June, 2018

Dear Valued Librarian,

Earlier this spring you may have received (through email or newsletter) the first communication from a new partnership between Minitex and the Office of Minnesota Secretary of State. That brief message introduced a series of voter outreach efforts we hope you will choose to embrace at your library.

Enclosed are three copies of the paper version of a sign we sent electronically in that first message. These signs are designed to be posted -if you wish- in the vicinity of publically accessible computers in your library. The text encourages online voter registration, lays out the requirements, and lists the types of questions that will be asked. Let us know what you think of the signs, and suggest any changes you recommend.

The next communication topic will be registering and voting while homeless. The ALA Policy Manual, B.8.10 Library Services to the Poor (Old Number 61) includes this powerful statement, “…Therefore it is crucial that libraries recognize their role in enabling poor people to participate fully in a democratic society, by utilizing a wide variety of available resources and strategies.” We hope this effort will aid in your work in this regard. We welcome your thoughts, and will prepare signage to add to any voter outreach materials you already have.

Our thanks for the work you do in furthering reading, learning, discussion, and understanding, as well as civic engagement and civil conversations. Please reach out at any time to discuss voter outreach and education, and the work we may do together.

Michael Wall
Voter Outreach Specialist