



Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library
425 Holland Street West
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bradford.library.on.ca

Statement from the Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library Board

BRADFORD – The Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library Board released the following statement:

“In recent months, we have seen people across the world stand up and demand institutions take concrete measures to address racism. It has been — and continues to be — an inspiring display of resolve, inclusion and a celebration of diversity.

As a Board, we want to do our part.

We acknowledge and value our role as a Cultural Centre with a mandate to celebrate diversity, and as a Library, we recognize the importance of providing space to foster the free exchange of ideas and to provide the community with the resources required for a life filled with learning, understanding and acceptance.

We recognize that there is always room for improvement in the conscientious efforts we have made to include and uplift diverse voices.

As such, we have voted to undertake a thorough audit and to create an action plan to address the vital work of anti-racism and to promote diversity and inclusion throughout the library.

This important work will guide our next steps towards ensuring we continue to do the very best job we possibly can to include and embrace the rich heritage of all the members of our increasingly diverse community.

For too many, the pain of anti-Black racism, racism against Indigenous peoples and so many other forms of discrimination remain a hurtful reality; these daily struggles debilitate and inhibit growth not only of individuals but whole sections of our society. We recognize that we cannot grow as a community if some of our members are disenfranchised, that the injury of one is the injury of all, and the honour of one is the honour of all. We are committed to the important work of standing as allies in the fight against systemic racism and look forward to further discussing concrete ways to do anti-racism work as a board.

We are also proud of the diverse group of voices that are represented among the Library Board of trustees. We resolve to listen and learn from you and from each other as we commit to working to address and eradicate systemic racism.”

For more information:

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