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April 4, 2005

(Individually addressed letters to all Toronto Public Library's library services volunteers)

Is there anything more gratifying than the knowledge that you have had a positive influence on someone's life? That you gave them skills that would last a lifetime, which would enrich so many aspects of their lives? It is my pleasure to take this opportunity during *National Volunteer Week* to applaud your efforts and thank you, on behalf of the Toronto Public Library Board, for your positive influence -- the contribution you make as a volunteer at the Library.

Whether working with children or adults, at the Toronto Reference Library or in a district or neighbourhood branch, the dedication of volunteers has enriched Toronto Public Library. You are part of an outstanding group of over 1,500 people whose contributions support our programs, services and collections. Our volunteers help children and adults learn to read, assist children and youth with their homework, serve on the Board of our Foundation or in Friends Groups, raise money for the Library in support of collections or services, provide library materials for seniors in nursing homes, and advise our staff on what appeals to youth.

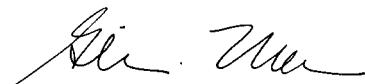
Volunteers at the Toronto Public Library endorse and enhance 12 library programs — programs that add so much to the lives of our citizens and help make our city a better place. Your hard work — over 63,000 hours in 2004 — inspires all of us associated with this Library to find ways to enrich the minds and lives of all our citizens.

Perhaps you already know that Toronto Public Library is North America's busiest public library system with 99 branches. And every week about 300,000 people visit its branches, and borrow more than half a million items. While the innovative and creative work of our staff advances the Library's leadership role, the commitment and hard work of our many volunteers sustain it.

Your charitable nature has guided you to devote your time and share your skills with others. Your generous spirit and enthusiasm contribute to the well-being of this city and is very much appreciated.

As Chair of the Toronto Public Library Board and a volunteer myself, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to you for actively supporting the programs, services and collections of Toronto Public Library.

Yours sincerely,



Gillian Mason  
Chair

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Gillian Mason

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