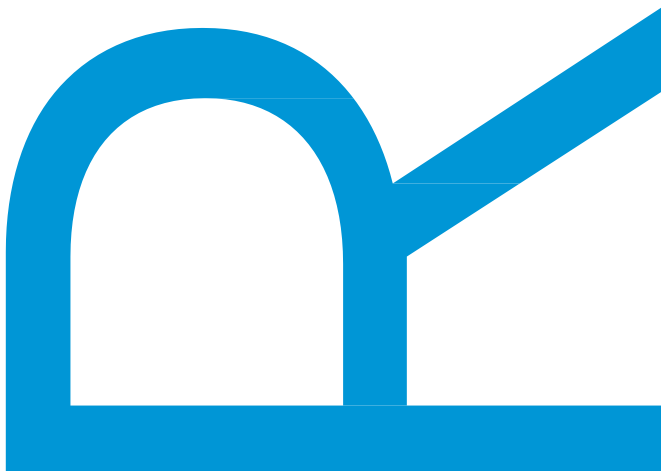




Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des arts
du Canada



Annual Report
2024–25

PUBLIC LENDING RIGHT

Activities of the
PLR Commission and
of the PLR Program



150 Elgin Street
Post Office Box 1047
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 5V8
1-800-521-5721 or
613-566-4378
plr@canadacouncil.ca
www.publiclendingright.ca

June 2025

Public Lending Right Commission

ANNUAL REPORT

of the PLR Commission and
of the PLR Program

2024-25

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF VANCOUVER PUBLIC LIBRARY'S CENTRAL BRANCH 1995-2025

Vancouver is home to one of the most instantly recognizable buildings in Canada. Its Central Library opened to the public in May 1995 and has become an emblem of pride for the City of Vancouver, as an information hub and civic agora, and as the location used for many films and television series. Its exterior pays conscious homage to the Coliseum of Rome, connecting a nine-story central block with a curvilinear wall housing individual study spaces. The design was endorsed by means of a public vote, capturing 70% of the ballots cast following an initial referendum sponsored by the City of Vancouver.



Internationally celebrated architect Moshe Safdie, in tandem with DA Architects, submitted the winning plan, which transformed an entire city block into what is now known as Library Square. Library Square, which also features a 21-storey office tower housing federal government offices and generous amounts of open space at ground level, attracts local residents and tourists alike during events such as the annual Word Vancouver literary festival, which launched in 1995 as Word On The Street.

Photo courtesy of: Vancouver Public Library

Table of contents

Land Acknowledgement	7
About the Public Lending Right Program	9
Members and Staff	11
Message from the Director and CEO	12
Message from the Chair	14
Message from the Executive Secretary	16
Comments on the Statistical Report	18
Statistical Activity Report	20

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF VANCOUVER PUBLIC LIBRARY'S CENTRAL BRANCH 1995-2025



Photos courtesy of: Vancouver Public Library

With 21 locations, Vancouver Public Library is the largest public library system in British Columbia and the most visited library system per capita in Canada. An overarching vision statement calls for an informed, engaged, and connected city. In 2024, VPL logged nearly 6.5 million visits, with close to 9.5 million items being borrowed in either physical or digital media. At VPL's heart is the Central Library, among the many iconic structures conceived by architectural visionary Moshe Safdie over his extensive career. Leading Vancouver firm DA Architects led the construction work over two years, which was the largest in the City of Vancouver's history in terms of its overall cost (roughly \$107 million) and scope. Long-term leases were assigned to the provincial government on the Library's uppermost floors until 2015, offsetting the cost associated with such an ambitious construction project.



Land Acknowledgement

The Canada Council for the Arts acknowledges the land on which our offices are located is the unceded, unsurrendered Territory of the Anishinaabe Algonquin Nation whose presence here reaches back to time immemorial.

The Council recognizes the Algonquins as the customary keepers and defenders of the Ottawa River Watershed and its tributaries. We honour their long history of welcoming many Nations to this beautiful territory and uphold and uplift the voice and values of our Host Nation.

Further, The Council respects and affirms the inherent and Treaty Rights of all Indigenous Peoples across this land. The Council has and will continue to honour the commitments to self-determination and sovereignty we have made to Indigenous Nations and Peoples.

The Council acknowledges the historical oppression of lands, cultures and the original Peoples in what we now know as Canada and fervently believes the Arts contribute to the healing and decolonizing journey we all share together.

This land acknowledgement was developed by members of the Algonquin community, and we thank them for their generosity and collaboration.

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF VANCOUVER PUBLIC LIBRARY'S CENTRAL BRANCH 1995-2025

The Central Branch is host to an impressive collection of contemporary works that presents a survey of Vancouver's best-known artists from the 1960s until the present day. In addition to items drawn from the City of Vancouver's public art collection, more than 50 pieces belonging to the Canada Council's Art Bank are on long-term display, including multiple works by the groundbreaking conceptual art collective N.E Thing Co. Ltd. (NETCO).

Photo courtesy of: Vancouver Public Library



A free map is provided to visitors so that they may enjoy self-guided tours which bring them to multiple locations inside the library. The works on public view also spotlight Vancouver's rich tradition of photo-based work and present an overview of contemporary Indigenous art on Levels 8 and 9.

About 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 15th to May 1st 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 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 2024-25, this amount was \$4,500.

