

Re #7-distributed at meeting

December 12, 2011

62 Beverley Street  
Toronto, ON  
M5T 1X9

To: Members, Toronto Public Library

Re: 2012 Budget and proposed service reductions

Appended to this submission is the letter which was sent last month regarding the proposals for the local branches and which reiterated the comments I made at the local consultation held at the Lillian Smith branch on November 15, 2011.

While this is a personal submission, I wish to note that I am the National Chair of The Word On The Street Canada and both the national board and the board chair of the Toronto festival have requested me to advise you of their concerns with these proposals. The Word On The Street festivals began in Toronto in 1990 and has since expanded to Vancouver, Lethbridge, Saskatoon, Kitchener, and Halifax. The theme of our festival is: Celebrating Reading, Advocating Literacy. On the last Sunday in September over a quarter million Canadians participate in this national celebration of reading and advocacy for literacy. The inclusion of literacy advocacy is not an accident in our mandate.

Research from both Statistics Canada and the OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) tell us that 4 in 10 Canadians struggle with low literacy levels. We know that the achievement of literacy has great economic and social benefits to our city and country and this has been well documented in many, many studies.

Additional suggestions have been made by TPL staff to meet Mayor Ford's directive to cut 10 per cent of your budget. I don't for a minute believe that staff of the Toronto Public Library have willingly made these suggestions given what we have come to know of their support and leadership for reading, the achievement of literacy and the celebration of Toronto as a creative city.

**The suggestion to eliminate literacy programs, the bookmobile as well as the outreach activities to school will hurt the future of the library system, economic productivity as well as the life chances of the most vulnerable in our community.**

My earlier communication addressed the specific impact of reductions in Ward 20 and noted that the elimination of services prior to this (i.e. the Urban Affairs library) and the delay of new services in the CityPlace area should be taken into account.

I also noted that the additional morning closings for Lillian Smith Library which has a highly prized children's literature collection should not be implemented.

Like many other residents of this city, I believe that the Toronto Public Library is one of our "crown" jewels. It has become so because of the quality of programs and the talent among its staff. Needless to say, the TPL will be hurt not only by service cuts but by any further staff reductions. Its budget must be restored and enhanced. City Hall needs to be told that **standard across the board cuts are not appropriate or effective.**

Yours truly,



Ceta Ramkhelawansingh

## APPENDIX 1 – Previous submission

62 Beverley Street  
Toronto, ON  
M5T 1X9

November 19, 2011

To: Toronto Public Library Board  
cc: Councillor Adam Vaughan  
Re: 2012 – Budget and Service Level Reductions

I am a resident of Ward 20. My local branch is the Lillian Smith Library. However, I have also used the City Hall Branch, the former branch at Metro Hall, as well as Spadina and Ashdale branches in addition to the Metro Reference Library. I have attended a budget consultation meeting and I have also completed the survey.

I note the following:

- (a) Hours of service reductions have been proposed for 56 branches or 60 per cent of all branches;
- (b) The total hours of service level reductions of 19,144 hours is the equivalent of closing 9.2 branches using 40 hrs as a standard.

These reductions will have a significant impact on those who rely upon the library to undertake job searches and to do homework, likely people who are the most vulnerable in our city.

With respect to Ward 20, I must point out two problems with the reductions proposed for Lillian Smith and Sanderson branches..

The Lillian Smith branch houses a **highly specialized children's literature** collection – the Osbourne collection. The proposed elimination of two mornings (Monday and Thursday) during the school week will have an overall negative impact for school visits. This will compound the reduction in library service within the public school system.

**Recommendation:** Review all proposed reductions where there are special collection, and especially where school visits are involved.

The Sanderson branch is located in a neighbourhood with very high needs. The proposed Sunday closure will be detrimental to the children of this neighbourhood.

