



SHELBURNE PUBLIC LIBRARY

201 Owen Sound Street
Shelburne, Ontario L9V 3L2
www.shelburnelibrary.ca

Telephone: 519- 925-2168
Fax: 519-925-6555

June 20, 2023
Orangeville Public Library Board
c/o Darla Fraser, CEO
1 Mill Street
Orangeville, ON
L9W 2M2

Ms. Sheri Marks, Chair

In response to your letter dated May 31, 2023:

Since its inception in 1912, Shelburne Public Library has respected free, open, and equitable access and the values of a democratic society and way of life. The respect for and awareness of diversity of information, ideas, and peoples, underscores the opportunities for civic engagement, intellectual freedom, and freedom of speech without creating barriers between any members of our community.

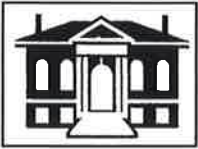
Shelburne Public Library provides a safe, welcoming space and an environment that honours and celebrates inclusivity and diversity. We treat all members of our society with dignity and respect without creating divisive situations which may limit freedom of speech and expression for some.

Regardless of identities, background, ethnicity, or expression, we have always supported the open and welcoming environment that all members deserve and that we espouse on a daily basis. As we continue to operate with these values at the forefront, the Shelburne Public Library Board has respectfully decided not to add its' signature to your proposed document.

Sincerely,

Geoff Dunlop, Chair, Shelburne Public Library

Cc Rose Dotten, CEO, Head Librarian, Shelburne Public Library



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Ms. Sheri Marks

In response to the second point in your May 31, 2023 letter, regarding a meeting to explore collaborative services, the members of the Shelburne Public Library Board had a thoughtful and thorough discussion at their June meeting.

We already collaborate on several successful literacy programs with Grand Valley and Orangeville Public Libraries. To the extent of looking at other services, we understand this is the role of Ontario Library Services (OLS) which tends to help us obtain valued services and products through the economies of scale that a provincial organization can access. Therefore, we see no benefit to SPL of entering yet another collaborative organizational structure. We value our autonomy and in keeping with our current strategic directions we do have a comprehensive way forward in terms of services , programs, and product.

Thank you for bringing these thoughts to our attention but at this point we would like to address any collaborative ventures on an individual basis.

Sincerely

Geoff Dunlop, Chair, Shelburne Public Library

cc :Rose Dotten, CEO, Head Librarian, Shelburne Public Library