



Newfoundland and Labrador
New Democratic Party

P.O. Box 5275, Stn. C
St. John's, NL A1C 5W1

Catherine Lawton, President
NL Library Association
P.O. Box 23192, Churchill Square
St. John's, NL A1B 4J9

May 11, 2019

Dear Ms. Lawton:

In response to your letter of May 9, the policy of the NL NDP since 2015, and before, has been that no library should be closed and that more money should be invested in our provincial library system.

We supported libraries that were facing closure. In 2015 we tabled a petition in the House of Assembly calling for more library funding. In 2016 we opposed the proposed closure of half our libraries and worked with CUPE and the Library Association on the issue, while our Leader toured libraries around the province to publicize what they do.

When the PILRB released its *Future State Plan*, the financial and non-financial proposals were reasonable and seemed set to make a difference. We were disappointed when none of the \$1.71 million requested was in Budget 2019.

The library system needs to be brought back to at least the 2012-13 funding level, given the many services it provides for Newfoundlanders and Labradorians. We fully support the implementation of the *Future State Plan* and the investments needed to make it happen.

Thank you for your interest in our position.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alison Coffin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Alison Coffin, Leader
NL New Democratic Party