared 73.45% of the budget.

## Distribution of Author Payments

### 2. Payments by Province and Territory (2019–20)

Province/ Territory	Registered Authors	% of Total Registered Authors	Number of Payments	% of Total Paid Authors	% of Authors Receiving a Payment	Total Paid	% of Total Budget
Newfoundland and Labrador	259	1.30%	244	1.36%	94.21%	\$162,114	1.10%
Nova Scotia	699	3.51%	639	3.55%	91.42%	\$441,217	2.98%
Prince Edward Island	78	0.39%	69	0.38%	88.46%	\$52,441	0.35%
New Brunswick	468	2.35%	426	2.37%	91.03%	\$268,657	1.82%
Quebec	7,618	38.20%	7,018	39.04%	92.12%	\$6,395,293	43.27%
Ontario	5,745	28.81%	5,013	27.89%	87.26%	\$3,923,352	26.54%
Manitoba	464	2.33%	408	2.27%	87.93%	\$254,334	1.72%
Saskatchewan	357	1.79%	332	1.85%	93.00%	\$237,281	1.61%
Alberta	971	4.87%	876	4.87%	90.22%	\$721,370	4.88%
British Columbia	2,705	13.56%	2,436	13.55%	90.06%	\$1,893,088	12.81%
Northwest Territories	18	0.09%	18	0.10%	100.00%	\$11,523	0.08%
Yukon	26	0.13%	25	0.14%	96.15%	\$15,307	0.10%
Nunavut	1	0.01%	1	0.01%	100.00%	\$70	0.00%
Outside Canada	533	2.67%	471	2.62%	88.37%	\$405,254	2.74%
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,942</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,976</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>90.14%</b>	<b>\$14,781,301</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Example:** In 2019-20, 90.06% of registered British Columbia authors received a payment. This represents 13.55% of paid authors. These authors received 12.81% of the payment budget.

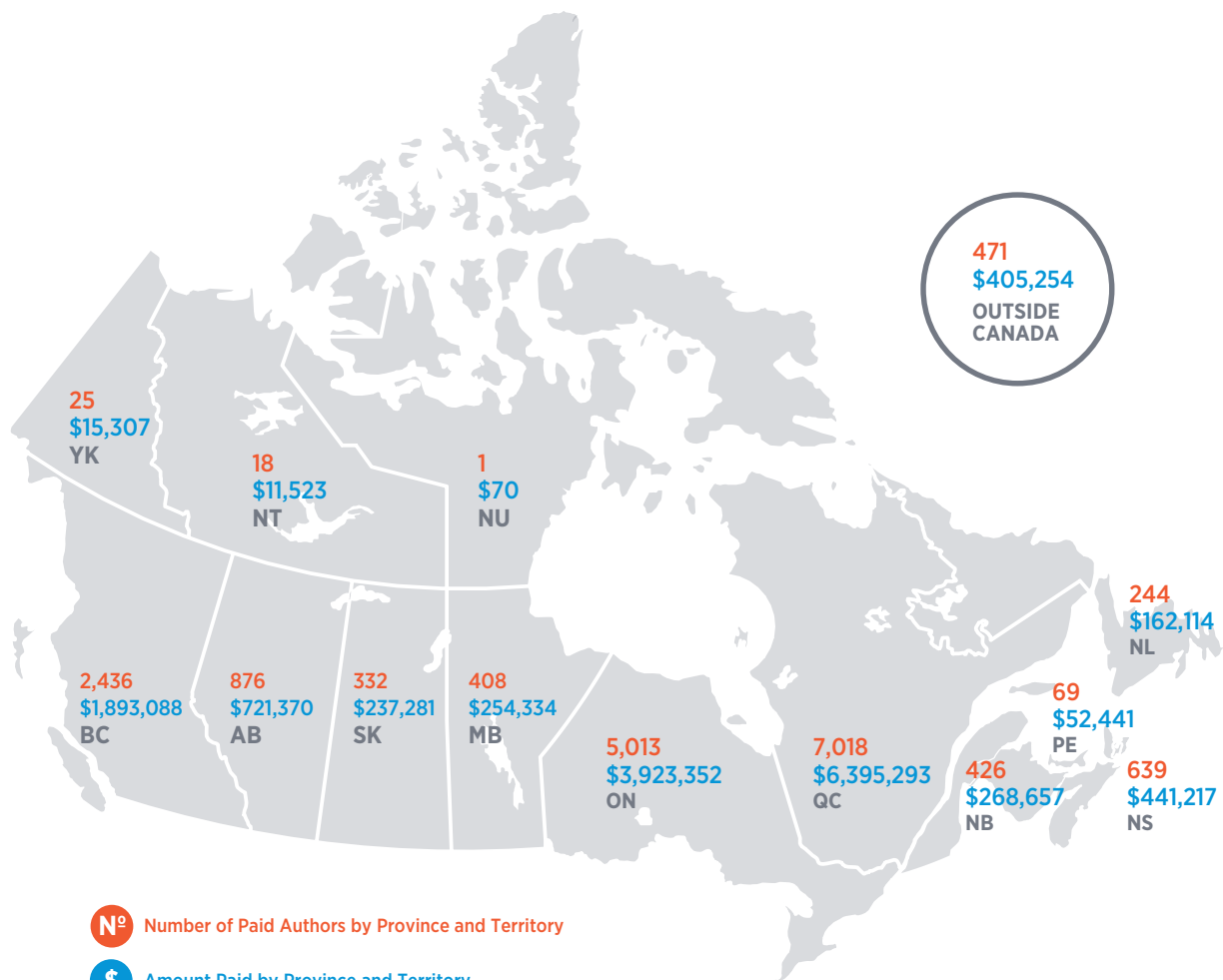
## Payments by Province and Territory (2019-20)

