**SAMPLE NOMINATION LETTER #2**

Dear ILA Executive Board:

It is my honor to nominate Richard Shurman as an Illinois Library Luminary. Richard embodies the spirit of this award and merits consideration. He retired as Administrator of Cooperative Computer Services in June 2015 after 26 years of leadership.

Richard received a BA in Anthropology from the University of Chicago and earned an Illinois State Library scholarship to obtain his MLS from the University of Washington in Seattle. Richard returned to Illinois and spent the first thirteen years of his career with the DuPage Library System where he worked to develop their first DLS consortium

During his tenure, CCS has grown into a consortium of 24 public libraries with a combined 650,000 cardholders, 1.1 million titles and 5.6 million item records. Richard achieved all this through building consensus among members with considerable differences in budget, population, geographic location, or governmental structure. Large city libraries like Evanston and Des Plaines work together with small district libraries such as Lincolnwood and Prospect Heights. North Shore libraries in Wilmette and Lake Forest found common ground with western exurb libraries in Crystal Lake and Huntley.

To say the task is akin to herding kittens is only slight hyperbole. Each library has a unique constituency, unique board of trustees, and unique sets of priorities. Richard did a tremendous job of ensuring every viewpoint had the opportunity to be heard and providing each member with unbiased information to allow them to reach their decision.

Richard has been a member of ILA, ALA, and PLA and other professional organizations and committees his entire career. He has presented at many conferences, conventions, workshops and other professional programs, sharing his expertise on consortia with eager audiences.

Richard Shurman has long been a leader in Illinois libraries. His dedication to promoting cooperation and sharing among libraries helped CCS become one of the most successful consortia in the state, if not the nation. He would be a worthy addition to the roster of Illinois Library Luminaries.

Sincerely,

Alexander C. Todd Executive Director

Prospect Heights Public Library