

October 2, 2013

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

Dear Minister:

Re: 2013 – 2014 Public Library Operating Grant Program

Thank you for the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport's 2013 – 2014 operating grants to the Toronto Public Library (TPL) in the amount of \$4,127,362.

The Ministry's financial support will assist the Library to continue to concentrate on implementing the Board approved 2012 – 2015 Strategic Plan. TPL is renewing its commitment to inform and inspire Toronto and its communities with the vision of making us all more knowledgeable, more connected and more successful. The following four priority areas have been identified to achieve our goals: Grow a City of Readers, Develop a City of Learners, Catalyze and Connect a City of Innovators, Entrepreneurs and Creators and Deliver Excellent Library Service to Torontonians Efficiently and Effectively.

As part of our contribution to lifelong learning and creating the foundations for success, Toronto Public Library continues to emphasize early literacy and introducing young children to books and stories. This year, we launched *Let's Get Ready for Reading: A fun and easy guide to help kids become readers*. This research-based, one-of-a-kind publication was created to provide a broad understanding of the important pre-literacy skills that help develop reading readiness in children from birth to five years of age. The guide has been made available across the province to public libraries, educators and MPPs.

Toronto Public Library will continue to make a positive contribution to the quality of life for the residents of Toronto in the future.

Sincerely,



Councillor Paul Ainslie
Chair

cc: Toronto area MPPs

Library Board

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