**17,976**

Total Authors Paid

**\$14,781,301**

Total Budget



## New Titles

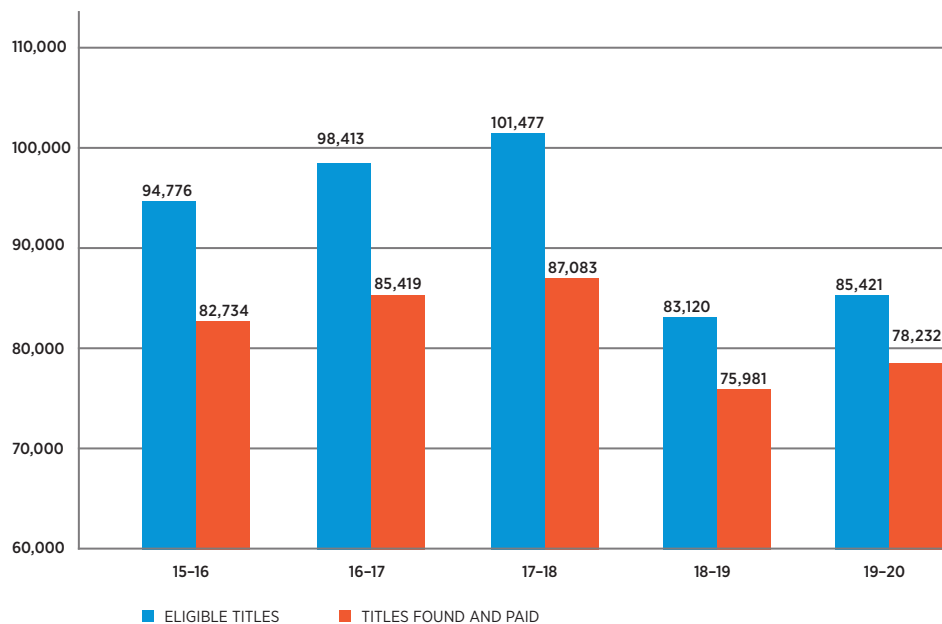
	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Audiobooks
<b>New titles</b>				
English			3,496	504
French			2,548	78
Bilingual			20	0
Other			150	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,616</b>	<b>6,087</b>	<b>6,214</b>	<b>585</b>
<b>New eligible titles</b>				
English			3,182	412
French			2,360	57
Bilingual			16	0
Other			144	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,192</b>	<b>5,585</b>	<b>5,702</b>	<b>470</b>
<b>New titles found in sampled libraries</b>				
English			2,193	202
French			2,121	39
Bilingual			15	0
Other			40	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,926</b>	<b>4,410</b>	<b>4,369</b>	<b>242</b>
<b>Amounts paid for new titles</b>				
English			\$571,993	\$24,387
French			\$588,388	\$2,875
Bilingual			\$2,625	\$0
Other			\$6,076	\$67
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$755,315</b>	<b>\$1,047,849</b>	<b>\$1,169,082</b>	<b>\$27,330</b>

## New Eligible Titles by Language and by Category (2019-20)

Category	English	French	Bilingual	Other	Total	% of Total Titles
Children's	743	1,000	5	47	1,795	31.48%
Fiction	1,356	773	2	51	2,182	38.27%
Poetry	213	161	3	19	396	6.94%
Drama	32	39	2	4	77	1.35%
Non-Fiction*	838	387	4	23	1,252	21.96%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,182</b>	<b>2,360</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>5,702</b>	
Total in %	55.80%	41.39%	0.28%	2.53%		

\*Non-fiction includes scholarly works

## Eligible Titles and Titles Found and Paid (2015-2020)



## Eligible Titles by Language

Language	Year	Number of Titles	Growth in Comparison to Previous Year
English	2017-18	58,054	2.81%
	2018-19	45,835	-21.05%
	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>46,779</b>	<b>2.06%</b>
French	2017-18	41,094	3.99%
	2018-19	35,596	-13.38%
	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>36,923</b>	<b>3.73%</b>
Bilingual	2017-18	455	3.17%
	2018-19	357	-21.54%
	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>0.28%</b>
Other	2017-18	1,874	-5.59%
	2018-19	1,332	-28.92%
	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>1,361</b>	<b>-2.18%</b>
<b>Total</b>	2017-18	101,477	3.11%
	2018-19	83,120	-18.09%
	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>85,421</b>	<b>2.77%</b>

\*\* In 2018-19, a 25 year-cap was introduced. As a result, 19,692 titles were removed from the Program.

