

From: Elizabeth.May@parl.gc.ca
Sent: Wednesday, June 20, 2012 9:35 AM
To: execdir@bcla.bc.ca
Subject: RE: Regarding Libraries and Archives Canada

Dear Ms. DeFaveri,

Thank you for your letter of concern on the Harper Conservatives' attack on the federal archives.

John Lutz of the Canadian Historical Association has named these cuts an "attack on the past," and with good reason. Among other things the government has decided to eliminate the budget for local archives, the Canadian Studies program and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's "Understanding Canada" program. The result of these cuts is simple: a weaker understanding of Canada not only for Canadians, but for all those abroad who are interested in our unique country.

These essential services are just another set of casualties targeted by this government's disastrous budget. Artists, writers, journalists and historians all depend on our archives for their work. It is for this reason that I listed cuts to Libraries and Archives as one of the many flaws of the Harper Conservatives' budget in one of my <http://elizabethmaymp.ca/news/blogs/2012/04/03/the-budget-debate/>. (I was reduced to objectivity to the budget through tweet and blogs, as debate time was cut short.)

Thank you again for your letter. I hope for your continued involvement in issues that are close to you.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth May, O.C., M.P.

Member of Parliament for Saanich-Gulf Islands
Leader of the Green Party of Canada