

**Toronto Public Library Board**

**Meeting No. 3: Monday, March 22, 2021, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:19 p.m.**

**Via Webex and Teleconference**

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**Members Present:**

Sue Graham-Nutter

Alim Remtulla

Jonathan Hoss

Councillor Paul Ainslie

Jennifer Liu

Alison Menary

Councillor Gord Perks

Sarwar Choudhury

Andrea Geddes Poole

**21-045 Call to Order**

Sue Graham-Nutter, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. and introduced Vickery Bowles, City Librarian.

Vickery gratefully acknowledged that while the meeting is taking place via tele/video conference, it is important to acknowledge that the land on which Toronto Public Library is located is Indigenous. She indicated this is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy (also known as the Six Nations Confederacy), the Wendat, and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Toronto Public Library gratefully acknowledges these Indigenous nations for their guardianship of this land. Vickery reminded and reaffirmed as Torontonians and Canadians, accountability to these Indigenous nations, and to all Indigenous peoples and communities living in Toronto.

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**Call to Order** – continued

Vickery further indicated that this land is also part of the Dish with One Spoon territory, that includes a treaty between the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Anishinaabek and allied nations, to peaceably share and care for this land, its waters, and all of the biodiversity in the Great Lakes region. All those who come to live and work here are responsible for honouring this treaty in the spirit of peace, friendship, and respect.

**21-046 Declarations of Conflicts of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Conflicts of Interest by members of the Library Board.

**21-047 Approval of Agenda**

**Moved by** Councillor Paul Ainslie, **seconded by** Alim Remtulla:

**That** the Toronto Public Library Board approves the agenda as revised to:

1. add a Presentation from Peter Holleley regarding Agenda Item No. 12 – Toronto Public Library Board – Self-Evaluation: 2020 Results

**21-048 Confirmation of February 22, 2021 Toronto Public Library Board Meeting Minutes**

**Moved by** Alim Remtulla, **seconded by** Alison Menary:

**That** the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. confirms the minutes of the February 22, 2021 Toronto Public Library Board meeting.

**Carried**

**21-049 Approval of Consent Agenda Items**

**Moved by** Alim Remtulla, **seconded by** Jennifer Liu:

**That** the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. approves the consent agenda.

**Carried**

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**21-050 Business Arising from the Minutes**

There were no *Business Arising from the Minutes* items at the March 22, 2021 meeting.

***Carried***

**21-051 City Librarian's Report (*Received for Information by Consent*)**

***That*** the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. receives the City Librarian's Report for information.

***Carried***

**21-052 Communications (*Received for Information by Consent*)**

***That*** the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. receives Communication (a) from Sue Graham-Nutter, Chair, Toronto Public Library Board to the Hon. Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation, dated March 01, 2021, requesting a meeting with the Minister or her staff to discuss provincial plans for the First Parliament site, for information.

***Carried***

**Presentations**

**21-053 Agenda Item No. 12 - Toronto Public Library Board –Self-Evaluation: 2020 Results**

***Moved by*** Sarwar Choudhury, ***seconded by*** Councillor Paul Ainslie

***That*** the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. receives the presentation from Peter Holleley regarding Agenda Item No. 12 – Toronto Public Library Board – Self-Evaluation 2020 Results for information.

**21-054 Toronto Public Library Board Education – TPL's provincial role and key initiative update**

Sue Graham-Nutter introduced Pam Ryan, Director, Service Development and Innovation, and Joseph Lalonde, Manager, Data and Analytics, who made a presentation.

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Pam provided the Board with an overview of TPL's provincial role, including:

- TPL's special status under the Ontario Public Libraries Act to serve as a special library service board that may provide library resources and services to the entire Ontario library community;
- TPL's creation and curation of the Digital Archives Ontario
- TPL's leadership role in the Bridge Project. This innovative toolkit helps Ontario's public libraries measure the impact and outcomes of their digital services.