The Public Lending Right Commission (PLRC) is a permanent advisory body of the Canada Council for the Arts. It is 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 30 YEARS OF VANCOUVER PUBLIC LIBRARY'S CENTRAL BRANCH 1995–2025



Once inside the ground-level entry gates, visitors encounter an extensive selection of locally produced and independently published books, occupying pride of place in an impressive display that is constantly replenished and a sign of VPL's profound commitment to regional authors. A series of centrally placed escalators sweep library users upwards from Level 1 to Level 9. Level 3 is home to the Central Library Inspiration Lab, featuring digital recording booths, the Terry McBride Recording Studio, and facilities for converting video and audio materials to digital formats.

Photo courtesy of: Vancouver Public Library

Members and Staff

(as of March 31st, 2025)

Commission

Catherine Leroux (Chair)
WRITER

Laurie D. Graham (Vice-Chair)
WRITER

Marc-André Audet
PUBLISHER

David Chariandy
WRITER

Bilal Hashmi
TRANSLATOR

Charles Leblanc
WRITER

Ruth Linka
PUBLISHER

Pilar Martinez
LIBRARIAN

David A. Robertson
WRITER

Sylvie Thibault
LIBRARIAN

Serge Patrice Thibodeau
WRITER

Richard Davis (Ex-Officio Member)
DEPARTMENT OF CANADIAN HERITAGE

Mélanie Dumas (Ex-Officio Member)
BIBLIOTHÈQUE ET ARCHIVES
NATIONALES DU QUÉBEC

Karin MacLeod (Ex-Officio Member)
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA

Joanne Larocque-Poirier
(Ex-Officio Member)
CANADA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS

Executive Committee

Catherine Leroux, QC (Chair)

Laurie D. Graham, ON (Vice-Chair)

Marc-André Audet, QC

Bilal Hashmi, ON

Charles Leblanc, MB

Ruth Linka, BC

Pilar Martinez, AB

Sylvie Thibault, QC

Staff

Peter Schneider (Executive Secretary)

Lori Knoll (Program Analyst)

Céline Gratton (Coordinator)

Ashley Cenatus
(Administrative Assistant)

Message from the Director and CEO



The Public Lending Right (PLR) Program has been under the responsibility of the Canada Council for the Arts since 1986, when a Canadian PLR was first established. I am pleased to see, year after year, the ongoing relevance and importance of the program. Today, more than ever, we need the arts and literature to bring us together, to help us understand each other better and to show the world who we are.

At the heart of the Canada Council's PLR is the Public Lending Right Commission, which is made up of authors, translators, publishers and librarians from both official languages. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the excellent work of the Commission and its Chair, Catherine Leroux, with whom it is always a pleasure to collaborate.

Public libraries, and the riches they contain, help us connect across our vast country in communities of all sizes, whether urban, suburban, rural or remote. Canada's public libraries are environments where exploration, discovery and inspiration happen on a daily basis, and their collections are freely accessible to all.

For almost 40 years, the PLR has helped strengthen the link between the arts, literature and Canadians, who read and listen to the country's stories. The program now enjoys the broadest reach in its history, sampling selected library collections in every province and territory for eligible print books, e-books and audiobooks created in many different languages.

The PLR Program has evolved and matured in the decades since its establishment. Through the voices of authors and literary talents whose work is available from libraries, Canadians can understand themselves and one another better and celebrate the best of Canada.

I am proud of the PLR Program's ongoing support and encouragement of literary creators. The Canada Council's direct economic contribution to working authors is a recognition that having their work freely accessible within the library network makes a vital contribution to the lives of Canadians.

Michelle Chawla

Director and Chief Executive Officer, Canada Council for the Arts

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF VANCOUVER PUBLIC LIBRARY'S CENTRAL BRANCH 1995–2025

The ground-level concourse is covered from the elements and provides a sheltered venue each morning for the queues of library visitors who await the opening of the Central Branch, a familiar downtown ritual that has become part of daily life. Here, visitors may also find a coffee shop and a slice of pizza to sustain themselves without having to leave Library Square.

Photo courtesy of: Vancouver Public Library



Message from the Chair

I am the daughter of a librarian. My mother would have corrected me right away—her title was actually “library technician”—but that’s so much less poetic. And so, since childhood, I’ve had an almost familial tie with the quiet and infinite world of libraries. I learned to love the smell of books, appreciate the hushed voices that can be heard among the shelves and live in imaginary worlds. I don’t know if those things contributed to making me an author, but they certainly made me a reader.

Later, I worked as a library clerk at the university I attended. That’s where I really got the measure of all the possibilities that resided in these interconnected networks, thanks to the interlibrary loan system. Every week, I would procure books from the far end of the continent for eager readers. I went back there recently, and the feeling of vastness—both physical and conceptual—was the same.

I see libraries as accordions. They may seem limited at first glance, but then they unfold seemingly forever, offering up all the words, ideas and beauty they contain. And they provide much more than books, as evidenced by the multitude of services they make available to their communities and the multitude of reasons for which people choose to visit them. In these uncertain times, libraries offer much more than books: they are sanctuaries—and, at times, vital ones—for bodies and minds both. For all bodies and all minds, I should say; a librarian in Moncton recently reminded me that “we don’t turn anybody away.” Not anybody. Can you think of a single institution, in 2025, that still welcomes absolutely everyone? Canadian authors can boast that they write for everyone, because our libraries are open to everyone.

