



December 9, 2019

His Worship Fred Eisenberger  
Office of the Mayor  
Hamilton City Hall  
71 Main Street West, 2nd floor  
Hamilton, ON L8P 4Y5

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Dear Mayor Eisenberger,

Thank you for standing with more than 90 mayors and county leaders across North America against the harmful actions of e-book publishers. By signing CULC/CBUC & ULC's Statement on Equitable Public Access to E-Books, you uphold the highest ideals of Canada – ensuring everyone has the opportunity to learn, grow, and prosper.

In a time when continuous learning and education are more important than ever, publishers are impeding libraries' ability to meet the needs of their communities with exorbitantly inflated e-book and e-audiobook prices, and in some cases denying their ability to buy new releases. These actions severely impact our collections budgets AND our ability to serve those who rely upon us most – children, low-income individuals and families, and those living with vision or motor disabilities.

In the coming months, we will be aggressively working to change the inequitable pricing and purchasing restrictions imposed upon libraries and the communities and people we serve. Your voice will be vital for that work.

Thank you for standing up for democracy. We appreciate your commitment to upholding the values of public libraries and their role in providing access to knowledge for everyone.

Yours sincerely,

Pilar Martinez  
Chair, Canadian Urban Libraries Council /  
Conseil des Bibliothèques Urbaines du Canada (CULC/CBUC)  
CEO, Edmonton Public Library

cc

Paul Takala, Chief Librarian, Hamilton Public Library