

## News Release For Immediate Release

### Retiring CEO in Pickering is Ontario's 2019 Public Librarian of the Year!



PICKERING, ON (January 31, 2019): Pickering Public Library is thrilled to celebrate the outstanding achievements of the Library's former CEO, Cathy Grant who has been named 2019 Public Librarian of the Year with the W.J Robertson Medallion.

The W.J. Robertson Medallion is presented by the Ontario Library Boards' Association to a public librarian who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in the advancement of public library service in Ontario.

Under Cathy's guidance, Pickering Public Library has moved from a traditional organization to a workplace with a culture that supports innovation and learning at every level. She worked with staff to design the framework in which we operate: the strategic plans developed with strong community input and then given staff the freedom to find creative ways to meet our community's needs. Cathy's leadership has led to many Library awards, including current nominations for both the Minister's Award for Innovation for our digital outreach program, PPL Connect and the Angus Mowat Award of Excellence for the Library's Learning Organization model. Between 2017 and 2018, Pickering Public Library staff have presented at OLA, PLA and ALA on work related to mental health, the learning organization and digital outreach. Today, Pickering Public Library embraces Library design thinking, has developed a thriving Maker Space, operate a psychologically safe workplace proudly operate as a Learning Organization. This is all possible because of Cathy's strong leadership and support. Cathy was nominated by her colleagues and friends Kathy Williams, Elaine Bird, and Tanya Sinclair. Cathy will be presented with the award at the annual Ontario Library Association Super Conference awards gala held on Thursday January 31, 2019 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

[http://www.accessola.org/web/OLA/Membership/Awards\\_ola/WJ\\_Robertson\\_Medallion.aspx](http://www.accessola.org/web/OLA/Membership/Awards_ola/WJ_Robertson_Medallion.aspx)



**Pickering Public Library**  
Central Library  
One the Esplanade, Pickering, ON, L1V 6K7  
905-831-6265 or 1-888-831-6266  
[www.picnet.org](http://www.picnet.org)

[www.picnet.org](http://www.picnet.org)

## **Media Contacts:**

Tanya Sinclair  
CEO, Chief Engagement Officer  
Pickering Public Library  
[tanyas@picnet.org](mailto:tanyas@picnet.org)  
[www.picnet.org](http://www.picnet.org)

-30-

Pickering Public Library is an award-winning library serving 91,000 City of Pickering residents across 31,000 households with over 41,000 active library card accounts. Operating under the guidance of a Board of Directors, the library is primarily funded through municipal contributions and is comprised of three locations that provide excellence in client experience.

The Library strives to create a connected, intelligent and successful community through innovative technology, programs, outreach, collections and services for all residents.

Staffed by over 60 permanent employees who are committed to making a difference within the community, the library lends almost 1 million items, receives over 515,000 visits, delivers programs and events for almost 28,000 attendees, provides over 33,000 research and technology assists, and provides almost 1.7 million internet sessions each year.

## **Pickering Public Library's Vision:**

Pickering is a city where learning is promoted in all its forms and promoted as a force for improved personal, social, civic, and economic change. The Library is the heart of the learning city.