The Public Lending Right Program is also increasingly welcoming—in fact, in 2024, it admitted nearly 1,000 new creators. These authors, translators, illustrators and other artists working in publishing have joined the ranks of a program that is at the greatest intersection you can think of—a meeting point for people who love books, people who disseminate them and people who write them. It honours the creativity of authors, confirms the value of their work for all readers and recognizes the relationships between them. The public lending right is an expression of the solidarity that has grown around books, with no regard for any physical, social or economic differences. At this point in time, all expressions of solidarity are to be celebrated—anything that bridges a gap is a victory in and of itself.

Catherine Leroux
Chair, Public Lending Right Commission

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF VANCOUVER PUBLIC LIBRARY'S CENTRAL BRANCH 1995-2025



Photo courtesy of: Vancouver Public Library

Tucked away above the busy streets below, the Phillips, Hager and North garden on Level 9 provides a tranquil space for library visitors. Opened in 2018, the garden is the creation of world-renowned landscape architect Cornelia Hahn Oberlander (1921-2021), who collaborated with Moshe Safdie on many occasions over the span of her influential and highly illustrious career. The plantings have been chosen with attention to the exposed conditions and feature trees, shrubs, and perennials that are drought-resistant and which change colours with the passing seasons. Paved walkways lead to benches along the rooftop, affording a space for meditation and striking views of the downtown Vancouver skyline.



Message from the Executive Secretary

Established in 1986, the Canada Council's Public Lending Right Program is fast approaching its 40th anniversary—and the work of the Public Lending Right Commission is just as relevant today. In the past year, the Commission has welcomed two new voting members: Ruth Linka, of Victoria, British Columbia, has joined as an anglophone publisher-representative, and author David A. Robertson, of Winnipeg, Manitoba, has been welcomed aboard as an anglophone writer-representative.

As the permanent assembly tasked with high-level oversight of the program's methods, criteria and payment parameters, the PLR Commission has moved, in the last year, to set a limit to the number of new titles that an individual may submit each year during the open registration season, which, in 2025, took place between February 15 and May 1. PLR has always been intended to support the creative work of living individuals by providing compensation for the availability of their work through public libraries. Thus, an annual limit of 20 new titles per person will enable the effective administration of new claims while ensuring that waves of ineligible claims do not arrive in future years as AI-generated publishing continues to gather force.

This year's report features an array of fresh drawings by Daniel Rotsztain, whose elegant illustrations continue to enhance our work. We are also celebrating the 30th anniversary of Vancouver's Central Library, which opened its doors to the public in May 1995. VPL, as it is known in library circles, has been a stalwart champion of Canada's PLR Program from the very beginning. Past Chief Librarians have included Paul Whitney, Sandra Singh (both of whom served as voting members of the Public Lending Right Commission) and Christina de Castell, whose research in the realm of PLR and electronic publishing is recognized worldwide. A word of thanks from PLR to VPL would not be complete without acknowledging the invaluable contributions of Janet Horne, who for many years has provided us with access to VPL's catalogued holdings during the annual sampling exercise.

Last summer, the administration of the PLR Program took a significant new step: for the first time, PLR now has a dedicated program analyst, who will lead many technical aspects of the program delivery, including the annual library sampling and statistical reporting. I am delighted that Lori Knoll, who brings more than 15 years of experience working with literary programs at the Canada Council, has joined the team.

The past year has also witnessed a remarkable, sustained and unified call from across the domains of authorship, publishing and librarianship in both official language communities for further support of the Canadian PLR program. In particular, the Canadian Federation of Library Associations (CFLA) has provided explicit endorsement in the form of a position paper that appeared in 2024, noting the program's importance as a support to Canadian culture and the fact that it is funded directly by the federal government, not individual libraries.

These efforts are highly appreciated and are bolstered by the Canada Council's long-standing commitment to ensuring the vitality and effectiveness of the program model and that the PLR Commission continues to execute its important stewardship role through changing times.

Peter Schneider

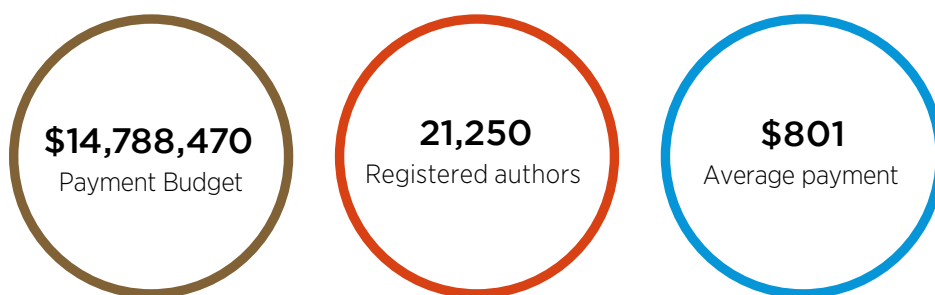
Program Manager and Executive Secretary, PLR Commission

Comments on the Statistical Report

The report on the 39th year of the Public Lending Right (PLR) Program provides an overview of the impact of dynamic budgetary resources, the application of program criteria, the ongoing results of the application of the payment scale, and the minimum and maximum payment thresholds.

The statistics in this report reflect the program data as of January 7, 2025, on which the February 2025 annual payments were based. They were compiled from a “live” system that reflects ongoing changes, including the addition, removal and adjustment of registrants, titles, contributions and payments. As a result, the figures may differ slightly from those in other tables produced at different times.

