**The Whitby Council Resolution:**

WHEREAS public libraries provide safe, inclusive, and vibrant community hubs where residents of all backgrounds are welcome to learn, work, innovate, explore, connect, and collaborate;

and, WHEREAS

the Whitby Public Library works closely with the community to deliver valued services and contributes to a culture of social good by sharing knowledge and resources;

and, WHEREAS

the Whitby Public Library continues to be a catalyst for Whitby residents and organizations to pursue their goals and dreams and reach their potential by connecting them with the expertise and resources they need, and transforms information into knowledge that positively impacts their lives;

and, WHEREAS

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

and; WHEREAS

the Whitby Public Library continues to deliver services that support provincial initiatives, such as poverty reduction, lifelong learning and skill development, local economic development, health literacy, and provides equitable access to provincial government web sites and services;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

1.      that the Town of Whitby 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 public libraries in an acknowledgement of the services they offer to all residents;

2.      that the Town of Whitby urges the Province of Ontario to reinstate adequate and appropriate funding for local public libraries, increasing each year going forward in line with the consumer price index;

3.      that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Ontario Minister of Tourism, Culture, and Sport, to the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs, to the local MPPs, to the Association of Municipalities Ontario, to the Ontario Library Association, to the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries, and to the Region of Durham and local area municipalities for endorsement.