

May 25th, 2015

The Honourable Deron Bilous Minister of Municipal Affairs, 404 Legislature Building 10800 - 97 Avenue Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Minister Bilous,

The Alberta Library Trustees Association "ALTA" is the collective voice for library trustees, building trustee's capacity through education, leadership, communication, partnerships, innovation and collaboration. Founded in 1971, we represent library boards and trustees who govern public libraries in Alberta. We serve over 2000 volunteer library trustees across Alberta, who provide governance to over 300 public libraries across the province. Effective library board trustees providing leadership for great community library services to all Albertans.

We believe library services are essential to the quality and standard of life of Albertans and vital to the education, social and cultural development of the province.

As you know, the Public Library Services Branch (PLSB) is part of the Corporate Strategic Services Division of Municipal Affairs. The Branch provides policy, planning and administrative expertise required to develop and maintain provincial legislation related to public library service. It is also accountable to the Minister for ensuring library board compliance with the <u>Libraries</u> <u>Act</u> and <u>Libraries Regulation</u>. There are also 7 regional systems established under the <u>Libraries</u> <u>Act</u> in areas related to legislation and management of public library service.

ALTA is funded by membership fees, grants and appreciate the support of the PLSB Team to ensure project funding to develop the tools and resources to strengthen trustee's capacity to become effective library leaders in their community.

We look forward to working together to continue a strong tradition of providing some of the best library services in the country.

Sincerely,

Laura Ross-Giroux, President Alberta Library Trustees Association