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March 26, 2018

Honourable Daiene Vernile

Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport

9th Floor, Hearst Block

900 Bay Street

Toronto, Ontario M7A 2E1

Dear Minister Vernile:

The Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library Board passed the motion below at its meeting on March 26, 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 rolls out 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 Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library is a community gathering place, providing access to knowledge, ideas and cultural events; and,

Whereas the Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library continues to have a limited resource budget despite an increase in circulation of 4.5%, an increase in database uses of 42.5%, an increase in wifi usage of 18.3% and the addition of many technology help and discovery programs within existing budgets; and,

Whereas the Bradford West Gwillimbury 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 Bradford West Gwillimbury 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 of the services they offer to all residents; and,

Be it Further Resolved that the Bradford West Gwillimbury 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 Bradford West Gwillimbury 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 the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury; 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**

Sincerely,

Milt Calder

Library Board Chair