

HOW TO USE THIS TEMPLATE (delete this box before sending)

Replace the highlighted [bracketed] text with your details. Two paragraphs are marked optional; keep, adapt or delete them as fits your community. Print on your municipality's letterhead and send by email and by mail to your MLA's constituency office.

Template prepared by the Coalition of Alberta Public Libraries, June 2026. Questions: contact CAP Libraries through caplibraries.ca.

[Date]

[MLA full name], MLA

[Constituency name]

[Constituency office address]

Dear [Mr./Ms. surname],

Re: Bill 28 regulations and library service in [community]

I am writing on behalf of the Council of [the Town/Village/County of name] regarding the regulations now being developed under Bill 28, the Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026, which amended the Libraries Act this spring.

Council supports the goal of age-appropriate access to library materials, and we recognize the important role of parents in deciding what their children read. The Minister of Municipal Affairs has described the intent of the changes in narrow terms: a small number of items with explicit content, placed behind the counter, with parental permission required for borrowing by children 15 and under. Our concern is how the regulations related to this legislation will translate that intent into requirements for libraries and for the municipalities that fund them.

[Library name] is governed by a local board appointed under municipal authority and is funded primarily by municipal taxpayers. The province has confirmed that no new funding will accompany Bill 28. Depending on how the regulations are written, compliance could require physical changes to library space, additional staff time for age verification and parental consent, and reconfiguration of catalogue, checkout and digital systems, much of which is delivered by contracted vendors. These costs would fall to ratepayers in our community.

[OPTIONAL local paragraph, adapt or delete: Our library operates with an annual budget of approximately \$amount, number staff, and description of space. Even modest renovation or staffing requirements would describe the local impact, for example reduced open hours or programming. A survey of more than 90 Alberta libraries conducted by the Coalition of Alberta Public Libraries found these pressures are widespread, and for many small libraries they raise questions about the viability of service itself.]

[OPTIONAL public support paragraph, adapt or delete: Albertans value their libraries. Independent polling commissioned by the Coalition of Alberta Public Libraries in January 2026 found that 82 per cent of Albertans trust libraries and their locally appointed boards to make decisions about collections, and that 70 per cent of Alberta households use a public library at least a few times a year.]

As our MLA, we ask that you work with the Minister of Municipal Affairs to ensure that the regulations:

1. reflect the narrow scope the Minister has described publicly;
2. are developed in meaningful consultation with libraries and municipalities;
3. are accompanied by provincial funding for the costs of implementation; and
4. provide a realistic implementation timeline of at least 18 months from the date regulations are finalized, so compliance can be planned through normal municipal budget cycles.

We understand that representatives of Alberta's library sector are engaging directly with Municipal Affairs officials as the regulations are developed, and Council supports that constructive approach. Our purpose in writing is to ensure the perspective of communities like ours is part of that conversation.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this with you over the summer, and we invite you to visit [library name] to see the service it provides to residents of [community].

Sincerely,

[Name]

[Mayor / Reeve], [municipality]

On behalf of Council

cc: [Honourable name], Minister of Municipal Affairs

[Chair, library board]

[Regional library system, if applicable]

Coalition of Alberta Public Libraries