

68 Zorra Drive  
Tobermory, Ontario  
N0H 2R0

September 20, 2019

Bruce County Public Library  
1243 MacKenzie Road, Port Elgin ON,  
N0H 2C6

Att: Chairperson and Board of Directors

Dear Sirs/Madam,

Re: Tobermory Public Library

I am a long time resident of Tobermory and, have been frequenting our quaint little log library for many years.

This week I was shocked and dismayed to learn that two officials from the Bruce County Public Library came to the Tobermory library, unannounced, and removed several items of furniture, cushions, photographs and posters from the library premises. They replaced the furniture with ugly and inappropriate items that have destroyed the comfortable ambiance of the library's reading area. Books that were shelved specifically for our local book group were also removed. Several items were placed outside for removal to the landfill site. They were, fortunately, rescued by a library volunteer. Apparently, your officials' justification for these arbitrary actions was that the Bruce County Public Library owns everything in the Tobermory library and can therefore do what they like.

The Tobermory library is well liked and can draw upon much local support. While it may be that the Bruce County Public Library is the 'owner' of the premises and its contents that does not excuse your officials arbitrary actions, which were carried out without any semblance of consultation. At a minimum you and your employees should consult with the local Friends of the Library and with local members of the Municipal Council, before making any changes to our library. The actions of your

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employees have done nothing to help build on the collaborative and constructive relationship that we thought we had between our community and the Bruce County Public Library system.

I believe that the unfortunate actions of your employees should be reversed immediately and an apology offered to our community. Furthermore, I believe that to prevent any more arbitrary actions on the part of your employees you should develop a policy for consulting with the local communities you serve.

May I hear from you?

Yours truly,

Ruth Bainbridge

cc. Mayor Milt MacIver and Council of the Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula