Subject:

Dear Colleagues,

I’m pleased to share the **embargoed** Canadian Urban Institute’s (CUI) newest report, OVERDUE: The Case for Canada’s Public Libraries, set for public release on October 4, 2023.

The report, released by CUI in partnership with the Canadian Urban Libraries Council / Conseil des Bibliothèques Urbaines du Canada (CULC/CBUC), is the outcome of three years of engagement with Canada’s urban public libraries through one of the most extraordinary periods in human history – the COVID-19 pandemic. It details two potential futures: one of chronic under funding, where libraries are “Stretched to the Brink”, versus the aspirational scenario, where libraries are “Resourced for Resilience”, equipped to respond to every day – and extraordinary – challenges, and ensure we are building community resilience.

Importantly, the report establishes libraries as critical social infrastructure in need of renewed investment and calls out the work libraries continuously do, filling core mandates at every level of government. Today, I am asking you to review this report and amplify it among your colleagues, community partners, stakeholders, boards and members.

Canada’s libraries are in need of investment that recognizes Canada’s libraries as a national asset to renew social cohesion, contribute to economic growth, and support community resilience for the future.

We encourage you to join us from October 4th, throughout Canadian Library Month (October), and beyond to amplify the calls to action. Please share on your social channels, newsletters, taskforces, and stakeholder groups. We will also ask local libraries to respond to media requests within their jurisdiction, to speak to the impacts on your local level.

If you have questions about accessing, sharing or repurposing this document, please contact **[insert CULC contact name and email**].

Thank you to **[insert thanks if desired**].

**Yours sincerely,**

**Name**