

The Lloydminster Public Library Board stands firmly with CAP Libraries in its opposition to Bill 28.

Public libraries have a long-standing and well-established commitment to safeguarding children while respecting the vital role of parents and caregivers. We recognize that parents are primarily responsible for guiding their own children’s learning, reading choices, and engagement with library resources, and libraries exist to support—not replace—that responsibility through transparent practices, professional standards, and open communication.

Bill 28 undermines one of the foundational principles of public libraries—intellectual freedom—by imposing legislative constraints that are unnecessary and misaligned with the realities of library governance and service delivery. The proposed measures disregard the expertise of library professionals and erode public trust in institutions that have consistently served Albertans responsibly and transparently.

We strongly call on the Government of Alberta to engage in meaningful, good-faith consultation with the public library sector. Such engagement would clearly demonstrate that the concerns cited by Bill 28 are already being responsibly and successfully addressed across Alberta through existing policies that balance child protection, parental involvement, and access to information.

Alberta’s public libraries are trusted, inclusive community hubs that respond to the unique needs of their patrons while upholding professional ethics, community standards, and the shared responsibility between libraries and families. Legislation that diminishes parental choice, professional judgment, and intellectual freedom does not serve the public interest.