

May 5, 2026

The [Ontario Library Association](#) (OLA), a member of the [Canadian Federation of Library Associations-Federation canadienne des associations de bibliothèques](#) (CFLA-FCAB), fully endorses [CFLA-FCAB's Statement on Alberta's Bill 28](#), dated May 1, 2026, and as reiterated below.

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## CFLA-FCAB Statement Bill-28

### Statement of the Canadian Federation of Library Associations-Federation canadienne des associations de bibliothèques (CFLA-FCAB) on Alberta's Bill 28

May 1, 2026

**Whereas** the Government of Alberta has justified Bill 28 by claiming the need to restrict "visual depictions of sex" from youth aged 15 and under, a claim that mischaracterizes the role and practices of public libraries and asserts a systemic problem where none has been demonstrated.

**Whereas** Alberta's public libraries have served their communities effectively and accountably for decades, with a recent poll confirming that 82% of Albertans trust their local libraries to make appropriate collection decisions.

**Whereas** Bill 28 would strip decision-making autonomy from local library boards despite municipalities providing the majority of library funding and hand unprecedented control to the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

**Whereas** concentrating this authority threatens the privacy of library users by allowing minister-appointed inspectors to potentially examine private borrowing records, risks discouraging free access to information, and introduces political interference.

**Whereas** there is no evidence of systemic failure in Alberta's public libraries to justify this level of government overreach.



**CFLA affirms** that local governance, trained library professionals, and community accountability are what make Alberta's public libraries work. Trust is earned through consistency and transparency, not government overreach.

**Therefore, CFLA calls on** the Government of Alberta to withdraw all sections of Bill 28 that apply to the Libraries Act.

**CFLA calls on** municipal leaders and library boards to defend local governance and speak up for the communities they fund and serve.

**CFLA calls on** library users across Canada to exercise and defend their fundamental right to privacy, and their right to seek information freely.

**CFLA calls on** all parties to ground dialogue in evidence, accountability, and respect for the communities that public libraries exist to serve.

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