August 13, 2018

The Honorable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Room 281, Legislative Building, Queen’s Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier:

Re: Town of Aurora Council Resolution of July 24, 2018
Re: Motion (a) Increased Provincial Funding for Public Libraries

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its meeting held on July 24, 2018, and in this regard Council adopted the following resolution:

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

Whereas the Aurora Public Library engages with the community and contributes to a culture of lifelong learning and social good by sharing knowledge and resources; and

Whereas the Aurora Public Library has enhanced its services and programs to meet a population growing in number and diversity; and

Whereas in 2017 the Aurora Public Library experienced a year-over-year increase in resource use of 5.8 percent, visits to the Library of 5.4 percent, and an increase in program attendance of 28.8 percent; and

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

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora urges the Province of Ontario to recognize the contribution of local libraries within their communities and to cease the 20-year funding freeze to local libraries in an acknowledgement of the services they offer to all residents; and
2. 

Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora urges the Province of Ontario to reinstate adequate and appropriate funding for local libraries as was included in the provincial budget of March 28, 2018, increasing each year going forward in line with the consumer price index; and

3. 

Be It Further 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 local MPPs, to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, to the Ontario Library Association, to the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries, and to York Region municipalities.

The above is for your consideration and any attention deemed necessary.

Yours sincerely,

Michael de Rond
Town Clerk
The Corporation of the Town of Aurora

MdR/lib

Copy: Andrea Horwath, Leader, New Democratic Party of Ontario
      John Fraser, Interim Leader, Ontario Liberal Party
      Mike Schreiner, Leader, Green Party of Ontario
      Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport
      Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
      Hon. Christine Elliott, MPP Newmarket-Aurora
      Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill
      Association of Municipalities of Ontario
      Sarah Roberts, Ontario Library Association
      Stephen Abram, Federation of Ontario Public Libraries
      York Region Municipalities