FRIENDS OF TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Friends of Toronto Public Library

September 3, 2014

To: Toronto Public Library Board

Re: Acquiring Collections from the Public Proposal

This letter relates to the above Pilot Project Proposal being presented to TPL Board by the Budget Committee on September 8th, 2014. The purpose of this proposal is to focus on operating budget relief by replacing some purchased books with those purchased from the public. The plan also involves increasing the overall volume of saleable material donated by the public to the library for resale. Staff would report back to the Board on this project at 6 month and one year intervals, including the impact on Friends of TPL sales and donations.

As you know, Friends of TPL have a North and South Chapter, with used book stores in each location, one in Toronto Reference Library and one in North York Central Library. We receive a large number of our resaleable books from donations from both the public and the library. In 2013 our volunteers raised over $140,000 through book sales which was donated back to the TPL Foundation for use mainly for children's literacy. We are proud to say that in 2013 the North Chapter celebrated its 20th anniversary by reaching its goal of raising over $1M, all of which went to the Foundation.

Therefore we are concerned how this pilot project will impact the quality and quantity of books being donated by the public to our Chapters and how it will affect our revenues. Certainly we are always eager to support TPL both financially and as Ambassadors. Thus we want to make the Board aware of our concerns at this time.

Thank you.

Linda Diener; Chair, FTPL Corporate Board, President, North Chapter

Frank Velikonja; Vice-Chair, FTPL Corporate Board, President, South Chapter

cc: Heather Rumball – TPL Foundation

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