February 23, 2018

The Honourable Daiene Vernile
Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport
900 Bay Street, Hearst Block, 9th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2E1

Re: Provincial Library Fund

Please be advised that at a meeting held on February 20, 2018 the Council of the Town of Whitby adopted the following recommendation as Resolution #45-18:

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

And whereas the Whitby Public Library works closely with the community to deliver valued services and contributes to a culture of social good by sharing knowledge and resources;

And, whereas the Whitby Public Library continues to be a catalyst for Whitby residents and organizations to pursue their goals and dreams and reach their potential by connecting them with the expertise and resources they need, and transforms information into knowledge that positively impacts their lives;

And whereas the Whitby Public Library continues to manage public resources with the utmost care and is committed to the sustainability of its services;

And whereas the Whitby 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;

.../2
Therefore Be It Resolved:

1. That the Town of Whitby 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 of the services they offer to all residents;

2. That the Town of Whitby 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; and,

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

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Rhonda Jessup, Whitby Public Library, Acting CEO, at 905.668.6531.

Christopher Harris
Town Clerk

Copy: Honourable Bill Mauro, Minister of Municipal Affairs
Lorne Coe, M.P.P. Whitby-Oshawa
Tracy MacCharles, M.P.P. Pickering-Scarborough
Jennifer French, M.P.P. Oshawa
Joe Dickson, M.P.P. Ajax-Pickering
Granville Anderson, M.P.P. Durham
Laurie Scott, M.P.P. Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Federation of Ontario Public Libraries

Via Email: All Durham Municipalities