

**Nancy Marshall**

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**From:** Dianne LeBreton <dianne@clearshift.ca>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 08, 2015 9:54 AM  
**To:** Nancy Marshall  
**Cc:** Paul Ainslie  
**Subject:** Report on FOPL Activities to TPL Board

On behalf of Counsellor Paul Ainslie and myself, both Directors on the Board of the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries (FOPL), I am reporting on its major activities for Fall 2015.

### **Promotion of Ontario's Public Libraries**

Key messages and graphics have been developed to highlight the central role of Ontario's public libraries in our communities. Research shows that public libraries are visited more often than such cultural destinations as the province's museums, galleries, performing arts and professional sporting events, and popular shopping destinations, even more than hospital emergency rooms.

For the full story, and to download the related graphics for sharing on social media, please visit:  
<http://stephenslighthouse.com/2015/11/05/graphics-for-social-media-the-exciting-fopl-project/>

### **Library Day at Queen's Park**

On Wednesday, November 25, FOPL in concert with the Ontario Library Association organized a series of meetings involving more than 30 representatives of library systems from across Ontario, including Counsellor Paul Ainslie and myself, with provincial Ministers, MPPs or their designated staff, at Queen's Park . These meetings raised the profile of all libraries among our legislators, imparted information on the role and reach of libraries in Ontario, and registered issues of concern to our libraries. Among these issues were: the negative impact of the forthcoming termination to provincial government funding for library resources; the need for recognition of the public libraries as community hubs that play a central role in our province's cultural life and in the narrowing of the digital divide; and the many challenges confronting our school libraries.

For the information sheets on those issues of concern, please visit:  
<http://www.accessola3.com/index.php?s=0753219024b399f3d127ce95abc96e90&showtopic=3657>

### **Joint Submission by FOPL the Ontario Library Association into the Provincial Government Consultations for a Culture Strategy**

The major message from this submission is this: "Ontario's libraries already act as community hubs for culture and have done so for centuries. The diversity of locations, talent, technology, programming, and open hours can accomplish more for Ontario and Ontarians. We have a long history of community partnerships and working on a collaborative basis and within shared governance models. By embedding libraries into the culture planning cycle and considerations of all ministries, there is a huge opportunity to ensure improved success of government policies, programs and goals in a cost effective and more efficient way and to support the employment, innovation, creativity, and economic impact of our cultural sector."

Both Counsellor Ainslie and myself would be happy to respond to any questions or concerns about this report.

Dianne

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