**How to turn $125 into a Legal Collection
*Examples***

*If you collect for a small library, are getting started with your legal collection, refreshing your existing legal collection, or are looking for some collection guidance, this guide is for you!*

The smallest LawMatters grant given out is **$125** –

The purpose of this guide is to give you examples of how you can build a great introductory legal collection with just $125 – using an abundance of free resources available and using your grant to add specific legal topics or build a general collection.

The examples here have been selected from the *Law Books for Libraries 2017* (LBL) list with small libraries in mind – price, space, and subjects have been considered.

The examples in this guide are not exhaustive - feel free to be selective, pick & choose, pull things from the LBL, it’s really up to you! Every library community is different and your choices will differ depending on your community needs/subject interests.
**Starting with Free Information!**

You can collect quite a lot of information using free materials! Most of these titles are available digitally or in print!

If space is a concern for your library or you don’t have a place to display pamphlets or booklets you can:

* Access these online
* Link them to your catalogue or website (if that is an option for you)
* Download the PDF versions to access them offline

See below for examples of free materials you can start with:

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| **Aboriginal Law** |
| [Clear Skies - a graphic novel about family violence for Aboriginal teens](http://www.lss.bc.ca/publications/pub.php?pub=462) (2015) |
| [Emily's Choice](http://www.lss.bc.ca/publications/pub.php?pub=469) (2016) |
| [Honouring the Truth, Reconciling for the Future: Summary of the Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada](http://nctr.ca/assets/reports/Final%20Reports/Executive_Summary_English_Web.pdf) (2015) |
| [Social Assistance on Reserve in BC](http://www.lss.bc.ca/publications/pub.php?pub=100)  (booklet) (2014) |

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| **Abuse and Victims of Crime** |
| [For Your Protection: Peace Bonds and Restraining Orders](http://www.lss.bc.ca/publications/pub.php?pub=20) (2013) |
| [Leaving Abuse](http://www.lss.bc.ca/publications/pub.php?pub=467) (2016) |
| [Mothers Leaving Abusive Partners](http://www.lss.bc.ca/publications/pub.php?pub=485) (2016) |
| [Safety in Relationships for Trans Folk](http://www.lss.bc.ca/publications/pub.php?pub=460) (2015) |
| [Safety in Same-Gender Relationships](http://www.lss.bc.ca/publications/pub.php?pub=458) (2015) |

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| **Criminal Law** |
| [Consequences of a Youth Record](http://www.publiclegaled.bc.ca/consequences-of-a-youth-record/) (booklet) (2014) |
| [Defending Yourself: Assault](http://www.lss.bc.ca/publications/pub.php?pub=441) (2015) |
| [Defending Yourself: Breach of a Court Order](http://www.lss.bc.ca/publications/pub.php?pub=443) (2015) |
| [Defending Yourself: Mischief](http://www.lss.bc.ca/publications/pub.php?pub=449)  (2015) |
| [Defending Yourself: Possession of an Illegal Drug](http://www.lss.bc.ca/publications/pub.php?pub=444)  (2016) |
| [Defending Yourself: Possession of Property Under $5,000 Obtained by Crime](http://www.lss.bc.ca/publications/pub.php?pub=445)  (2015) |
| [Defending Yourself: Theft Under $5,000](http://www.lss.bc.ca/publications/pub.php?pub=436) (2012) |
| [How to Appeal Your Conviction](http://www.lss.bc.ca/publications/pub.php?pub=22) (2015) |
| [How to Appeal Your Sentence](http://www.lss.bc.ca/publications/pub.php?pub=23) (2015) |
| [Representing Yourself in a Criminal Trial](http://www.lss.bc.ca/publications/pub.php?pub=98)  (2016) |

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| **Employment & Labour Law** |
| [Working in BC: Your Legal Rights & Responsibilities](http://www.publiclegaled.bc.ca/working-in-bc/) (booklet) (2014) |
| [Workplace Bullying and Harassment](http://www.publiclegaled.bc.ca/workplace-bullying-and-harassment/) (2014) |

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| **Family Law** |
| [Child Support in BC: Information for Parents](http://www.publiclegaled.bc.ca/child-support-in-bc/) (booklet) (2013) |
| [Family Law in BC: Quick Reference Tool](http://www.lss.bc.ca/publications/pub.php?pub=438) (2016) |
| [Living Together or Living Apart: Common-Law Relationships, Marriage, Separation, and Divorce](http://www.lss.bc.ca/publications/pub.php?pub=347) (booklet) (2017) |
| [Separation Agreements: Your Right to Fairness](http://www.lss.bc.ca/publications/pub.php?pub=453)  (booklet) (2013) |
| [Coping with Separation](http://www.lss.bc.ca/publications/pub.php?pub=465) (2015) |

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| **Pensions, Benefits & Welfare** |
| [When I'm 64: Benefits](http://www.publiclegaled.bc.ca/when-im-64-benefits/) (booklet) (2015) |
| [When I'm 64: Controlling Your Affairs](http://www.publiclegaled.bc.ca/when-im-64-controlling-your-affairs/) (booklet) (2014) |
| [When I'm 64: Services](http://www.publiclegaled.bc.ca/when-im-64-services/) (booklet) (2015) |

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| **Wills, Estates & Personal Planning** |
| [Being an Executor](http://www.publiclegaled.bc.ca/being-an-executor/) (booklet) (2016) |
| [Writing Your Will](http://www.publiclegaled.bc.ca/writing-your-will/)  (booklet) (2016) |
| [Power of Attorney](http://www.publiclegaled.bc.ca/power-of-attorney/) (booklet) (2015) |

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| **Clicklaw WikiBooks** – Print copies made free for public libraries through LawMatters (limited run) |
| [JP Boyd on Family Law](https://wiki.clicklaw.bc.ca/index.php?title=JP_Boyd_on_Family_Law) | Family Law |
| [Legal Help for British Columbians](https://wiki.clicklaw.bc.ca/index.php?title=Legal_Help_for_British_Columbians) | Most Legal Areas |
| Law Students’ Legal Advice Program Manual (LSLAP) *(Coming soon!)* | Most Legal Areas |

You can put together a pretty comprehensive introduction to legal materials all for free without even spending the $125!

