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December 10, 2025

Hon. Joël Lightbound, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Government Transformation, Public Works and Procurement
Public Services and Procurement Canada
11 Laurier St Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0S5

Sent to: joel.lightbound@parl.gc.ca

Re: Changes to the Canada Post Corporations Act (Bill C-15) and its Impact on Ontario Communities

Dear Minister Lightbound,

I am writing on behalf of the Ontario Library Association (OLA) in relation to changes to the Canada Post Corporations Act in Bill C-15, An Act to implement certain provisions of the budget tabled in Parliament on November 4, 2025. I am writing in support of the Canadian Urban Libraries Council (CULC), who have raised significant concerns about the proposed elimination of the Library Materials Rate and the impact these changes will have on libraries and the communities they serve.

The Ontario Library Association (OLA) represents over 3,500 library professionals across Ontario from public, school, academic, health, and special libraries. More than half of our members work in public libraries serving 16 million people in Ontario across over 1,100 library branches.

The OLA is concerned with the amendment to the Canada Post Corporations Act included within C-15. C-15 repeals Paragraphs 19(1)(d) to (g.1) of the Act. This section was the result of a Private Members' Bill (Bill C-321) which received Royal Assent in 2013 and was supported by all parties in the House of Commons. C-321 specifically amended the Canada Post Corporations Act to provide for a reduced rate of postage for library materials lent by a library to a borrower, including by means of an interlibrary loan. C-15 eliminates the provisions agreed to by the House of Commons and Senate in Bill C-321.

This change, if it is allowed to stand, will have a significant negative impact on libraries and the more than 8 million active library users across the country. Libraries in Canada have historically worked collaboratively to provide Canadians with timely, important intellectual and scholarly information. To achieve this, publicly funded libraries of all types depend on their ability to build networks among institutions to encourage borrowing and maximize the impact of their collections. Every month, over 30,000 items are mailed between libraries across Canada, and more than 150,000 items are shipped annually within Ontario alone—all of which depend on this affordable mailing rate. In addition to sharing resources



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amongst libraries, **individuals who are homebound or living in rural, remote, and Indigenous communities often rely on library materials being mailed through Canada Post.**

Interlibrary loans are an essential part of how libraries in Canada operate and rely on the provisions of the Canada Post Corporation Act to provide access to materials for the millions of library users in Canada. If Canada Post can increase rates without any oversight from Parliament or the Government of Canada – as C-15 would permit – libraries across Canada will be devastated, put a strain on already surging library budgets and threaten their ability to offer this essential service for access, equity and literacy for all.

We strongly urge the government to withdraw this amendment to the *Canada Post Corporations Act*. To ensure that library products remain accessible for all of Canada through interlibrary loans, it is paramount that the amendment to the *Canada Post Corporations Act* does not pass.

Yours sincerely,

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