

January 14, 2020

Dear Members of the Toronto Francophone Affairs Advisory Committee,

I believe that protecting and promoting French language reading materials in the Toronto Public Library system is an important responsibility of the City of Toronto. Likewise, it is important that we ensure that our French language materials are of good quality and of interest to the large and growing Francophone and Francophile population of Toronto.

On January 10, 2020 we notified the committee about media reports regarding changes to the Toronto Public Library's French collection, including the article << Les bibliothèques de Toronto retirent des milliers de livres en français >> by Étienne Fortin-Gauthier, ONfr+. There have since been several additional media articles that indicate proposed cuts to the French collection have been reversed.

In response to these media reports, I have reached out to Mrs. Happie Testa, owner of the francophone bookstore Mosaic, who has accepted to speak to our committee about the francophone book market in Toronto so that we might be aware of any advantages during our reflection.

RECOMMENDATION:

I hereby recommend that:

The Toronto Francophone Affairs Advisory Committee receive a presentation from Mrs. Happie Testa at its February 11, 2020 meeting regarding the francophone book market.

Sincerely,



Serge Paul, Chair
On Behalf of ACFO-Toronto Board

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