

Toronto Public Library Board
Meeting No. 8: Monday, October 25, 2021, from 6:00 p.m.
Via Webex and Teleconference

Members Present:

Sue Graham-Nutter
Alim Remtulla
Councillor Paul Ainslie
Tamara Balan
Sarwar Choudhury
Andrea Geddes Poole
Jonathan Hoss
Alison Menary
Councillor Gord Perks

Regrets

Jennifer Liu

21-153 Call to Order

Sue Graham-Nutter, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:01p.m. and introduced Vickery Bowles, City Librarian.

Vickery Bowles recognized 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, the Wendat, and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Toronto Public Library gratefully acknowledges these Indigenous nations for their guardianship of this land.

Ms. Bowles advised the Board that Philippa Williamsom, the Library Board Officer would be on leave beginning on November 7, 2021 and until early January 2023. Maria Policelli will be assuming the Library Board Officer role during Philippa's absence.

The Chair also noted that the 2021 Board Evaluation Survey will be launching in November and encouraged all Board members to complete the survey.

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21-154 Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

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

21-155 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. 01 – Call to Order (Land Acknowledgement).*

Carried

21-156 Confirmation of September 27, 2021 Toronto Public Library Board Meeting Minutes

Moved by Alison Menary, seconded by Alim Remtulla:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *confirms the minutes of the September 27, 2021 Toronto Public Library Board meeting.*

Carried

21-157 Confirmation of September 27, 2021 Toronto Public Library Board Closed Meeting Minutes

Moved by Jonathon Hoss, seconded by Alison Menary:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *confirms the minutes of the September 27, 2021 Toronto Public Library Closed Board meeting.*

Carried

21-158 Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Moved by Tamara Balan, seconded by Jonathon Hoss:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *approves the consent agenda.*

Carried

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21-159 Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no *Business Arising from the Minutes* items at the September 27, 2021 meeting.

21-160 City Librarian's Report (*Received by Consent*)

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

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

Carried

21-161 Communications

There were no *Communications* items at the October 25, 2021 meeting.

21-162 Presentations

Agenda Item No. 01 – Call to Order (Land Acknowledgement)

Peter Holleley addressed the Board summarizing his written submission, read aloud by Philippa Williamson, Library Board Officer. Peter Holleley asked the Board to improve the ability of the public to contribute to indigenous programming and land acknowledgement. Mr. Holleley asked that the two articles he had included as attachments be considered by staff going forward.

Sue Graham-Nutter asked Pam Ryan, Director, Service Development & Innovation (Director) to respond to Peter Holleley's concerns. Ms. Ryan noted that she had reviewed the attachments included with Mr. Holleley's written submission. The Director explained Toronto Public Library's approach to public consultation with Indigenous communities. Ms. Ryan noted examples such as TPL's Indigenous Advisory Council, having retained an Indigenous consulting firm to undertake Indigenous community consultations to inform service development, and that all of TPL's Indigenous programming must be led by Indigenous presenters. She also noted that TPL's approach to Land Acknowledgement Statements was created in consultation with and endorsement from the Indigenous Advisory Council.

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Presentations (continued)

Moved by Andrea Geddes Poole seconded by Jonathon Hoss:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *receives the presentation from Peter Holleley regarding Agenda Item No. 01 – Call to Order (Land Acknowledgement) for information.*

Carried

21-163 TPL Board Education – One Page Literary Festival

Linda Hazzan, Director, Communications, Programming & Customer Engagement, introduced Gregory McCormick, Manager, Cultural & Special Events Programming.

Mr. McCormick provided an update on the One Page: Canada's Virtual Literary Series (One Page) launched in September 2020 to strengthen and support the literary and arts scenes across the country and offer Canadians access to local, national and international literary content during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Seventeen events were held drawing almost 3,500 total viewers, and the top event drawing over 600 viewers. Participation was global, with participants from Canada joining primarily from Toronto, Ottawa, Vancouver and Winnipeg.

Moved by Andrea Geddes Poole seconded by Alison Menary:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *receives the One Page Literary Festival presentation for information.*

Carried

Items for Information

21-164 Planning and Executing Facilities Capital Projects

Alyssa Van Graft, Director, Transformational Projects, reviewed highlights of the report and provided a presentation for the Board.

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Planning and Executing Facilities Capital Projects (continued)***Moved by* Alim Remtulla, *seconded by* Alison Menary:*****That the Toronto Public Library Board:***

1. receives the Planning and Executing Facilities Capital Projects report for information.