Joseph provided a further update on the Bridge project work, explaining how two tools (Bridge and Edge) complement each other in helping Ontario public libraries evaluate their technology services. The results were categorized into six key themes:

- Libraries are essential to building digitally inclusive communities
- Libraries are responsive in supporting digital literacy in their communities
- Libraries enable patrons to establish and maintain meaningful connections and provide critical access to public resources
- Libraries foster ideation and encourage creative expression
- Libraries support entrepreneurs and small businesses in impactful ways
- Libraries facilitate access to workforce development

***Moved by Jonathan Hoss, seconded by Andrea Geddes Poole:***

***That the Toronto Public Library Board:***

1. *receives the Toronto Public Library Board Education – TPL's provincial role and key initiative update presentation for information.*

***Carried***

**Items for Action:**

**21-055 Funding for the Centre for Equitable Library Access (CELA) and the National Network for Equitable Library Service (NNELS)**

Vickery Bowles informed the Board that while a one-year funding reprieve has been offered by the federal government, advocacy work for future

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funding beyond that point will continue. Vickery then reviewed highlights of the report for the Board.

**Moved by** Jonathan Hoss, **seconded by** Alison Menary:

**That** the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *engages in the CELA and NNELS public advocacy campaign with letters to federal government ministries and local MPs.*

**Carried**

**21-056 Toronto Public Library Board –Self-Evaluation: 2020 Results**

This report was deferred by the Board at the January 25, 2021 meeting.

Elizabeth Glass, Director, Planning, Policy & Performance Management, reviewed highlights of the report for the Board.

**Moved by** Andrea Geddes Poole, **seconded by** Alim Remtulla:

**That** the Toronto Public Library Board

1. *receives the updated results of the Board's self-evaluation survey summarized in Attachment 1; and*
2. *directs staff to conduct a survey in 2021, the third year of the Board's term.*

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**Items for Information:**

**21-057 COVID-19 Emergency Response – Update**

Vickery Bowles reviewed highlights of the report for the Board.

***Moved by Alim Remtulla, seconded by Jennifer Liu:***

***That the Toronto Public Library Board***

1. *receives the COVID-19 Emergency Response - Update report for information*

***Carried***

**21-058 2021 Fundraising Initiatives**

Pam Ryan, Director, Service Development and Innovation, reviewed highlights of the report for the Board.

Alex Carruthers, Manager, Learning and Community Engagement and Sarah Han, Program Lead for the Google IT Support Professional Certificate initiative, then provided a summary of the Google IT Support Professional Certificate Program in Libraries

***Moved by Andrea Geddes Poole, seconded by Jonathan Hoss:***

***That the Toronto Public Library Board:***

1. *receives the 2021 Fundraising Initiatives report for information*

***Carried***

**21-059 Potential Use of TPL Facilities by Toronto School Boards – Library Activity and the Impact of Closed Branches**

Moe Hosseini-Ara, Director, Branch Operations and Customer Experience, gave a verbal update for the Board.

***Moved by Jonathan Hoss, seconded by Alison Menary:***

***That the Toronto Public Library Board:***

1. *receives the Potential Use of TPL Facilities by Toronto School Boards – Library Activity and the Impact of Closed Branches verbal report for information.*

***Carried***

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**21-060 Annual Statistical Report to the Office of the Information and Privacy  
Commissioner of Ontario (*Received for Information by Consent*)**

***That*** the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. receives the Annual Statistical Report to the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario for information.

***Carried***

**21-061 Board Resolutions – Status Report (*Received for Information by Consent*)**

***That*** the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. receives the Board Resolutions – Status Report for information.

***Carried***

**21-062 Adjournment**

***Moved by*** Andrea Geddes Poole, ***seconded by*** Jonathan Hoss:

***That*** the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. adjourns the March 22, 2021 Toronto Public Library Board meeting.

***Carried***

The meeting ended at 7:19 p.m.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_