



February 21, 2025

Town of Grand Valley Council
5 Main St. North
Grand Valley, ON
L9W 5S6

Re: Solar Grant

Dear Mayor Soloman and Councillors

The Library is asking permission to be able to install solar panels on the library/municipal's building roof and make any necessary changes to the building if the library is a successful applicant in receiving a grant from 2025 EBSCO Solar Grant.

EBSCO, a library supplier has \$300,000 in grants to fund solar installations at libraries looking to adopt solar power, which is the cleanest and most abundant renewable energy source available. The deadline for submissions are due by April 30, 2025. I have attached the EBSCO Solar Grant Link and FAQs for more information.

Solar Energy would offset the Library's Hydro costs, which have been increasing year to year. In 2024 the expenses for water and hydro were \$7,489.62, compared to the previous year (2023) of \$6,431.79, that is an increase of \$1,057.83 in one year.

Thank you for considering the request, and please let me know if you have any questions or need for further information. I look forward to hearing your decision.

Sincerely,

Joanne Stevenson
CEO, Grand Valley Public Library

EBSCO Solar Grant

EBSCO Solar is open to EBSCO customers only. Questions period ends February 28, 2025. Submissions are due by **April 30, 2025**.

Ebsco does have a FAQs page available for more information.
<https://www.ebsco.com/solar/faqs>.

Why is EBSCO making this money available?

EBSCO Information Services (EBSCO) is a division of EBSCO Industries, Inc. and shares EBSCO Industries' commitment to the environment. EBSCO Industries, Inc. donates part of its pre-tax profits to worthwhile endeavors and believes that companies should do their part to give back and to be environmentally responsible. EBSCO now has three photovoltaic arrays totaling more than 500 panels.

Who will be reviewing the submissions?

EBSCO has worked with a number of solar companies and engineering groups during our own solar upgrades. We will leverage their expertise in solar installation and procurement procedures to assess which libraries have the best plans and which can support a solar array that will make the most impact on their environmental footprint and their utility costs.

How will the grant money be administered?

EBSCO will provide the winning institutions with a check for the full amount of the grant. A grant agreement form will be agreed upon between the winning library and EBSCO and a timetable for the project will be shared.

What is the judging or decision makers' criteria for selection?

There are a number of criteria that will be used to assess the viability of each submission. For instance, a site with a large roof surface and a roof that is new enough to last 20 years would make an excellent candidate. A library that has already started to investigate solar as an option or one that could support a solar array large enough to offset its electricity costs would be viewed

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favorably. An institution with an existing sustainability program, a plan to involve its patrons or students in the project or high community involvement would also receive consideration.

Are there any restrictions on which libraries can apply for the award?

No, there are no restrictions. All academic, school and public libraries that are current EBSCO customers are eligible to apply for the EBSCO Solar grant program.

Who will ultimately own the system?

EBSCO will pay for the initial installation through the grant. The library, town, or college will own the system and will be responsible for all post-installation/ongoing maintenance of the solar array.
