March 26, 2018

Ms. Shelagh Paterson
2 Toronto Street, 3rd Floor
Toronto, ON M5C 2B6

Dear Ms. Paterson,

Please be advised that the East Gwillimbury Public Library Board passed the following resolution on March 26, 2018, regarding the need for increased funding for libraries.

Moved by: D. Wrigglesworth
Seconded by: L. Singh

Motion: The Board recognizes THAT public libraries provide safe, inclusive, and vibrant community hubs that offer digital inclusion, cultural programming and lifelong learning opportunities and where everyone is welcome to learn, work, connect, and collaborate;

AND THAT the East Gwillimbury Public Library engages with the community and contributes to a culture of social good by sharing knowledge and resources;

AND THAT the East Gwillimbury Public Library continues to evolve its services to meet the needs of the community, including fostering digital literacy and actively supporting STEM curriculum at local elementary schools;

AND THAT the East Gwillimbury Public Library continues to manage public resources with the utmost care and are committed to the sustainability of their services;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the East Gwillimbury Public Library respectfully requests that Council 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 an acknowledgement to the services they offer to all residents;
AND THAT Council 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 FURTHER 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's, to the Association of Municipalities Ontario, to the Ontario Library Association, to the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries, and to York Region and local area municipalities.

Carried: 2018-24

Sincerely,

Michelle Alleyne,
Chief Executive Officer

cc: B. Mauro, Minister of Municipal Affairs
    D. Vernile, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport
    J. Munro, MPP, York-Simcoe
    Mayor V. Hackson and Members of Council, Town of East Gwillimbury
    S. Paterson, Ontario Library Association