

**For Immediate Release
June 19, 2019**

CALEDON PUBLIC LIBRARY TO COVER WHAT WAS LOST TO PROVINCIAL BUDGET CUTS

CALEDON, ONTARIO – Effective July 2, interlibrary loan service will resume at Caledon Public Library (CPL) in a limited capacity.

Due to budget restrictions, the Library will be introducing a cap of ten interlibrary loan requests per patron at a given time. Requests for DVDs, music CDs, and board books will no longer be accepted. CPL will also be limiting the number and type of items that are shared with other libraries as all items loaned between libraries will now need to be sent via Canada Post. A portion of Southern Ontario Library Service (SOLS)'s residual budget will partially reimburse these costs, but the remaining expense will fall to CPL.

“Caledon Public Library recognizes that many library users rely on the interlibrary loan service to access materials not available locally. In order to ensure that these services remain sustainable, the Library delayed relaunching the service until such time that more information was available and new processes and policies could be put in place.” said Colleen Lipp, CEO and Chief Librarian of CPL. “Caledon Public Library is very appreciative of the support and services that are provided by Southern Ontario Library Services and are saddened that the cuts to their budget have prompted significant job losses within their organization and lasting implications for library users across Ontario.”

The interlibrary loan services were initially suspended in April as a result of provincial cuts of approximately 50% to the Southern Ontario Library Services' (SOLS) annual operating budget. SOLS had long coordinated the loan of items between libraries in Southern and Eastern Ontario, with the majority of deliveries being transported by SOLS' courier vans at no cost to end users, local libraries or municipalities.

While the software used to coordinate the sharing of items between libraries came back online at the beginning of June, the courier service has been fully eliminated. It remains unclear what fraction of these costs will be recouped but with an annual postage budget of just \$400, it is evident that this shift in service model will have immediate implications on CPL's budget. As per the Public Libraries Act, these costs cannot be passed on to the patron.

- 30 -

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.

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