

Employment of a Professional Librarian

Section 14 of the *Libraries Regulation* requires any municipal library board of any municipality with a population of 10,000 or more, or any intermunicipal library whose signatories to their intermunicipal agreement have a combined total population of 10,000 or more, to employ a professional librarian.

A professional librarian is defined as a graduate of an ALA-accredited postgraduate library program in Canada or equivalent from another country.

Public Library Services Branch will consider the following scenarios to be compliant with this section of the *Regulation*:

- The library board employs a professional librarian. The professional librarian works under an employer-employee relationship as defined in Alberta labour law.
 - Full time and part time arrangements are acceptable.
- The library board enters into a contract for professional librarian services.
 - Contracted services should be related to the profession of librarianship, such as:
 - Community needs assessment and service planning
 - Collection development
 - Program development and delivery
 - Library management and administration
 - Supervision and/or evaluation of staff
 - Evaluation of services
 - Budget development and/or administration
 - Policy development
 - Contracted services should ensure the proper management of the municipal library and should be customized to fit the local environment.
 - Library services customarily provided by library systems to member libraries are not adequately personalized, comprehensive, or municipally focused to meet this requirement.
 - Contracted services should be provided on an ongoing basis.

Please refer to the *Libraries Regulation* for authoritative language on legal requirements.

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Support and Resources

If you have any questions please contact the Public Library Services Branch by phone at 780-427-4871 (toll free by dialing 310-0000 first), or by email at libraries@gov.ab.ca. Information is also available on the PLSB website at www.albertalibraries.ca.