**Recommendation:** Retain existing hours of operation for Sanderson, especially Sunday hours.

Finally, it must be observed that with the closure of the Urban Affairs library and the delay in other library programs at Sanderson and Cityplace will have a negative impact on this densely populated community. **The proposals for Ward 20 should take these previous and additional reductions into account.**



Ceta Ramkhalawansingh  
[ceta\\_r@yahoo.ca](mailto:ceta_r@yahoo.ca)

1. The Library's Adult Literacy Program fills an important niche in the delivery of adult literacy services in Toronto. The proposed termination of the program will have a significant impact on the delivery of adult literacy services for the city as a whole. **The loss of the Adult Literacy Program will leave many areas of the city without an appropriate range of programming.**
  - The Library branches that offer the Adult Literacy Program are located in high needs areas of city with large percentages of low income households.
  - Branches that offer the Adult Literacy Program are located in areas that are not served by other community-based literacy programs that offer one-to-one instruction. This method of learning is the most effective for adults with very low literacy levels; a classroom environment can be overwhelming for individuals who have had negative experiences with formal education and therefore need personalized support.
  - Program data shows that the Library's Adult Literacy Program attracts a large proportion of learners who are employed. With poor literacy skills, these adults are employed in precarious, low-wage jobs. The Library's program attracts employed individuals because of the flexibility of the one-to-one model when it comes to scheduling time with a tutor.
2. **The Adult Literacy Program currently provides great value for money.** The services delivered, and their impact in the communities where they are offered, are made possible because of the contributions of other stakeholders.
  - As the board report points out, the Adult Literacy Program is funded in part by the provincial ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities. In 2011, this funding was increased 70% from \$59,000 to \$100,000.
  - Literacy instruction is provided by trained volunteers, many of whom have extensive experience working with adult learners. Their services are provided at no cost, but represent a significant contribution to the Library and the community.
3. **The Adult Literacy Program supports and reflects the Library's Vision and Mission by enhancing equitable access to Library resources and services.**
  - Adults who struggle with basic reading and writing are not able to take full advantage of what the Library has to offer. As residents and members of their communities, these individuals should be the focus of outreach and programming by the library because of the barriers and challenges they face.
  - Many with low literacy skills have children. They are not able to set an example or support their children in developing strong literacy skills, confidence, and enjoyment of reading. Adults who are not able to access resources at the library, or who feel intimidated by it, are not likely to take their children there.
  - Because of the strong correlation between low literacy skills and poverty, programs that enhance adult reading skills also increase access to the Library's free resources for individuals and families who would not otherwise be able to afford new books, newspaper and magazine subscriptions, or internet access.



Access to the written world

11 December 2011  
Ms. Susan M. Green  
19a Fifth St.  
Wards' Island  
Toronto, ON M5J2C1

To my dear providers of the weekly Library Van:

The Bookmobile provides a great "togetherness" of the Mainland and Island, which I have learned to expect and enjoy weekly. Due to a traumatic brain injury I sustained in 1974, my mobility is limited both physically and cognitively. I am so thankful for this extended service, which provides me with talking books and movies that I so enjoy.

I am certain that others share my appreciation for this information-van, and I feel so relieved to have WARDS' Island as a definite stop on the Bookmobile's route. I beseech you to maintain this service!!!

Most Sincerely Yours,

*Ms. Susan M. Green*  
Ms. Susan M. Green

**DAINA Z. GREEN  
19 Fifth Street  
Toronto, ON M5J 2C1**

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11 December 2011

Ms Nancy Marshall  
The Secretary  
Toronto Public Library Board  
789 Yonge Street  
Toronto, Ontario M4W 2G8  
Phone: 416-393-7215 (9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday to Friday)  
Fax: 416-393-7083  
Email: Nancy Marshall at [nmarshall@torontopubliclibrary.ca](mailto:nmarshall@torontopubliclibrary.ca)

Dear Ms Marshall,

I am writing in support of the Bookmobile library service, provided in Toronto neighbourhoods that otherwise lack a local library branch. I am very alarmed to hear the Library Board is considering discontinuing this vital service.

As a Ward's Island resident, there is no branch close to where I live. Our Bookmobile is always crowded during the short time slot assigned to the Island community on Saturday mornings, and I know many of my neighbours, like me, make sure to be home in time to return our books and pick up new ones each week, especially those we order on line. We are always disappointed when the bus isn't available and we have to wait another week for our books.

