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May 1, 2006

The Honourable Caroline Di Cocco
Minister of Culture
5th Floor, Mowat Block
900 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 1L2

Dear Minister:

Thank you very much for your letter of introduction. On behalf of the staff and board of the Toronto Public Library, please accept our congratulations on your appointment as Minister of Culture.

The Library Board is pleased to see the Government of Ontario's recognition of the value of libraries through the recent announcement of several one-time funding initiatives for Ontario's library community. We share your view of the important role of public libraries in promoting literacy and learning. The Toronto Public Library inspires life-long learning, the joy of reading, and the pursuit of knowledge for people of all ages and backgrounds, beginning with the very young. As cornerstones of our neighbourhoods, libraries connect people to each other, and to their community.

As the busiest library in North America, our 99 branches cannot be underestimated for their impact on our community as a whole. The Toronto Public Library, through its free cultural offerings such as the TD Gallery exhibits, performing arts and author series allow our patrons to view Audubon's artwork, enjoy an Opera Atelier performance and hear from our finest Canadian authors, ranging from Austin Clarke to Alistair MacLeod.

We are pleased to count on the Ministry of Culture as a partner in ensuring that the vital role of libraries grows and strengthens.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Booth".

William Booth
Chair

Library Board

Chair

William Booth

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