As is standard practice, the program statistics are based on three elements: number of authors, number of titles, and payments. This year, the PLR Program’s total payment envelope increased to \$14,788,470. A total of 529 author files were closed in 2024 owing to the 25-year limit on active title claim registration or in situations where no titles had been discovered following five years of search or in cases where the file was closed due to death. At the same time, 943 new authors registered with PLR for the first time in 2024. The number of registered authors now stands at 21,250. 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 payments issued by the program increased from 18,247 to 18,465 this year. As in years past, the minimum payment provided by the program was \$50. For the sixth consecutive year, the maximum payment to an author was set at \$4,500. In comparison to last year, the average payment decreased from \$806 to

\$801 and the median author payment decreased from \$399.91 to \$399.56. The maximum per-title payment (8 times the Category I hit rate) decreased from \$492.24 to \$491.76.

Audiobooks have been eligible to the PLR Program since 2019. This year, 606 new eligible audiobooks were registered, 359 of which were found in libraries and generated payments totaling \$44,749. Over the past 4 years, new eligible audiobooks account for an average of 11% of all new titles submitted annually, 8% of new eligible titles found in libraries and 4% of the annual total paid for new titles.

Since 2018, the PLR Commission has successfully modeled and implemented an expanded approach to library sampling. In 2024, titles created in all languages were searched in the catalogues of 39 distinct library systems from across Canada, with representation from each province and territory.

Throughout the report, the term "authors" refers to book creators. It includes writers, translators, illustrators, photographers, narrators and editors. "New author" refers to creators registered with the program for the first time and those returning to the program this year after a break in participation.

The terms "Anglophone" and "Francophone" refer to the official language of correspondence selected by registrants for the PLR Program. They do not necessarily reflect registrants' primary language or the language(s) of their titles.

Statistical Activity Report

Overview of the 39th Year of the PLR Program

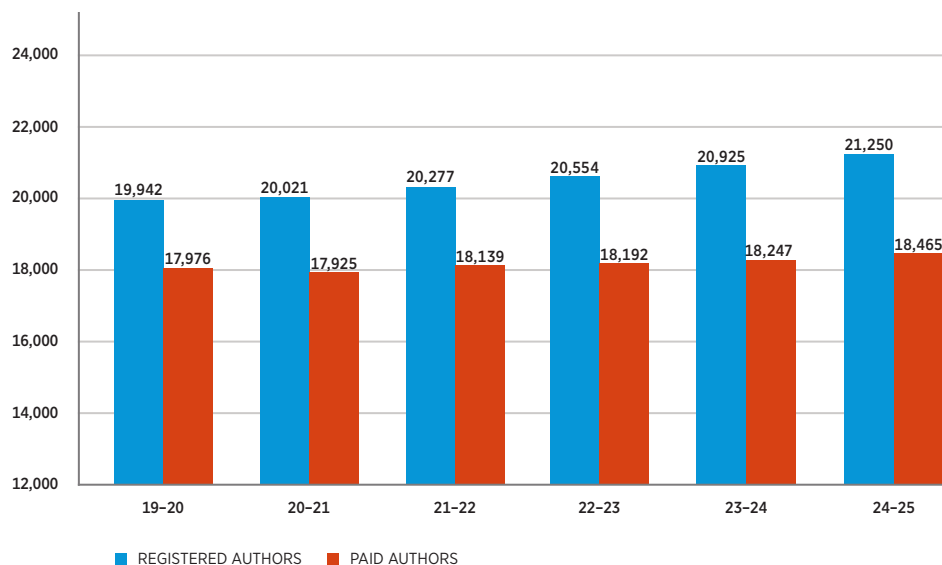
	2023-24	2024-25	Variation
Authors registered in the program	20,925	21,250	1.55%
Authors receiving payment	18,247	18,465	1.19%
Registered titles	95,701	97,101	1.46%
Eligible titles	94,992	96,282	1.36%
Titles paid	84,583	85,875	1.53%
Amount distributed to authors	\$14,698,765	\$14,788,470	0.61%
Average payment per author	\$806.00	\$801.00	-0.62%
Minimum payment	\$50.00	\$50.00	0.00%
Median payment	\$399.91	\$399.56	-0.09%
Maximum payment	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	0.00%
Maximum amount paid per book (category I)	\$492.24	\$491.76	-0.10%
Maximum amount paid per book (category II)	\$393.76	\$393.44	-0.08%
Maximum amount paid per book (category III)	\$344.56	\$344.24	-0.09%
Maximum amount paid per book (category IV)	\$246.08	\$245.92	-0.07%

New Authors (2024-25)

	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
New authors registered			
Anglophone			558
Francophone			385
Total	848	1306	943
New authors receiving payment			
Anglophone			433
Francophone			314
Total	669	831	747
Amounts paid to new authors			
Anglophone			\$168,119
Francophone			\$120,409
Total	\$232,822	\$335,590	\$288,528

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

Registered Authors and Paid Authors (2019-2025)



Historical Summary (1986-2025)

