

Draft Municipal Motion

Whereas, the (name of municipality/Regional District/1st Nation) recognizes the important role that libraries play in our community. Libraries and the early literacy programs they run are integral to developing proficient readers and ensuring that children succeed in school. More and more, digital literacy programs run by libraries also help ensure that citizens can contribute to our digital world. Additionally vulnerable demographic groups, including seniors, low income families, youth and new Canadians rely on access to libraries as an important tool for their participation in the community – from education to searching for jobs to consuming Canadian cultural materials, and

WHEREAS, libraries in our community recognize that our users increasingly seek to access digital publications offered by multinational publishers, and that access to those publications is too often curtailed by prohibitively high licensing fees or else entirely denied to Canadian libraries, and

WHEREAS libraries must be in a position to offer digital publications to their users as part of their service offering to our community, particularly given the contemporary rapid pace of digitization of educational and cultural materials,

Now, be it resolved that the (name of municipality/Regional District/1st Nation) do hereby:

1. Indicate our support for the Canadian Urban Libraries Council in its efforts to increase access to digital publications for library users in (name of municipality/Regional District/1st Nation) and across Canada;
2. Call on the Federal government to investigate barriers faced by libraries in acquiring digital publications and the problems that poses for vulnerable demographic groups in Canada; and
3. Further ask the Federal government to develop a solution that increases access to digital publications across Canada and assist libraries in meeting the cost requirements to acquire digital publications