

7. A Review of Resource Sharing Activity & A Look at the Future Sustainability of Resource Sharing in MINITEX Region over next 3-5 Years

We will present a brief report on the volume of resource sharing activity that has been occurring in the last few years, projected out to the next few years. This includes both requests for loans and copies as well as the growth in the MINITEX delivery system, which also means that local delivery systems are being impacted as well as local library staff working in interlibrary loan offices and elsewhere in local libraries.

I would like a broad based discussion of the sustainability of resource sharing if we continue to see increased numbers of requests. We have raised expectations among our end users that the resources in Minnesota libraries and beyond in surrounding states are available and we are able to deliver those resources in a timely manner.

The MnLINK and MEDD stories that we distributed to you in September bear out that people are responding to MnLINK as an entity and they seem to 'get' the link between their local libraries and the MnLINK Gateway service. But, that understanding will just drive volume up as we tell our stories more effectively.

Timeline for next few years:

Potential reductions in FY09 funds for last six months of the fiscal year:

- a. January – March 2009 (MN Legislative budget session for FY10 & FY11)
- b. April – June 2009

FY10 – Potential reduction in base funding

- c. July – September 2009
- d. October – December 2009
- e. January – March 2010
- f. April – June 2010

FY11 – Potential reduction in base funding

- g. July 2010 – September 2010
- h. October – December 2010
- i. January – March 2011 – (MN Legislative budget session for FY12 & FY13)
- j. April – June 2011

FY12 - hopefully, economy will have started to recover ?! ☺