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 Pickering 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 Pickering Public Library continues to evolve its services to meet the changing needs of a growing community, including a new generation of residents who think, learn, read, and collaborate in new ways;

WHEREAS: the Pickering 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 Pickering 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 web sites and services;

NOW THEREFORE the City of Pickering 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 residents;

NOW THEREFORE the City of Pickering 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;
NOW THEREFORE a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Tourism, Culture, and Sport, the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs, the local MPPs, the Association of Municipalities Ontario, the Ontario Library Association, the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries, and the Region of Durham and local area municipalities for endorsement.

Carried ____________________________