		Registered Authors	Authors Receiving Payment	Average Payment	Median Payment	Eligible Titles	Titles Receiving Payment	Maximum Value per Title	Total Paid
86/87	1	4,553	4,377	\$628	N/A	14,138	N/A	\$400.00	\$2,747,949
87/88	2	5,638	5,200	\$670	N/A	18,611	N/A	\$390.00	\$3,484,988
88/89	3	6,713	5,718	\$694	N/A	22,519	N/A	\$400.00	\$3,970,947
89/90	4	7,153	6,405	\$729	N/A	24,954	N/A	\$400.00	\$4,667,214
90/91	5	7,681	6,962	\$772	N/A	27,192	24,065	\$420.00	\$5,371,927
91/92	6	8,125	7,699	\$805	N/A	30,340	26,672	\$432.50	\$6,200,426
92/93	7	8,801	8,393	\$821	N/A	32,744	29,461	\$437.00	\$6,890,845
93/94	8	9,689	9,082	\$684	N/A	34,589	32,194	\$363.00	\$6,212,600
94/95	9	10,274	9,604	\$651	N/A	37,168	34,405	\$339.00	\$6,251,784
95/96	10	10,555	10,172	\$598	N/A	39,539	36,525	\$313.00	\$6,077,961
96/97	11	11,262	10,730	\$559	N/A	41,909	38,877	\$293.50	\$6,000,406
97/98	12	11,557	11,151	\$720	N/A	44,360	40,781	\$390.00	\$8,030,000
98/99	13	11,986	11,602	\$695	N/A	46,928	42,785	\$378.00	\$8,059,252
99/00	14	12,523	12,148	\$663	N/A	49,332	45,655	\$344.50	\$8,052,114
00/01	15	13,041	12,740	\$679	N/A	52,123	48,346	\$352.50	\$8,650,376
01/02	16	13,546	13,269	\$727	N/A	55,443	50,878	\$367.50	\$9,653,043
02/03	17	14,205	13,889	\$694	\$357	58,973	53,532	\$348.50	\$9,639,776
03/04	18	14,792	14,435	\$619	\$326	61,175	56,243	\$296.70	\$8,938,460
04/05	19	15,347	14,441	\$621	\$302	63,988	54,776	\$301.70	\$8,962,741
05/06	20	15,899	14,972	\$601	\$287	67,142	57,709	\$287.35	\$9,001,099
06/07	21	16,414	15,417	\$588	\$281	70,090	59,979	\$281.05	\$9,062,476
07/08	22	17,028	15,993	\$570	\$280	73,075	62,631	\$268.10	\$9,115,095
08/09	23	17,532	16,514	\$600	\$292	76,542	65,345	\$280.00	\$9,901,024
09/10	24	18,157	17,058	\$583	\$296	78,768	68,287	\$348.60	\$9,939,089
10/11	25	18,692	17,487	\$566	\$282	81,663	70,865	\$339.22	\$9,901,337
11/12	26	19,265	17,885	\$555	\$269	85,196	72,870	\$336.00	\$9,921,248
12/13	27	19,825	18,186	\$537	\$262	88,300	74,246	\$336.70	\$9,766,310
13/14	28	20,218	18,668	\$523	\$237	91,738	77,479	\$367.99	\$9,762,247
14/15	29	20,504	16,865	\$577	\$275	94,975	80,034	\$356.30	\$9,737,850
15/16	30	20,749	17,169	\$568	\$269	94,776	82,734	\$355.60	\$9,757,774
16/17	31	21,163	17,344	\$563	\$264	98,413	85,419	\$352.10	\$9,758,100
17/18	32	21,565	17,553	\$556	\$254	101,477	87,083	\$355.25	\$9,765,635
18/19*	33	19,769	17,255	\$712	\$353	83,120	75,981	\$412.30	\$12,282,713
19/20	34	19,942	17,976	\$822	\$401	85,421	78,232	\$467.88	\$14,781,301
20/21	35	20,021	17,925	\$826	\$406	87,310	79,452	\$507.76	\$14,799,693
21/22	36	20,277	18,139	\$827	\$403	89,551	81,328	\$503.68	\$14,999,663
22/23	37	20,554	18,192	\$814	\$403	91,712	82,673	\$485.36	\$14,799,642
23/24	38	20,925	18,247	\$806	\$400	94,992	84,583	\$492.24	\$14,698,765
24/25	39	21,250	18,465	\$801	\$400	96,282	85,875	\$491.76	\$14,788,470

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

Distribution of Payments

1. Payments by Range and by Language (2024–25)

Payments	Language	Authors	% of Total Authors	Total Paid	% of Total Budget
Threshold not reached From \$0.01 to \$49.99	E	1,429	71.49%		
	F	570	28.51%		
	E+F	1,999	100.00%		
From \$50.00 to \$399.56	E	5,596	30.31%	\$1,067,034	7.22%
	F	3,646	19.75%	\$702,241	4.75%
	E+F	9,242	50.06%	\$1,769,275	11.96%
From \$399.57 to \$801.00	E	2,487	13.47%	\$1,406,688	9.51%
	F	1,452	7.86%	\$842,946	5.70%
	E+F	3,939	21.33%	\$2,249,634	15.21%
From \$801.01 to \$999.99	E	606	3.28%	\$549,181	3.71%
	F	420	2.27%	\$376,471	2.55%
	E+F	1,026	5.55%	\$925,652	6.26%
From \$1,000.00 to \$1,999.99	E	1,283	6.95%	\$1,810,946	12.25%
	F	1,015	5.50%	\$1,419,847	9.60%
	E+F	2,298	12.45%	\$3,230,793	21.85%
From \$2,000.00 to \$2,999.99	E	474	2.57%	\$1,165,077	7.88%
	F	388	2.10%	\$941,458	6.37%
	E+F	862	4.67%	\$2,106,534	14.24%
From \$3,000.00 to \$4,499.99	E	292	1.58%	\$1,071,314	7.24%
	F	235	1.27%	\$865,766	5.85%
	E+F	527	2.85%	\$1,937,080	13.10%
Maximum \$4,500.00	E	241	1.31%	\$1,084,500	7.33%
	F	330	1.79%	\$1,485,000	10.04%
	E+F	571	3.10%	\$2,569,500	17.38%
Total with payment	E	10,979	59.46%	\$8,154,740	55.14%
	F	7,486	40.54%	\$6,633,729	44.86%
	E+F	18,465	100%	\$14,788,469	100%

Median: The median of a population is the point that divides the distribution of scores in half.
In February 2025, 9,242 authors (50.06%) received \$399.56 or less. They shared 11.96% of the budget.

