March 27, 2018

The Honourable Indira Naidoo-Harris
Ministry of Education/Minister Responsible for Early Years and Child Care
Suite 115
450 Bronte Street South
Milton, Ontario L9T 5B7

VIA EMAIL: indira.naidoo-harris@ontario.ca

Dear I. Naidoo-Harris:

RE: OLA/FOPL 2018 Pre-Budget Submission: A modern, Sustainable Approach to Ontario’s Libraries

Please be advised that Milton Council, at its meeting held on March 19, 2018 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

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

WHEREAS the Milton Public Library actively partners with the community to deliver valued services and contributes to a culture of social good by sharing knowledge and resources;

WHEREAS the Milton Public Library continues to evolve its services to meet the changing needs of a growing community, including a new generation of residents who read, learn, create and connect in new ways;

WHEREAS the Milton Public Library continues to manage public resources with the utmost care and are committed to the sustainability of their services in a context of increased use and reduced resources;

WHEREAS the Milton 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 websites and services;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Milton 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 to the services they offer to all Ontarians;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Milton 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;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Tourism, Culture, and Sport, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, the local MPP and Minister of Education the Honourable Indira Naidoo-Harris, the Association of the Municipalities Ontario, the Ontario Library Association, the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries, the Region of Halton, and the local area municipalities for endorsement.

As per the above resolution, please accept a copy of this report for your information and consideration.

Yours very truly,

Meagan Charland
Legislative Coordinator
Town Clerk’s Division

cc: 1. Daine Vernile, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport
daine.vernile@ontario.ca
2. Bill Mauro, Minister of Municipal Affairs
   bill.mauro@ontario.ca
3. The Association for Municipalities Ontario
   amo@amo.on.ca
4. The Ontario Library Association
   info@accessola.com
5. Julia Merritt, CEO, Stratford Public Library, Federation of Ontario Public Libraries
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6. Milne, Graham, Legislative & Planning Services, Office of the Regional Clerk, Regional Clerk
   Graham.milne@halton.ca
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