



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

17 May 2013

Dear Mr. Wouters,

The Canadian library communities have just learned of the immediate departure of Daniel J. Caron, Deputy Head and Librarian and Archivist of Canada.

As President of the Canadian Library Association (CLA), and on behalf of the library and information professionals across the country, I would like to take this opportunity to express our hopes for the next appointment to this leadership position.

The membership of the CLA, which represents academic, school, public and special libraries and all those who work in and for them, has long taken the position that any appointment to the position of Librarian and Archivist of Canada be a librarian or an archivist with recognized professional qualifications.

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.

According to the Library and Archives of Canada Act, the Objects of Library and Archives of Canada include: "to acquire and preserve the documentary heritage; to make that heritage known to Canadians and to anyone with an interest in Canada and to facilitate access to it; ... [and] to support the development of the library and archival communities." To accomplish this, 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 21<sup>st</sup> century.

We therefore call upon the Government of Canada 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.

If you wish to consult the national library community on possible candidates for the appointment, CLA would be very happy to provide any assistance you may require. Please contact me or Kelly Moore, CLA Executive Director, if you would like further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Pilar Martinez', is written in a cursive style.

Pilar Martinez  
President, Canadian Library Association