



28 April 2025

The Honourable Nolan Quinn
Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security
5th Floor, 438 University Ave,
Toronto, ON M7A 1N3

Dear Minister Quinn,

I am writing to you to express the growing concern of our membership in regard to the underfunding of colleges and universities in general, but more specifically, their libraries.

The Ex Libris Association is a national group of retired librarians and information professionals with a combined experience of more than four millennium in libraries. Many, if not all our members, devoted their lives' work to the service of others.

While our universities and colleges are the centres of our province's prosperity and innovation, libraries have always been the hearts of these institutions. In an age of information abundance and increasing misinformation, it is essential that librarians and library staff continue to instruct new generations of students in digital literacy and research skills. Despite what you may have heard, not everything is available on the Internet, and a Google search is not research.

Our university and college libraries require the resources and staffing that will create the thinkers, leaders, inventors and entrepreneurs of the 21st Century.

The ongoing cuts to libraries and their institutions will have an immediate and long-term negative impact on Ontario's economy and future, if not reversed.

As Ontario enters into an economic war with the United States, an investment in our academic libraries would do well to ensure that these information "arsenals" are full and ready to be called upon when required.

Ex Libris strongly urges the government to provided:

- An emergency infusion of \$1.4 billion into college and college libraries; and
- An additional \$1.34 billion annually to bring Ontario up to the national average for per-student funding.

Thank you for your time and your consideration of this matter. Please don't hesitate to contact me via email if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David I. Harvie". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" being more prominent.

David I. Harvie, BA MLS CD
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Ex Libris Association
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Distribution List

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