

Chief Librarian

Nelson Public Library - City of Nelson Competition #26EX01



Nestled in the stunning Selkirk Mountains on the traditional lands of the Sinixt, Ktunaxa, and Sylix peoples, Nelson is a vibrant community known for its natural beauty, arts, culture, and outdoor recreation. The Nelson Public Library serves approximately 23,000 residents across the City of Nelson and surrounding areas, offering inclusive, innovative, and community-driven services that reflect library values: universal & equitable access, excellent service, equity, diversity and inclusion and sustainability.

THE OPPORTUNITY

The Nelson Public Library Board is seeking an inspiring and visionary Chief Librarian to lead our team into the future. This is an exceptional opportunity for a dynamic leader who is passionate about libraries as catalysts for learning, creativity, and connection. Reporting to the Library Board, the Chief Librarian provides strategic and operational leadership for all aspects of library service, including staff management, financial oversight, programming, collection management, technology, and community engagement.

WHAT YOU'LL DO

- Lead and Inspire: Foster a collaborative, inclusive, and innovative workplace culture that empowers staff and reflects our values.
- Strategic Leadership: Guide the development and implementation of the Library's strategic priorities, ensuring alignment with community needs and emerging trends.
- Operational Excellence: Oversee daily operations, budgets, policies, and reporting to the Board and government agencies.
- Community Engagement: Build strong partnerships with local organizations, governments, and stakeholders; champion the Library as a hub for discovery and connection.
- Digital Innovation: Advance technology initiatives, digital literacy, and online services to meet evolving patron needs.

WHO YOU ARE

- A visionary leader, preferably holding a Master's degree in Library and Information Science (MLIS) from an accredited institution.
- Minimum five years of progressive leadership experience in a public library or similar environment.
- Skilled in financial management, strategic planning, and change leadership.
- Committed to establishing and promoting an inviting and welcoming library environment
- Excellent communicator and relationship-builder with strong business acumen and a passion for community service.

COMPENSATION:

We offer a competitive salary, comprehensive benefits, and a supportive, team-oriented environment in one of Canada's most beautiful and culturally rich communities.

SALARY RANGE: \$103,278 - \$114,754

HOURS: 37.5 hours/week

DAYS: Varying

START DATE: April 1, 2026

To find a full description of the position role, including required qualifications and experience, please visit nelson.ca/jobs.

To be considered for this opportunity, please submit your application package, including resume and cover letter, in confidence, by 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 1, 2026, to the:

Nelson Library Board

Email: hr@nelson.ca

Subject line: Chief Librarian Competition #26EX01

We thank all applicants for their interest in joining the Nelson Public Library. The City of Nelson is committed to creating an inclusive, diverse, equitable, and accessible workplace. We encourage applications from all qualified individuals, including Indigenous Peoples, persons with disabilities, members of visible minority groups, women, and people of diverse gender identities and sexual orientations.

If you require an accommodation at any stage of the recruitment process, please contact Human Resources as early as possible so we can support you.