



Mr. Wayne G. Wouters
Clerk of the Privy Council and Secretary to the Cabinet
Privy Council Office
Langevin Block, 80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A3

26 March 2014

Dear Mr. Wouters,

On behalf of the Canadian Library Association (CLA), I am writing you today to enquire about the appointment status of the new Librarian and Archivist of Canada. The Canadian library and archival communities share a common interest in the impending appointment of a new leader for Library and Archives Canada. Following the departure of Daniel J. Caron, CLA collaborated with other national and provincial associations to consider the qualities we believe are necessary for a successful candidate to the position of Librarian and Archivist of Canada.

For your reference, please see a copy of the Joint Statement on Qualities of a Successful Librarian and Archivist of Canada attached. This statement has been endorsed by CLA, along with a broad representation of library and archival associations from across the country.

I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate our hopes for the next appointment to this leadership position.

Library and Archives Canada (LAC) is a valuable institution for our professional communities, with a broad mandate to fulfill. While LAC is a department of the Government of Canada, with mandated responsibilities to government, it is also, and must continue to be, a functioning library and archive in the service of all Canadians.

In order to meet its mandate under the *Library and Archives of Canada Act*, the institution must have a leader who believes in the fundamental services provided by libraries and archives, and a demonstrated ability to bring the communities together in support of LAC's mandate. This requires credibility with the national community of library and archival professionals, as well as the internal support of a management team of talented and dedicated professionals from the library and archival communities who together can lead LAC into the 21st century.

We therefore call upon the Government of Canada to review the considerations agreed by the library and archival associations and articulated in the attached document to ensure that any individual being considered for appointment to the position of Librarian and Archivist of Canada be a qualified member of either the library or archival professional community.

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CLA and the entire library community look forward to receiving more information on this appointment in the near future. Would you be able to provide us with an update on the timeline for this process?

We remain available should you wish to consult the national library community on possible candidates for the appointment and we would be pleased to answer any questions you may have. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (613) 232-9625 Ext. 306 or vmckay@cla.ca should you wish to discuss further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Valoree McKay". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Valoree McKay
Executive Director, Canadian Library Association

Cc: The Right Hon. Stephen Harper, Prime Minister
The Hon. Shelly Glover, Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages