

May 5, 2020

Deputy Premier Gordon Wyant Room 361, Legislative Building, 2405 Legislative Drive, Regina, SK S4S 0B3

Dear Minister Wyant,

On behalf of the Saskatchewan Library Association (SLA) I am writing to express concern that public libraries were not included in Government's plan to Reopen Saskatchewan. Since the plan was announced there have been revisions and further inclusions; however the plan remains silent with respect to libraries.

Our office has inquired with the Provincial Library and Literacy Office (PLLO) and learned only that the Ministry of Education was making inquiries in this regard. As you know libraries vary across the province in terms of location, size, and services provided. Library leaders may need to make decisions about reopening specific branches based on those variations. Nevertheless, it is important that libraries be included along with the other myriad of services that the Government rightly included.

Further, in our view there is a role for the PLLO to work with the library system (at minimum engage on the topic) to discuss guidelines, protocols and other considerations that may be helpful to libraries as they plan reopening. This role would not interfere in decision making of libraries but would simply be one of helpful coordination, support and input.

We ask that you take steps to have libraries included in the plan to reopen Saskatchewan and thereby acknowledge the important service that they provide in this province.

Thank you.

Amy Rankin

President SLA

C Assistant Deputy Minister Clint Repski Alison Hopkins