Average: In February 2025, the average payment was \$801.00.
13,181 authors (71.39%) received \$801.00 or less. They shared 27.18% of the budget.
5,284 authors (28.62%) received more than \$801.00. They shared 72.82% of the budget.

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

Distribution of Payments

2. Payments by Province and Territory (2024–25)

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	287	1.35%	260	1.41%	90.59%	\$167,768	1.13%
Prince Edward Island	90	0.42%	76	0.41%	84.44%	\$59,517	0.40%
Nova Scotia	765	3.60%	662	3.59%	86.54%	\$447,262	3.02%
New Brunswick	522	2.46%	450	2.44%	86.21%	\$264,120	1.79%
Quebec	8,276	38.95%	7,425	40.21%	89.72%	\$6,535,294	44.19%
Ontario	5,859	27.57%	4,877	26.41%	83.24%	\$3,753,243	25.38%
Manitoba	461	2.17%	387	2.10%	83.95%	\$255,547	1.73%
Saskatchewan	381	1.79%	341	1.85%	89.50%	\$230,487	1.56%
Alberta	1,103	5.19%	949	5.14%	86.04%	\$715,916	4.84%
British Columbia	2,924	13.76%	2,529	13.70%	86.49%	\$1,866,971	12.62%
Northwest Territories	20	0.09%	19	0.10%	95.00%	\$8,860	0.06%
Yukon	26	0.12%	24	0.13%	92.31%	\$16,502	0.11%
Nunavut	7	0.03%	7	0.04%	100.00%	\$4,321	0.03%
Outside Canada	529	2.49%	459	2.49%	86.77%	\$462,662	3.13%
Total	21,250	100%	18,465	100%	86.89%	\$14,788,470	100%

Example: In 2024–25, 86.49% of registered British Columbia authors received a payment. This represents 13.70% of paid authors. These authors received 12.62% of the payment budget.

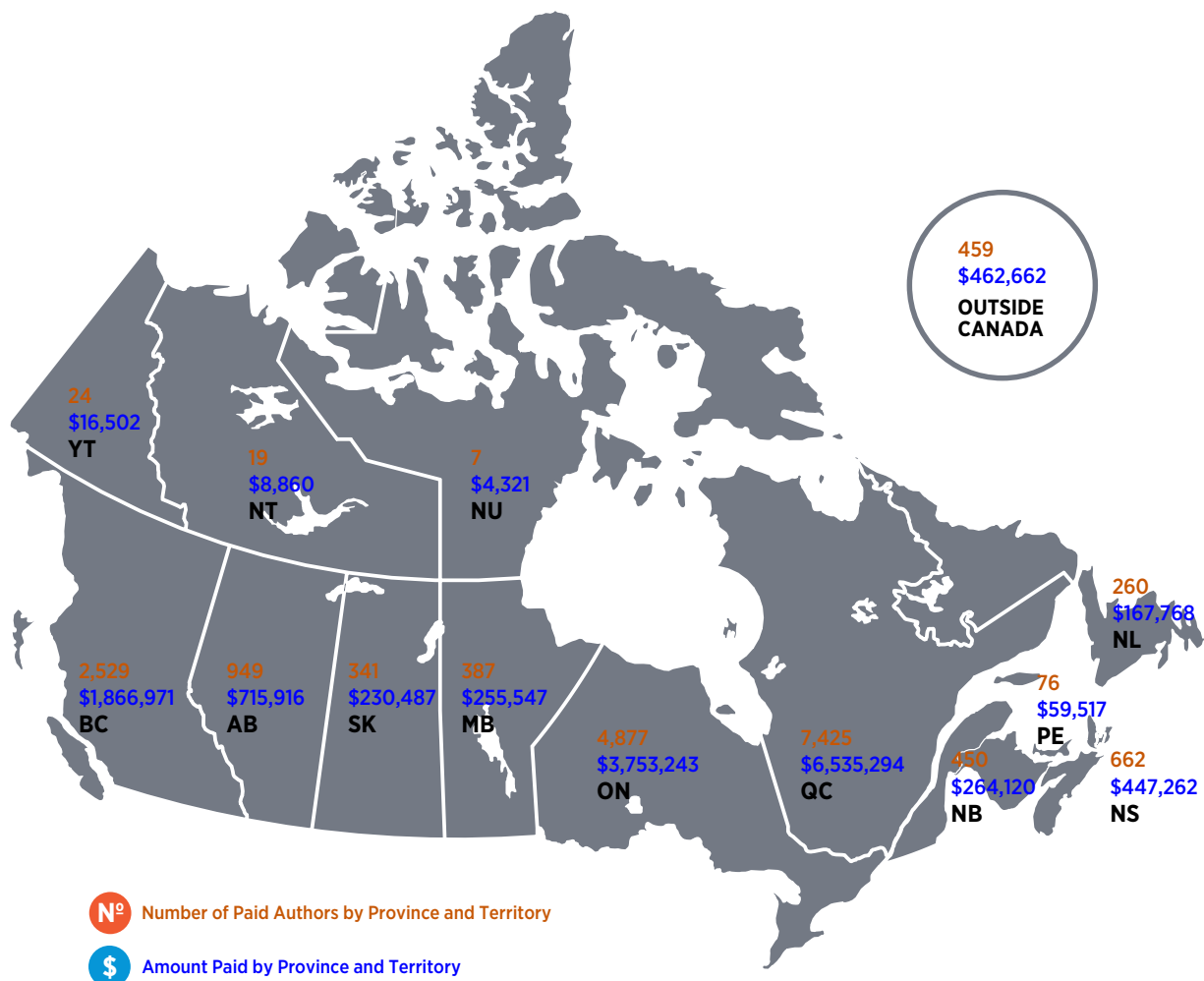
Payments by Province and Territory (2024-25)

