

Media release template for New CELA Member Library Announcement

DATE:

**Headline:** [Location’s] print disabled community now has access to more than 1 million free books

(Name of) Library now offers a collection of more than 1 million books, magazines and newspapers specifically designed to be accessible to patrons with print disabilities thanks to the library’s partnership with the Centre for Equitable Library Access (CELA).

“[Library name] aims to serve all members of the community equally, including those who can’t read print because of sight loss, dyslexia or physical disabilities. Now these patrons can access half a million titles for free just by using their [Name of] library card,” says [library official name and title]

The materials which include all genres of books, 45 national, regional and international newspapers and 150 popular magazines are available in a variety of accessible formats that allow people with print disabilities to read them using specialized players, device apps, computer programs or other technology. Depending on the format needed, materials can be downloaded from the CELA website, sent by mail directly to patrons, or accessed through the library.

**[How to sign up Option 1: each branch/library]** “To sign up for this free service, [Name of] library patrons can visit their local branch. We’re happy to help patrons register for their CELA account and let them know about other accessible resources we have available. Alternately patrons can self-register for their CELA account directly through the CELA website,” says [library official name and title]

**[How to sign up Option 2: centralized registration for a library system or region**] “To sign up for this free service, [Name of] library patrons can contact [name and contact info of library accessibility contact] to register for their CELA account and learn more about other accessible resources we have available. Alternately patrons can self-register for their CELA account directly through the CELA website,” says [library official name and title]

CELA also offers free access to their materials to educators and professionals who work directly supporting people with print disabilities.

“We know that making accessible materials available to Canadians with print disabilities positively influences their academic, professional and cultural opportunities. We’re thrilled that [Name of ] Library has partnered with us to bring CELA resources to this community.” Says Laurie Davidson, CELA’s Executive Director.

In addition to CELA resources [Name of] library also offers [**describe other accessible services at your library]**

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The Centre for Equitable Library Access, CELA, is Canada’s most comprehensive accessible reading service, providing books and other materials to Canadians with print disabilities in the formats of their choice. A national not-for-profit organization, CELA serves 94% of the estimated 3 million Canadians with print disabilities in partnership with member public libraries. CELA provides access to more than 1 million professionally produced titles to provide people with print disabilities with a quality library experience.

For more information please contact:

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