



Canadian Council of Archives
Conseil canadien des archives

July 29, 2013

The Honourable Shelly Glover
Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages Canadian Heritage
25 Eddy Street
Gatineau, QC K1A 0M5

Dear Minister Glover,

On behalf of the Canadian Council of Archives (CCA) I am writing to extend our congratulations on your appointment as Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages.

I would also like to take this opportunity to tell you more about CCA and our present concerns about support for archival activities in Canada. Established in 1985, CCA leads the coordination of activities for our country's more than 800 archives, in every province and territory, as they preserve and provide public access to Canada's documentary heritage. For the past 28 years CCA has worked cooperatively to develop a grassroots network with membership that includes the 13 provincial and territorial archives councils.

Archives and the materials they hold are a unique and fundamental resource that supports our knowledge-based economy, the development of our society, and the understanding of our history. Archival institutions, such as Société historique de Saint-Boniface, not only provide access to priceless historical documents, they also play a key role in the cultural life of communities. Sadly, as we prepare for the 150th Anniversary of Confederation in 2017, archives are now desperately lacking the resources to keep up with the challenges of preserving, digitizing and making available to Canadians these irreplaceable information resources.

Minister Glover, at your earliest opportunity I would appreciate meeting with you to explore pressing matters such as the appointment of a new Librarian and Archivist of Canada, restoring the National Archival Development Program, and discussing the issues related to the information and record-keeping infrastructure across Canada - the foundation upon which a culture of accountability may be built for the benefit of future generations.

Once again, congratulations on your new position. The Canadian archival community stands eager and ready to support you and federal government priorities.

Sincerely,

Lara Wilson
Chair, CCA Board of Directors

- 1) Joint Statement on Qualities of a Successful Librarian and Archivist of Canada, May 24, 2013
- 2) Correspondence from Minister Moore, Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages, July 11, 2013