After putting together the free resources of your choosing, here are a couple of examples of how you could use your grant –

**EXAMPLE PURCHASES**

**General Overview:**
A general overview of legal topics:

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| *Title* | *Price\** | *Subject* |
| [Canadian Law Dictionary](http://barronseduc.stores.yahoo.net/1438001517.html) (2013) | 18.99 | General Legal Reference |
| [Canadian Copyright: A Citizen's Guide](http://btlbooks.com/book/canadian-copyright) (2013) | 24.95 | Copyright & Intellectual Property |
| [Canadian Constitution](http://www.dundurn.com/books/canadian_constitution) (2013) | 12.99 | Rights and Citizenship |
| [Journey to Justice: A Practical Guide to Effectively Representing Yourself in Court](http://www.amazon.com/Journey-Justice-Practical-Effectively-Representing/dp/0994795009) (2015) | 19.95 | Courts & Tribunals/legal procedure |
| [Bennett on Consumer Bankruptcy](http://www.self-counsel.com/bennett-on-consumer-bankruptcy.html) (2014) | $24.95 | Debt and Consumer |
| [Write Your Legal Will in 3 Easy Steps](http://www.self-counsel.com/write-your-legal-will-in-3-easy-steps.html) (2015) | 24.95 | Wills, Estates & Personal Planning |
|  | TOTAL | $126.78 |  |

*\*All prices are updated as of March 2017 (Prices and Titles pulled from the March 2017 Version of the Law Books for Libraries List)*

If you find you get a lot of questions in a particular subject area you can spend your grant on more items in that area or put the whole thing towards a more comprehensive item.

EXAMPLE: Family Law

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| [Child Support Guidelines in Canada, 2015](https://www.irwinlaw.com/titles/child-support-guidelines-canada-2015) (2015) | $98.00 |
| [Canadian Family Law](https://www.irwinlaw.com/titles/canadian-family-law-6e) (2015) | $65.00 |
|  | TOTAL |  $163 |

EXAMPLE: Wills, Estates & Personal Planning

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| [Wealth Planning Strategies for Canadians 2016](http://www.carswell.com/product-detail/wealth-planning-strategies-for-canadians-2016/) (2015) | $67.00 |
| [When I Die: Financial Planning for Life and Death](http://www.carswell.com/product-detail/when-i-die-financial-planning-for-life-and-death-2016/) (2015) | $36.95 |
| [Write Your Legal Will in 3 Easy Steps](http://www.self-counsel.com/write-your-legal-will-in-3-easy-steps.html) (2015) | $24.95 |
|  | TOTAL | $128.90 |

EXAMPLE: Aboriginal law

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| [Terms of Coexistence: Indigenous Peoples and Canadian Law](http://www.carswell.com/product-detail/terms-of-coexistence-indigenous-peoples-and-canadian-law/) (2013) | $109.00 |
| [Aboriginal Consultation, Environmental Assessment, and Regulatory Review](http://www.uofrpress.ca/publications/Aboriginal-Consultation-Environmental-Assessment-and-Regulatory-Review-in-Canada-) (2013) | $34.95 |
|  | TOTAL | $143.95 |

OR

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| [Aboriginal Law Handbook](http://www.carswell.com/description.asp?docid=5883)(2012) | $134.00 |
|  | TOTAL | $134.00 |

EXAMPLE: Combination of all above topics
Aboriginal Law, Family Law, Wills & Personal Planning

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| [Aboriginal Consultation, Environmental Assessment, and Regulatory Review](http://www.uofrpress.ca/publications/Aboriginal-Consultation-Environmental-Assessment-and-Regulatory-Review-in-Canada-) (2013) | $34.95 | Aboriginal law |
| [Canadian Family Law](https://www.irwinlaw.com/titles/canadian-family-law-6e) (2015) | $65.00 | Family Law |
| [Write Your Legal Will in 3 Easy Steps](http://www.self-counsel.com/write-your-legal-will-in-3-easy-steps.html) (2015) | $24.95 | Wills, Estates & Personal Planning |
|  | TOTAL | $124.90 |  |

Other tools for selection:

* **Legal Collections – Getting Started**: This document contains some similar information but considers collection sizes from small to large and also recommends items for ‘all library collections.’ Included are electronic resources and a broader range of subject matter.
* **Law Books for Libraries 2017**: This is an Excel document that contains ALL recommended titles for public libraries. Titles on this list can be filtered and organized by subject area, library size, price, and more. It is also colour coded to alert you to updated titles and new titles added to the list.

If you have any questions, please contact LawMatters Program Coordinator Shannon McLeod at smcleod@courthouselibrary.ca