



February 5, 2018

Dear Councils in Marigold Library System,

Freedom to Read Week, February 25 – March 3, 2018, is an annual event that encourages Canadians to think about and reaffirm their commitment to intellectual freedom, which is guaranteed them under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Marigold encourages your Council to declare Freedom to Read Week. A proclamation is enclosed.

Intellectual freedom enables people to make informed decisions about issues which have an impact on their daily lives. Life decisions are supported by ready access to reliable information in books, journals and other online or print resources. Find more information, resources and celebration ideas at: www.freedomtoread.ca

Marigold supports and celebrates this annual event by declaring Freedom to Read Week and also by having a draw for Freedom to Read displays at our January Board meeting. This year Marigold Board members from Standard, Hanna, Acadia and High River won Freedom to Read displays for their libraries.

Thank you for supporting this initiative.

Sincerely,

Michelle Toombs, CEO

[Redacted] or [Redacted]

"Banning books is just another form of bullying. It's all about fear and an assumption of power.
The key is to address the fear and deny the power." ~ James Howe

FREEDOM TO READ

PROCLAMATION



WHEREAS *Freedom to Read Week* is an initiative to promote literacy, tolerance, knowledge, and a love of reading among all Canadians;

AND WHEREAS the right to pursue the truth through free inquiry is essential to democratic decision making;

AND WHEREAS the freedom to read print on paper or on-line, is the essence of free inquiry;

AND WHEREAS the freedom to read can never be taken for granted;

AND WHEREAS the freedom to read is under assault from the left and right of our society;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that:

the Council of the Town of Okotoks endorses the objectives of *Freedom to Read Week*, and recognizes, reaffirms, and defends the rights of the citizens of the Town of Okotoks individually to decide what they will or will not read; and

calls on all residents to actively work to achieve these objectives, and in so doing ensure the Town of Okotoks continues to be a Freedom to Read zone in which the freedom to read and the right to seek information will not be violated.

NOW, THEREFORE I, _____

DO HEREBY PROCLAIM the week of February 25 – March 3, 2018 as

FREEDOM TO READ WEEK

in the Town of Okotoks