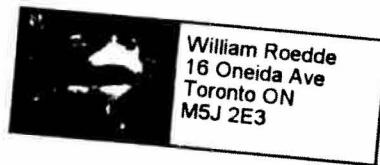
As well as a place to exchange reading, listening and viewing materials, the Bookmobile is a gathering place, where parents read to their children and neighbours exchange local news.

I can't remember a weekend that I spent in Toronto when I did NOT visit the Bookmobile on Saturday morning. Of course, many of us are mobile and could probably make a trek to the city to visit a branch on our bikes or by TTC. However, we have many elderly and disabled neighbours who do not get to "the mainland" on a regular basis because of their physical limitations. The library is an invaluable resource to all of us that we support with our taxes. The Bookmobile is a key service to which we as Island residents should not be denied access.

Sincerely,



Daina Green



Municipal Council  
Toronto, Ont.

I hope that the closure of  
the bookmobile service to  
Toronto Island does not  
happen. It would be a  
serious loss, especially for  
seniors.

Sincerely,

Wt Roedde  
(Director of Provincial Library  
Service, Ontario Department of  
Education, 1960-1980)

interpretation:

Don't close the library bus  
You've already closed the farm  
From Joni McGuire 3 Fifth street

DO NT close THE LIBRARY BUS  
You've ALREADY closed THE Farm  
From JONI McGuire 3 FIFTH  
street



Deputation Dec 12/2011

①

- I'm here today for 2 reasons
  - ① is to save the BOOKMOBILE, and by doing that we save 31 public libraries
  - ② is to insist that Public consultation is most important on this issue —

Democracy — The 31 communities that use the Book Mobile need to be informed, involved and asked for input.

I am asking the TPL Board to initiate that Public Consultation Process — INFORM

ie.

Sandy Kryzakowski  
12 Omaha Ave

● Toronto ON M5T 1Z6  
416-203-1036

2

I'm here today to save my local public library. I've used it for more than 20 years. It's the Bookmobile.

I'm presuming that 30 Toronto communities want to save their local library. It's also the Bookmobile.

I'm not sure they know that they need to act in order to save their library.

I'm here today to save 31 Toronto Public Libraries.

I'm here to save the Bookmobile.

Also Mayor Ford promised no library closures. So we need to look into this.

## Suggestions

To raise more money for the T.P.L: (7)

- 1) Solicit corporate donations - it's good advertising for them. We are used to seeing their names on cultural presentations of all sorts.  
Ask Chapters / Indigo
- 2) Do more active and creative fundraising in the community. People love libraries and will likely want to contribute.
- 3) Ask the community for ideas for fundraising. Get the community involved. Create competition. Publicize how much a library or a community raises. Give credit. Hold brainstorm sessions.
- 4) Do telemarketing (for example: Friends of the CSC) (Strategic Communications are the telemarketers) • Use community volunteer telemarketers & would do some of the
- 5) Give the Library Foundation a much higher profile.
- 6) Create a membership

ATTN: Nancy Marshall  
Copy of Fax sent to Paul Ainslie

December 12, 2011

To Councillor Paul Ainslie

**Re: The Adult Literacy Program at Toronto Public Libraries**

Dear Sir,

I've been coming to the Adult Literacy Program for a number of years. I have learned how to read and write. I got my citizenship and driving license. I have learned a lot for my work.

It is a good program for people with reading disabilities. It helps people get jobs to better their lives. Please do not end this program because it will affect me and many others by not coming to the library.

Sincerely,

Leela T.