## Eligible Titles Found and Paid in 2019-20

Language	Number of Titles	Percentage
English	41,763	53.38%
French	35,359	45.20%
Bilingual	313	0.40%
Other	797	1.02%
<b>Total</b>	<b>78,232</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Note:** The figures in this table may not add due to rounding.



## Eligible Titles by Category and Language

Category	Language	Number of Titles	% of All Same Language Titles	% of All Titles of this Category	% of All Registered Titles
Children's	English	12,425	26.56%	45.54%	14.55%
	French	14,363	38.90%	52.64%	16.81%
	Bilingual	51	14.25%	0.19%	0.06%
	Other	446	32.77%	1.63%	0.52%
<b>Total</b>		<b>27,285</b>			<b>31.94%</b>
Fiction	English	12,179	26.04%	53.42%	14.26%
	French	10,181	27.57%	44.66%	11.92%
	Bilingual	34	9.50%	0.15%	0.04%
	Other	404	29.68%	1.77%	0.47%
<b>Total</b>		<b>22,798</b>			<b>26.69%</b>
Poetry	English	4,145	8.86%	54.69%	4.85%
	French	3,102	8.40%	40.93%	3.63%
	Bilingual	103	28.77%	1.36%	0.12%
	Other	229	16.83%	3.02%	0.27%
<b>Total</b>		<b>7,579</b>			<b>8.87%</b>
Drama	English	1,045	2.23%	59.92%	1.22%
	French	673	1.82%	38.59%	0.79%
	Bilingual	5	1.40%	0.29%	0.01%
	Other	21	1.54%	1.20%	0.02%
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,744</b>			<b>2.04%</b>
Non fiction*	English	16,985	36.31%	65.29%	19.88%
	French	8,604	23.30%	33.07%	10.07%
	Bilingual	165	46.09%	0.63%	0.19%
	Other	261	19.18%	1.00%	0.31%
<b>Total</b>		<b>26,015</b>			<b>30.46%</b>
Total	English	46,779			54.76%
	French	36,923			43.22%
	Bilingual	358			0.42%
	Other	1,361			1.59%
<b>Total of All Categories</b>		<b>85,421</b>			<b>100.00%</b>

**Note:** The figures in this table may not add due to rounding.

The 16,985 English-language non-fiction titles represent: 36.31% of all English-language eligible titles; 65.29% of all non-fiction titles; and 19.88% of all eligible titles.

\* Non-fiction includes scholarly works.

**CELEBRATING 15 YEARS:  
GRANDE BIBLIOTHÈQUE (MONTREAL) 2005-2020**



The building's exterior is made up of 6,000 glass slides that have been frosted, tempered and coated with glacier green ceramic that call to mind Canada's northern landscapes.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP

Espace Fractal | Photo: Bernard Fougères  
GBQ | Photo: Bernard Fougères



# Past Public Library Partners

The following libraries have participated in past  
PLR Program surveys:

## NL

Newfoundland Public Libraries

## NS

Halifax Public Library  
Nova Scotia Provincial Library

## PE

Prince Edward Island Public Library  
Services

## NB

Moncton Public Library  
New Brunswick Public Libraries Catalogue

## QC

Brossard Library  
Gatineau Municipal Library  
Granby Public Library  
Grande Bibliothèque  
Laval Library  
Montreal Municipal Library  
Quebec Library  
Réseau biblio - La Mauricie  
Réseau biblio - The Laurentians  
Réseau biblio - Outaouais  
Réseau biblio - Saguenay-Lac-St-Jean  
Saguenay Library  
Sherbrooke Library  
St-Léonard Library  
St-Jean-sur-Richelieu Library  
Trois-Rivières Library

## ON

Etobicoke Public Library  
Greater Sudbury Public Library  
Hamilton Public Library  
London Public Library  
Markham Public Library  
Mississauga Public Library  
North York Public Library  
Ottawa Public Library  
Toronto Public Library

## MB

Manitoba Spruce Libraries Cooperative  
(previously South Central Regional  
Library)  
Western Manitoba Regional Library  
Winnipeg Public Library

## NU

Nunavut Public Library Services

## SK

Regina Public Library  
Saskatoon Public Library  
Saskatchewan Provincial Catalogue

## AB

Calgary Public Library  
Edmonton Public Library  
The Regional Automation Consortium  
(TRAC)

## NT

Yellowknife Public Library

## BC

Burnaby Public Library  
Vancouver Island Regional Public Library  
Vancouver Public Library  
Victoria Public Library

## YK

Yukon Public Libraries



PUBLIC LENDING RIGHT  
PROGRAM

## Public Lending Right Program

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The Public Lending Right Commission, which oversees the PLR Program, is an advisory body of the Canada Council for the Arts.



Canada Council  
for the Arts

Conseil des arts  
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