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CC: Council

May 22, 2014

Brian Milne, Warden, Grey County
595 9th Avenue East
Owen Sound ON N4K 3E3

Dear Mr. Milne,

There has been considerable discussion within our own library boards, our municipal leaders and Grey County Council about the need for local libraries to work together. The recent report prepared by Lance Thurston, Chief Administrative Officer of Grey County, recommended that the County continue to support ways that would enable our local libraries to work more closely together. He specifically noted that the different integrated library systems (ILS) were an impediment.

At the April 23, 2014 meeting of the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Library Board the following motions were passed:

57-14 Moved by Jan Chamberlain THAT the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library invites all Grey County libraries to apply for associate memberships in the Ontario Library Consortium through the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library so that all County libraries can use the same Integrated Library System (ILS) to better serve all citizens of Grey County. Carried by all members present except Gay who abstained.

**58-14 Moved by David Adair THAT the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library Board requests that Grey County fund memberships for all county libraries in the Ontario Library Consortium so that all libraries can use the same Integrated Library System (ILS) to create a more integrated county library service as discussed in the recent report on county wide library service.
Recorded vote: Adair: For; Chamberlain: For; Currie: For; Droine: For; Gay: Abstained; Young: For; Carried.**

While we are certainly open to considering other options for consolidated ILS, including open source, the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library sees this approach as an effective way for Grey County to offer support and leadership and assist the libraries in working together in an efficient way that judiciously deals with some of the funding challenges associated with a common ILS.

Thank you for considering this option.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Thomas', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Richard Thomas, Chair