Learner at Downsview Library

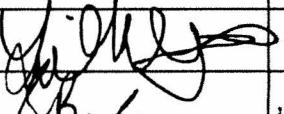
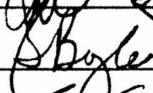
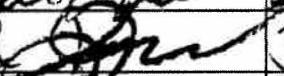
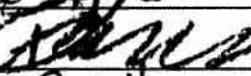
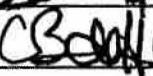
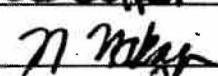
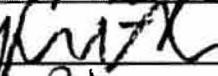
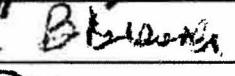
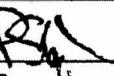
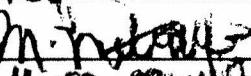
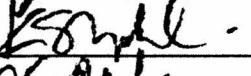
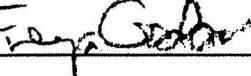
## Do Not Eliminate Bookmobile Service!

We, the undersigned Island Residents and avid users of the Library's Bookmobile service, urge the Toronto Public Library Board to reject any attempt to eliminate this extremely valuable service.

As the report to the Board, itself, states:

"The bookmobiles provide library service to residents who have difficulties accessing local branches due to socio-economic, geographic and linguistic barriers, including young children, seniors, newcomers and others who lack mobility such as people with disabilities.

Well over half of the 750 Island residents of all ages rely on this essential weekly service.

Name (print)	Signature	Address	Postal Code	e-mail
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V. Pitcher		1330 Yonge St	M5J 2A7	
Freyja Garland		10 Lakeshore Rd	M5S 1X9	garlandf@rogers.com

Ward 10

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Name (print)	Signature	Address	Postal Code	e-mail
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JONI	Joni		M5J	
MAGGIE		E F I F T H	E C G	
Tony Farnsall		4 Chidley	M5S 2E3	
Sylvia Sorenson	Sylvia Sorenson	8 Willow	M5J 1Y2	syllyure@yahoo.com
JANE D'NEVINE	Jane D'Nevine	26 THIRD ST	M5J 2B2	jane3604@gmail.com
MARY ALDERTON	Mary Alderton	23 4th St	M5J 2B6	
ANNE SIMON	Anne Simon	80 Ossory	M5J 2E1	anne.e.360@gmail.com
A FRENCH	A French	7 Third	M5J 2B1	
D. DANTHES	D. Dantches	7 Third	M5J 2B1	
BORG A	BORG A	8 Willow	M5J 1Y2	agnes@ixs.ca
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Ella Nielsen	Ella Nielsen	10 Heidi Ave	M5J 2E2	
A. GREG	A. GREG	3 Ossory	M5J 2E1	
J. NEIL	J. NEIL	38 Bayview	M5J 1Z4	
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JONI S. K.	JONI S. K.	19 Kandila	M5J 1Z4	jony.s.k@rogers.com

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Name (print)	Signature	Address	Postal Code	e-mail
T. GOEDEN	Tonya Goedon	32 Bayview		
L Harpell	L Harpell	18 Channel	M5S 1K9	
R. Evans-Perdue	Richard Evans & Nottawa			
Caroline Harris (Harris)		23 6th St.	M5J 2C2	
I. Prins	I. Prins	8 Dacotah Ave	M5J 2E5	
Kevin Brewer	Kevin Brewer	160 Mahan		
Mary Evans	Mary Evans	81 Nottawa		
RICH WEBSTER	Rich Webster	5 SECOND ST.	M5J 2A7	
Michael	Michael	11 Bayview	M5J 2J1	
Shari Saunders	Shari Saunders	24 FOURTH ST	M5J 2B7	
Alexander Poore	A. Poore	6 OUTBURN AVE	M5J 2E1	
Scott Stiven	Scott Stiven			
Yolanda Snols	Yolanda Snols	4 FOURTH ST	M5J 2B2	
Colin Regis	Colin Regis		M5J 2B4	
Ivan	Ivan	23 Sixth	M5J 2C2	
Mary Mittlestaedt	Mary Mittlestaedt	3 Lenore Ave.	M5J 2C7	iscapina@hotmail.com
Sophia Zambonelli	Sophia Zambonelli	9 Nottawa Ave.	M5J 2C7	capina@hotmail.com
Brian Hoeniger	Brian Hoeniger	5 Dacotah	M5J 2E4	
John Moore	John Moore	24 FIFTH	M5J 2B4	bmoore603@gmail.com
JOAN MOORE	JOAN MOORE	24 FIFTH		

