March 1, 2018

The Honourable Daiene Vernile  The Honourable Indira Naidoo-Harris
Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport  Minister of Education
Hearth Block, 9th Floor  Mowat Block, 14th Floor
900 Bay Street  900 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2E1  Toronto, ON M7A 2E1

Dear Ministers Vernile and Naidoo-Harris,

At the regular meeting of February 28, 2018, the Orangeville Public Library Board members discussed the priorities set forth by the Ontario Library Association (OLA) and Federation of Ontario Public Libraries (FOPL) and enacted the following resolution.

That the Orangeville Public Library Board endorse the three funding priorities identified by the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries (FOPL) as essential for ensuring a modern, sustainable library sector in Ontario:

1. Provide sustainable, predictable funding for all public and First Nations libraries across Ontario by increasing annual base funding from $33 million to $50 million – an increase of $17 million in annual funding.

2. Dedicate $25 million in new, annual funding for the development and implementation of Ontario’s Digital Library.

3. Mandate the use of funding allocated by the Ministry of Education for school libraries and teacher-librarians for its intended purpose. This will inject an estimated $100 million in annual funding to school libraries across Ontario without requiring any new provincial funding, while ensuring that school libraries get their fair share.

And that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport and the Minister of Education;

And that Orangeville Town Council be requested to pass a resolution in support of these funding priorities identified by the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries.

Carried.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns,

Yours truly,

Scott Wilson, Library Board Chair

CC: Ontario Library Association
     Sylvia Jones, MPP Dufferin-Caledon
     Federation of Ontario Public Libraries
     Town of Orangeville Council