

**For Immediate Release  
April 24, 2019**

**COMMUNITY AND CALEDON PUBLIC LIBRARY IMPACTED  
BY PROVINCIAL BUDGET CUTS**

*CALEDON, ONTARIO* – Town of Caledon residents will see a decrease in the variety of items they can borrow from local libraries due to provincial budget cuts.

Due to significant cuts, just over 50%, to the Southern Ontario Library Service (SOLS), the Interlibrary Loan delivery service will cease to operate effective April 26, 2019. As a result, effective immediately, Caledon Public Library (CPL) is not able to accept or fill any requests for materials from libraries outside of Caledon. No affordable or effective alternatives for the continued coordination of these loans, in the absence of SOLS delivery, have yet been identified.

“This is very sad news for library users across the province” said Colleen Lipp, CEO and Chief Librarian of CPL. “This valuable service allowed Caledon Public Library to bring in 2,854 titles from other libraries on behalf of our patrons in 2018. Had we purchased these titles, it would have cost approximately \$43,000 - more than 10% of our materials budget. We were also able to share 3,408 items with other libraries across the province last year.”

Those materials include not only books, but CDs and DVDs.

SOLS grew out of an amalgamation of regional library systems in which SOLS had provided support and development services to the libraries in their regions for decades. SOLS serves the public libraries of almost 200 municipalities, from Windsor to the Quebec border and north to Muskoka, ranging in population from hundreds to hundreds of thousands.

“The elimination of this service will also have implications for the receipt of our newly purchased materials,” adds Lipp. “Our materials vendor has long made use of SOLS drivers to deliver materials. This was an incredibly efficient solution as the drivers were already travelling to all libraries. It remains to be seen how this change might impact the purchase power of our materials budget.”

“We ask that those who currently have interlibrary materials on loan return these materials to their local branch of CPL as soon as possible.” requested Lipp.

### **Southern Ontario Library Service (SOLS)**

On behalf of its owners, the people of Ontario, as represented by the Minister with jurisdictions for public libraries, SOLS exists so that the public has equitable access to library services thus supporting a dynamic cultural environment, economic vitality and quality of life. This is to be achieved at a sustainable cost. For more information, please visit [SOLS website](#).

### **About Caledon Public Library**

Supporting a growing community of communities across 700 square kilometers, [Caledon Public Library](#) offers services, collections and programs in our six branches. Located in small villages as well as urban centers, these hubs serve as the cornerstones of the community, connecting people to information and each other. With an ever expanding number of digital tools, CPL provides access to downloadable eBooks and streaming movies and music. Whether connecting, collaborating or creating in our spaces or discovering and getting inspired from the comfort of home, all is possible – and free - with your library card.

For more information contact:

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