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August 29, 2016

The Secretary
Toronto Public Library Board
789 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario M4W 2G8

Dear Mr. Carinci,

The Toronto Public Library Board has been a valued member of the Ontario Library Boards' Association (OLBA) for many years. As President of OLBA, I am writing to you to advise you of a proposed to change the electoral regions of the parent organization, Ontario Library Association.

OLBA Council is composed of representatives from 8 regions and the President, Vice-President and Past-President. Until amalgamation in 1998, the Metro Toronto Electoral region of OLBA included 7 library boards. After amalgamation, OLBA decided to retain the existing Regional boundaries. This resulted in the newly amalgamated Toronto Public Library Board as the sole Public Library board for the Metro Toronto Region.

Since 2004, there has been no representation from the Toronto Region on OLBA Council, with the result that OLBA Council has had an empty seat on council. We feel that the proposal to modify the alignment of the regions to include the Greater Toronto Area will result in improved representation and increased participation within OLBA council. Therefore OLBA is proposing a change to the geographical boundaries to ensure there are multiple library boards in each region.

A revised region would mean that any nomination for a representative from Toronto Public Library to serve on OLBA Council would compete with other Public Libraries' nominations from within the GTA.

However, before OLBA submits this proposal to the Board of Directors of OLA, for its approval, we are seeking input from the Board of Toronto Public Library, in an effort to solicit any comments or concerns this proposal may raise.

In an effort to expedite this change, I look forward to hearing back from you no later than the end September 2016.

Regards,



Pierre Mercier, president, OLBA

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