

9b.

Notice of Motion

Date: March 20, 2013

To: Toronto Public Library Board

Topic: Appointment of Youth Board Members in a Non-voting Capacity

Moved By: Ross Parry

Seconded By: Michael Foderick

Background:

Young people are a key target audience for Toronto's public library system. The Toronto Public Library (TPL) has thousands of youth and teen members and the TPL reaches out to youth and teens through website portals and programs and services.

The Toronto Public Library Board consists of Board members representing a cross section of the general population, but does not bring to the Board the perspective of youth and teens. Regularly, the Board discusses matters that would benefit from a youth perspective, including items and policy considerations relating to hours of operation, terms and conditions for users, internet access to library services, fees and fines, program considerations and so on.

Other public decision-making bodies such as the Toronto District School Board have taken steps to bring a youth perspective to the Board table by appointing youth Trustees who attend and participate in board meetings in a non-voting capacity.

Recommendations:

1. That the Toronto Public Library Board requests staff to report back to the Board in September 2013 on the feasibility of appointing two youth Board members to the TPL Board to attend and participate in Board meetings as non-voting members.