April 9, 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 Huntsville Public Library Board passed the motion below at its meeting on April 9, 2018 regarding provincial funding to public libraries. On behalf of the Board, staff and our users, I have already expressed our thanks in the funding announcement for the 2018. If you have any questions, please do connect with me to discuss.

WHEREAS public libraries provide safe, inclusive, and vibrant community spaces where everyone is welcome to learn, work, connect, create, collaborate; and,

WHEREAS the Huntsville Public Library actively builds and nurtures relationships within the community and contributes to a culture of social good by sharing knowledge and resources; and,

WHEREAS the Huntsville Public Library continues to evolve its services to meet the changing needs of the community and,

WHEREAS the Huntsville Public Library continues to manage public resources with the utmost care and is committed to the sustainability of its services in the context of shifting demand and limited resources;

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

Therefore, be it Resolved that the Huntsville Public Library 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 Huntsville Public Library 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 Huntsville Public Library 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 Huntsville; 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.

Sue Dixon, Board Chair
Huntsville Public Library

Cc: Honourable Bill Mauro Minister of Municipal Affairs
Honourable Norm Miller, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka
Shelagh Patterson, Ontario Library Association
Stephen Abram, Federation of Ontario Public Libraries