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Name (print)	Signature	Address	Postal Code	e-mail
Nicole Smith	Nicole Smith	12 Channel Ave	M5J 1Y7	
Ben Elliott B. Elliott		24 Fifth St.		
GAIL LABENTESmith	Gail Labente Smith	10 Ojibway	M5J 2E1	
	fact Gail Labente Smith	"		
Elizabeth Finch	Elizabeth Finch	8 Oneida	M5J 2E3	
Madalyn Rees	Madalyn Rees	8 Oneida Ave.	M5J 2E3	
Pete Moya	Pete Moya	Algonquin 15		
Michelle Litt	Michelle Litt	9 Fourth St	M5J 2B1	
Adam Tate	Adam Tate	145 Grindstone	M6C 1G3	
SHAYLE KILROY	Shayle Kilroy	20 Aspect Ave.	M6P 1H4	
MADELEINE HAY	Madeleine Hay	23 Third St	M5J 2B3	
PAULA MAY SINCE	Paula May Since	14 Oneida Ave	M5J 2E3	
Jackson Jones	Jackson Jones	10 Oneida Ave	M5J 2B3	
Chris Jones	Chris Jones	14 Oneida Ave	M5J 2E3	
Brett Lye	Brett Lye	225 Third St	M5J 2B3	
WZ McClelland	WZ McClelland	50 Oneida	M5J 2E2	-
JESSIE STONES	Jessie Stones	11A Willow	M5J 1Y1	
ISA Hoover	ISA Hoover	23 Fifth	M5J 1C1	
Rachael Bigelow	Rachael Bigelow	176th St.	M5J 2C2	
Zoe Kime	Zoe Kime	28 Lakeside Ave	M5J 1X7	

Bk

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Name (print)	Signature	Address	Postal Code	e-mail
MICHELE GRAVES	<i>Michele</i>	11 CHANNEL AV	M5J 1Y6	spinstheworld@shaw.ca
John Penner	<i>John</i>	11 Channel	M5J 1Y6	starn@Yahoo.ca
JIM FRASER	<i>Jim</i>	2 Oneida Ave	M5J 2E3	JamesFraser010@shaw.ca
JOAN MC DONALD	<i>Joan McDonald</i>	110 Gibway Ave	M5J 2C9	
Enrique Lemoine	<i>Enrique</i>	22 Omaha Ave	M5J 1Z8	
Allyson Warkettle	<i>Allyson</i>	4 Fair 12 St	M5J 2B1	allysonwarkettle@rogers.ca
Faye Fenton	<i>Faye</i>	27 3 <sup>rd</sup> St	M5J 2B3	
Oliver Fenton	<i>Oliver</i>	27 3 <sup>rd</sup> St	M5J 2B3	
Karen McKinell	<i>Karen McKinell</i>	27 Third St	M5J 2B3	karenmckinell@rogers.ca
Russell Fenton	<i>Russell Fenton</i>	27 Third St	M5J 2B3	Russell11837@gmail.com
Elizabeth Moore	<i>Elizabeth</i>	108 Lakeshore	M5S 1X9	CEL12MACE@MAIL.COM
Sandra Kozanowski	<i>Sandra</i>	12 Omaha Ave	M5J 1Z6	
FRANK MEYER	<i>Frank Meyer</i>	14 OMALIA AVE	M5J 1Z7	frankmeyer14@rogers.ca
JANE HOBBS	<i>Jane Hobbs</i>	2A Ottawa Ave	M5S 2C9	
Elizabeth Griffin	<i>Elizabeth</i>	5 Wyandot Ave	M5J 2E1	elizabeth.griffin@primus.ca
Peter Gridland	<i>Peter Gridland</i>	16 Gibway Ave	M5J 2G1	
Alison (nowell)	<i>Alison</i>	28 Bayview Ave	M5S 1Z2	alison@sympatico.ca
DAVID PELLETIER	<i>David</i>	4 THIRD STREET	M5J 2A1	pelletier@sympatico.ca
LYNN ROBINSON	<i>Lynn Robinson</i>	6 THIRD ST	M5J 2A9	island.lynn@rogers.com
TIM KENT	<i>Tim Kent</i>	3 2 <sup>nd</sup> ST	M5J 2H7	