18,465

Total Authors Paid

\$14,788,470

Total Budget



Program Growth: New Titles (2024-25)

	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
New registered titles				
English				3,830
French				2,701
Bilingual				33
Other				143
Total	6,143	6,152	7,105	6,707
New eligible titles				
English				3,363
French				2,397
Bilingual				28
Other				100
Total	5,577	5,539	6,396	5,888
New titles found in sampled libraries				
English				2,269
French				2,091
Bilingual				21
Other				11
Total	4,143	3,967	4,628	4,392
Amounts paid for new titles				
English				\$581,627
French				\$551,103
Bilingual				\$3,170
Other				\$1,076
Total	\$1,104,888	\$1,003,487	\$1,190,938	\$1,136,975

Program Growth: New Titles - Audiobooks (2024-25)

	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Average (4 years)
New registered titles					
English				566	
French				198	
Bilingual				0	
Other				29	
Total	686	890	927	793	824
% of all new titles*	11.17%	14.47%	13.05%	11.82%	12.63%
New eligible titles					
English				494	
French				108	
Bilingual				0	
Other				4	
Total	584	680	799	606	667
% of all new titles*	10.47%	12.28%	12.49%	10.29%	11.38%
New titles found in sampled libraries					
English				269	
French				90	
Bilingual				0	
Other				0	
Total	289	338	406	359	348
% of all new titles*	6.98%	8.52%	8.77%	8.17%	8.11%
Amounts paid for new titles					
English				\$33,263	
French				\$11,485	
Bilingual				\$0	
Other				\$0	
Total	\$33,786	\$40,409	\$50,859	\$44,749	\$42,451
% of all new titles*	3.06%	4.03%	4.27%	3.94%	3.82%

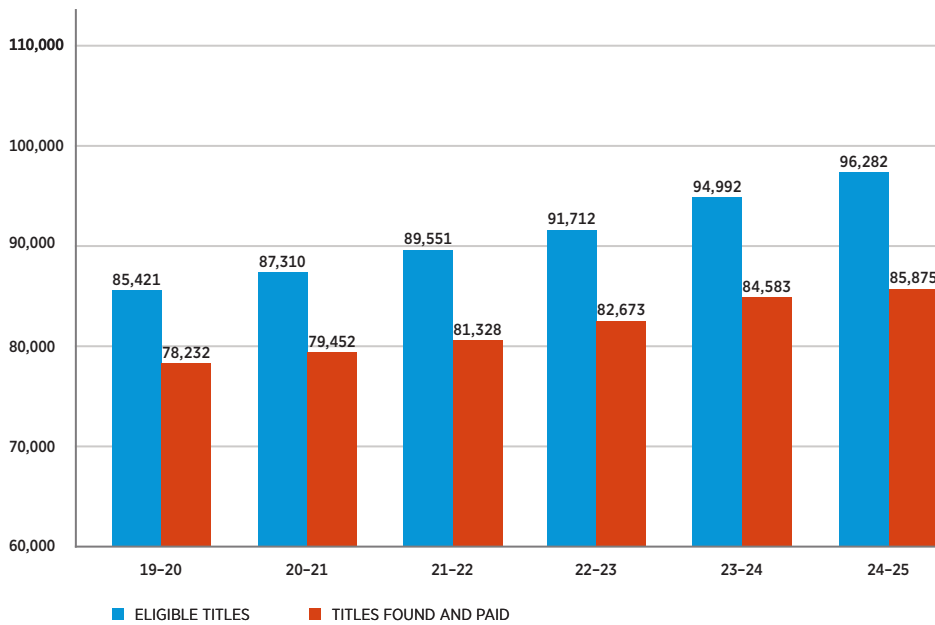
*The % that new audiobooks represent among all new titles (paper, ebook and audio formats).

New Eligible Titles by Language and by Category (2024-25)

Category	English	French	Bilingual	Other	Total	% of Total Titles
Children's	795	988	14	18	1,815	30.83%
Fiction	1,567	906	1	59	2,533	43.02%
Poetry	244	151	6	6	407	6.91%
Drama	34	35	2	1	72	1.22%
Non-fiction*	723	317	5	16	1,061	18.02%
Total	3,363	2,397	28	100	5,888	
Total in %	57.12%	40.71%	0.48%	1.70%		

*Non-fiction includes scholarly works

Eligible Titles and Titles Found and Paid (2019-2025)



Eligible Titles by Language

Language	Year	Number of Titles	Growth in Comparison to Previous Year
English	2022-23	50,212	2.28%
	2023-24	51,813	3.19%
	2024-25	52,336	1.01%
French	2022-23	39,788	2.67%
	2023-24	41,401	4.05%
	2024-25	42,186	1.90%
Bilingual	2022-23	369	3.94%
	2023-24	378	2.44%
	2024-25	399	5.56%
Other	2022-23	1,343	-0.44%
	2023-24	1,400	4.24%
	2024-25	1,361	-2.79%
Total	2022-23	91,712	2.41%
	2023-24	94,992	3.58%
	2024-25	96,282	1.36%

