-----Original Message-----
From:
Sent: Monday, September 19, 2016 1:52 PM
To: CLK-CityClerks
Subject: Winnipeg.ca : Other - Submission to Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks

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Sent: Monday, September 19, 2016 1:51:48 PM
Name: Hilary Campbell
Email Address:
Phone:
Address:
Photo(s):
IP: 71.7.141.10
Referring URL: http://winnipeg.ca/clerks/cityHall/FAQ.stm
Subject: Winnipeg.ca : Other - Submission to Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks
Message:
Good afternoon. I only became aware of today's meeting of the committee noted above within the last hour or so. Please forward the following submission to the members of this committee.

RE: http://www.metronews.ca/news/winnipeg/2016/09/19/winnipeg-library-goers-think-there-should-be-no-fines-on-kids-bo.html

I am writing to question the proposal for the Winnipeg Public Library to eliminate fines on overdue children's and youth books and other materials. While an argument could be made that the current policy prevents youth from reading, I still believe that there must be some incentive for *all* library patrons to return the materials they borrow in a reasonable and timely fashion. There *must* be some responsibility placed on the borrower, and there *must* be some repercussions if the borrower fails to live up to that responsibility.

I do not live in Winnipeg, but I am concerned about the precedent this would set. In particular, I fail to see the benefit of allowing youth to flout the rules they will have to follow when they become adults. If they don't learn responsibility in their childhood/teen years, that becomes an obstacle to living life as responsible adults.

Would anything replace monetary fines and/or limited use of library materials as an incentive to return overdue materials? If not, I suggest that the WPL would create a serious problem for itself. The library's collection would suffer some significant losses.

One option: declare amnesty. Allow people to return overdue materials on a certain day (or week), and once the materials are back in the system, the borrower's record would be expunged and they would no

longer owe any money - they could begin again with a clean slate. This should *not* be an annually scheduled event, as people would simply wait until the next one to turn in their overdue books.

Another alternative is to extend the borrowing period for child/youth/young adult materials.

Please: do not fail the next generation. Today's young people are tomorrow's leaders, teachers, doctors, workers... decision-makers. You will not be doing them or anyone else a favour by allowing them such an escape from responsibility.

Thank you for your time.