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Name (print)	Signature	Address	Postal Code	e-mail
Ann Lacey	Ann Lacey	114th St. Toronto	M5J 2B4	annwaxslacey@gmail.com
Linch London	Linch London	4 Northern Rd	M5J 2C8	lunchlondon@gmail.com
M. Cappel	M. Cappel	2 - 3rd	M5J 2A9	
CHARLES HARP	Charles Harp	4 WILLOWST	M5J 2C4	
KAY A AVERY	Kay A Avery	3 Dacotah Ave	M5J 2E4	
MARCI CREST	MARCI CREST	6 Dacotah	M5J 2E5	512i512sympatico.ca
LYNN MORTIMORE	ELM Mortimore	2 Dacotah Ave	M5J 2E5	lynnjm@rogers.com
Doryne Peace	Doryne Peace	33 Seneca Ave	M5J 2A5	
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JO ANN K. DO	JO ANN K. DO	7 Avenue Ave	M5J 2E2	jacki.m@sympatico.ca
CAROL TAIT	CAROL TAIT	#12 FOURTH ST	M5J 2B5	ctait@sympatico.ca
DAVID STEARN	DAVID STEARN	12 FOURTH ST	M5J 2B5	DSTEARN@sympatico.ca
Geoffrey Peacock	Geoffrey Peacock	6 Second St	M5J 2A8	
Kristen Brammer	Kristen Brammer	10 Dacotah	M5J 2E5	
Terri FREDIAN	Terri FREDIAN	37 OMNIHAB	M5J 1Z9	
Valerie Cook	Valerie Cook	12 Second St	M5J 2A8	

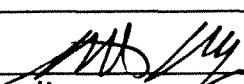
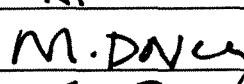
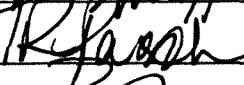
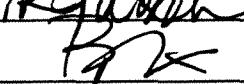
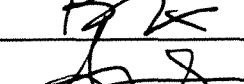
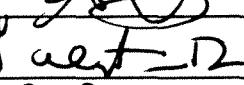
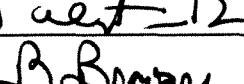
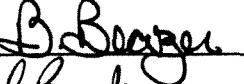
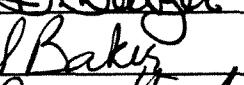
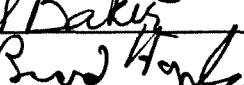
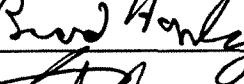
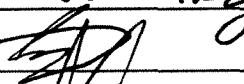
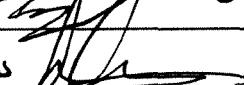
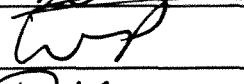
## Do Not Eliminate Bookmobile Service!

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As the report to the Board, itself, states:

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Well over half of the 750 Island residents of all ages rely on this essential weekly service.

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Wendy Peters		32 Lakeshore	M5J 1X7	—
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Suzanne Lai		10 Nutkin Ave	M5J 2C8	zsuzsai@rogers.com
Z KELEEN		—	—	—

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Jenny Brill	Jenny Brill	"	"	
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Baye Hunter	Baye Hunter	19 Seneca Ave	M5J 2A3	baye.hunter@rogers.ca
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DAWN BRENNAN	Dawn	15 ONEINA AV	M5J2E2	AWN.BRENNAN@SYMPATICA.CA
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Darin Green	Darin Green	19 FITH	M5J2C1	d2green@gmail.com
Frances Foley	Frances Foley	17 Dacotah	M5J2C4	
Mark Millen	Mark	17 Dacotah	M5J2E4	
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TED SYPRESTI	Ted Sypresti	55 Dacotah	M5T1T9	

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