Eligible Titles Found and Paid (2024-25)

Language	Number of Titles	Percentage
English	44,713	52.07%
French	40,060	46.65%
Bilingual	339	0.39%
Other	763	0.89%
Total	85,875	100 %

Eligible Titles by Category and Language (2024-25)

Category	Language	Number of Titles	% of All Same Language Titles	% of All Titles of this Category	% of All Registered Titles
Children's	English	14,129	27.00%	44.06%	14.67%
	French	17,465	41.40%	54.47%	18.14%
	Bilingual	81	20.30%	0.25%	0.08%
	Other	390	28.66%	1.22%	0.41%
Total		32,065			33.30%
Fiction	English	17,307	33.07%	56.96%	17.98%
	French	12,530	29.70%	41.24%	13.01%
	Bilingual	36	9.02%	0.12%	0.04%
	Other	509	37.40%	1.68%	0.53%
Total		30,382			31.56%
Poetry	English	4,285	8.19%	55.51%	4.45%
	French	3,117	7.39%	40.38%	3.24%
	Bilingual	108	27.07%	1.40%	0.11%
	Other	210	15.43%	2.72%	0.22%
Total		7,720			8.02%
Drama	English	874	1.67%	56.17%	0.91%
	French	653	1.55%	41.97%	0.68%
	Bilingual	10	2.51%	0.64%	0.01%
	Other	19	1.40%	1.22%	0.02%
Total		1,556			1.62%
Non-fiction*	English	15,741	30.08%	64.09%	16.35%
	French	8,421	19.96%	34.29%	8.75%
	Bilingual	164	41.10%	0.67%	0.17%
	Other	233	17.12%	0.95%	0.24%
Total		24,559			25.51%
Total	English	52,336			54.36%
	French	42,186			43.82%
	Bilingual	399			0.41%
	Other	1,361			1.41%
Total of All Categories		96,282			100%

The 15,741 English-language non-fiction titles represent: 30.08% of all English-language eligible titles, 64.09% of all non-fiction titles and 16.35% of all eligible titles.

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

* Non-fiction includes scholarly works.

Past Public Library Partners

The following libraries have participated in past
PLR Program surveys:

NL

Newfoundland and Labrador
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
Montréal Municipal Library
Québec Library
Repentigny Library
Réseau biblio - The Bas-Saint-Laurent
Réseau biblio - Capitale-Nationale and
Chaudière-Appalaches
Réseau biblio - Centre-du-Québec, de
Lanaudière et de la Mauricie (CQLM)
Réseau biblio - The Gaspé and the
Magdalen Islands
Réseau biblio - The Laurentians
Réseau biblio - Montérégie
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

Kingston-Frontenac Public Library
Kitchener Public Library
London Public Library
Markham Public Library
Six Nations Public Library
Thunder Bay 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
Fraser Valley Regional Library
Okanagan Regional Library
Vancouver Island Regional Public Library
Vancouver Public Library
Greater Victoria Public Library

YT

Yukon Public Libraries

PLR - How the Program's Value Stacks Up

Supporting Authors

Through PLR, over 18,000 Canadian authors are compensated annually for the availability of their work in libraries. Direct payments range from \$50 to \$4,500 a year. Eligible work includes original writing, translation, illustration, narration and photography contained in books, e-books and audiobooks across a range of literary and scholarly genres.

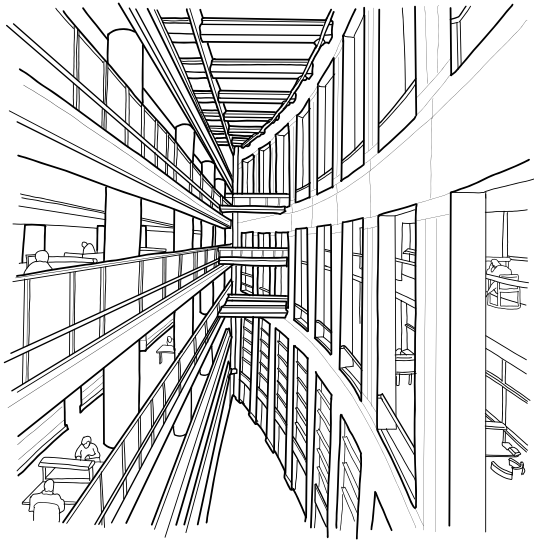
Celebrating Libraries

We support and celebrate public access to Canadian content in libraries! PLR surveys the catalogues of public library systems across Canada 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.

Enriching Readers and Listeners

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

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF VANCOUVER PUBLIC LIBRARY'S CENTRAL BRANCH 1995–2025



As a special bonus, illustrator Daniel Rotsztain has created a mini portfolio of vignettes of life at the Central Branch. Drawn in the same style as his celebrated portraits of famous public library buildings, these sketches offer a contemplative grace note to this year's report and echo the Vancouver Public Library's central role as a place of study, enjoyment, and personal connection.

Illustrations courtesy of: Daniel Rotsztain



PUBLIC LENDING RIGHT
PROGRAM

Public Lending Right Program

150 Elgin Street
Post Office Box 1047
Ottawa, ON
K1P 5V8

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
du Canada