

Media Release

The Hon Nick Staikos MP
Minister for Consumer Affairs
Minister for Local Government



Tuesday, 16 September 2025

SUPPORTING LIFELONG LEARNING AT OUR PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The Allan Labor Government is continuing to invest in public libraries, the essential programs and services they deliver and the integral role they play at the heart of communities across Victoria.

Minister for Local Government Nick Staikos today announced \$48.1 million has been allocated through the latest round of the Public Libraries Funding Program to promote education and innovation among young Victorians.

The program was established to provide annual funds for councils, regional library corporations, Connected Libraries Ltd, My Community Library Ltd, Your Library Ltd and Vision Australia, and supports a range of essential community activities and services delivered every day across 293 branches statewide.

This includes everything from physical and electronic collection of items, information technology facilities, delivery of library and outreach programs, and the raft of other services provided by public libraries across Victoria.

Libraries are no longer a place just for borrowing books. They are places where the community can access e-resources, wifi, computers, meeting rooms, art spaces, and diverse child, youth, and adult programs

Public libraries are vibrant community hubs that offer a safe space for social interaction, digital connection, lifelong learning and rich, cultural experiences.

Since 2015, the government has invested more than \$498.5 million through the Public Libraries Funding Program.

For more information on the program, visit [Public Libraries Funding Program](#).

Quotes attributable to Minister for Local Government Nick Staikos

"We are supporting our terrific community libraries and the endless access to knowledge, social connection and entertainment they offer all Victorians."

"Our libraries offer so much more than books – they foster lifelong learning and contribute to the connections that strengthen and enrich Victorian communities."

Quote attributable to Victorian Public Library Ambassador Andrea Rowe

"With this funding, libraries can continue to inspire creativity and foster learning in communities right across Victoria."