



Education

Student Achievement and Inclusion Division
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February 1, 2021

To: Superintendents of School Divisions
Principals of Funded Independent Schools
Non-Funded Independent Schools
Directors of First Nations Education Authorities
Student Services Administrators
Publishing companies

This letter is to inform you that after a careful review, government has made the decision to wind down the operations of the Manitoba Learning Resource Centre (MLRC) (formerly known as the Manitoba Textbook Bureau) and modernize the process of how schools obtain materials relevant to Manitoba curricula. It is important to note that essential operations of the MLRC will be retained through partnerships with other agencies as well as integrating functions into existing department unit operations.

The MLRC will wind down all of its operations by the end of the school year in June 2021. Staff will remain in place to support this transition, including the need to finalize procurement services/orders and other financial transactions by the end of the fiscal year on March 31, 2021.

School divisions and independent schools will continue to receive the full amount for their curriculum support grants but will now have the ability to spend their full grant at vendors of their choice. This will increase the flexibility for classroom teachers to order what they require for their students and ensure that all of the funding available is directed to the classroom.

The primary role of the MLRC is to administer some or all of the Curricular Material Support Grant (CMSG) to school divisions on behalf of the Government. School divisions and independent schools were not spending their full grant with the MLRC. In the modern context of fast and direct online access to materials, the MLRC model is no longer the best delivery mechanism of curricula materials.

After February 12, 2021 all Special Order requests will be returned to schools/divisions for re-direction to publisher or vendors as applicable. Orders for items “in stock” and digital resources under the consortium programs will be processed until March 12, 2021. Ordering inventory items will be processed while supplies last. Final statement date and school/division account settlement will be March 12, 2021. Contact information for publishers of commonly requested materials will be made available to schools by February 26, 2021. More information will be available in the coming weeks, including information on the ordering process for Non-Funded Independent Schools.

We will be working closely with stakeholders and partners to address any issues that may arise as part of this transition. If you have questions or would like to discuss further, please contact Brenda McKinny, Chief Operating Officer of the MLRC, at Brenda.McKinny@gov.mb.ca.

Thank you for your assistance in making this process as smooth as possible and we look forward to continuing to support the availability of exceptional and modernized curricular supports to Manitoba teachers and students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C. Moody". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Christina Moody
Assistant Deputy Minister
Student Achievement and Inclusion Division

c. Chairs of School Boards