



February 28, 2018

Honourable Daiene Vernile
Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport
9th Floor, Hearst Block
900 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2E1

Dear Minister:

The Newmarket Public Library Board passed the motion below at its meeting on February 21, 2018 regarding provincial funding to public libraries. I hope that you will take note of this motion and consider it as the Government of Ontario prepares its 2018 budget. Please do not hesitate to contact me for further information or to discuss the matter.

Whereas public libraries provide safe, inclusive, and vibrant community spaces where everyone is welcome to learn, work, connect, and have fun; and,

Whereas the Newmarket Public Library engages with the community to provide a centre of learning, dialogue, and discovery; and,

Whereas the Newmarket Public Library continues to have a limited resource budget despite an increase in digital borrowing of 488 percent, the addition of many technology help and discovery programs, and the establishment of the Maker Hub, a new digital creative space; and,

Whereas the Newmarket Public Library continues to manage public resources with the utmost care and is committed to the sustainability of its services;

Therefore be it Resolved that the Newmarket Public Library Board urges the Province of Ontario to recognize the contribution of local libraries within their communities and to cease the 20 year budget freeze to local libraries in acknowledgement to the services they offer to all residents; and,

Be it Further Resolved that the Newmarket Public Library Board urges the Province of Ontario to reinstate adequate and appropriate funding for local libraries, increasing each year going forward in line with the consumer price index; and,

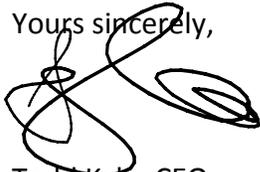
Be it Further Resolved that the Newmarket Public Library Board urges the Province of Ontario to commit funds to a shared and efficient Ontario Digital Library in order to provide equitable online services to all Ontarians; and,

Be it Further Resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to Town of Newmarket Council for their endorsement; and,

Be it Finally Resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Tourism, Culture, and Sport, to the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs, to the local MPP, to the Ontario Library Association, and to the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries.

Carried

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Todd Kyle', written over a horizontal line.

Todd Kyle, CEO

c.c. Newmarket Public Library Board
Stephen Abram, Federation of Ontario Libraries
Shelagh Paterson, Ontario Library Association