Carried**21-165 Use of Security Guards at Toronto Public Library**

Moe Hosseini-Ara, Director, Branch Operations, reviewed highlights of the report and provided a presentation for the Board.

Councillor Gord Perks agreed that the TPL must provide a safe environment to both staff and patrons. Councillor Perks noted it would be good to explore alternatives to using security guards to deal with people in crisis.

Moved by* Councillor Gord Perks, *seconded by* Andrea Geddes Poole:**That the Toronto Public Library Board:***

1. directs the City Librarian to convene a discussion table to explore alternative safety and security strategies. The table should include representatives from Library Staff, the Library Board, CUPE Local 4948, and community organizations with expertise in providing services to socially excluded groups.

Carried as amended***Moved by* Jonathan Hoss, *seconded by* Andrea Geddes Poole:*****That the Toronto Public Library Board:***

1. receives the Use of Security Guards at Toronto Public Library report for information.

Amended

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Use of Security Guards at Toronto Public Library (continued)

Moved in amendment by Councillor Gord Perks, **seconded by** Andrea Geddes Poole:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *directs the City Librarian to convene a discussion table to explore alternative safety and security strategies. The table should include representatives from Library Staff, the Library Board, CUPE Local 4948, and community organizations with expertise in providing services to socially excluded groups.*

Carried

Items for Action:**21-166 2022 Operating Budget Submission**

Howard Balter, Manager, Budget and Financial Reporting, reviewed the highlights of the report and provided a presentation for the Board.

Moved by Andrea Geddes Poole, **seconded by** Alison Menary:

That the Toronto Public Library Board

1. *approves the 2022 operating base budget submission of \$208.570 million net (\$228.190 million gross), which represents a \$5.522 million net (\$7.682 million gross) increase, or 2.7%, over the 2020 operating budget, comprised of:*
 - a. *base budget increase of \$0.742 million net (\$4.457 million gross), or 0.3%, before 2022 COVID-19 pressures, as detailed in Attachment 1; and*
 - b. *COVID-19 related budget pressures of \$4.779 million net (\$3.225 million gross), or 2.4%, as detailed in Attachment 1; and*
2. *approves the 2022 operating budget enhancements totalling \$1.411 million net (\$0.311 million gross), or 0.7%, as detailed in Attachment 1; and*
3. *authorizes staff to forward this operating budget submission to the City for consideration.*

Carried

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21-167 2022-2031 Capital Budget and Plan Submission

Larry Hughsam, Director, Finance and Treasurer, reviewed highlights of the report and provided a presentation for the Board.

Moved by Alim Remtulla, seconded by Andrea Geddes Poole:

That the Toronto Public Library Board

1. *approves the 2022-2031 capital budget and plan submission, including projected 2021 net carry forwards, of \$40.425 million debt (\$55.387 million gross) for 2022 and \$367.536 million debt (\$544.065 million gross) over 2022-2031, comprised of:*
 - a. *32 projects, as detailed in Attachment 1, totalling \$40.425 million debt (\$55.387 million gross) in 2022 and \$354.942 million debt (\$510.293 million gross) over 2022-2031, which reflects TPL's Capacity to Spend Capital Budget and Plan; and*
 - b. *two projects, as detailed in Attachment 2, totalling \$0 gross and debt in 2022 and \$12.594 million debt (\$33.772 million gross) over 2022-2031 which reflects TPL's Capital Needs Constraints and therefore are not funded; and*
2. *authorizes staff to forward this capital budget submission to the City for consideration.*

Carried

21-168 2021 Capital Budget Adjustment (Approved by Consent)

That the Toronto Public Library Board

1. *endorses the acceleration of \$3.649 million gross and debt cash flow from 2022 to 2021 for the Albert Campbell Library project; and*
2. *authorizes staff to forward this capital budget adjustment request to the City for approval.*

Carried

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21-169 Holiday Closures 2022 and January 2023 (Approved by Consent)

That the Toronto Public Library Board

1. *approves the schedule of holiday closures for 2022 and January 2023 as provided in Attachment 1.*

Carried

21-170 Mount Pleasant Branch – Award of Tender (Approved by Consent)

That the Toronto Public Library Board

1. *approves a commitment with Struct-Con Construction Ltd. for the renovation of the Mount Pleasant branch, with a total value of \$2,000,055.66, excluding HST, comprised of:*
 - a. *an award of construction tender, being the lowest bid, at a cost of \$1,818,232.42; and*
 - b. *a contingency of \$181,823.24;*
2. *approves the closure of the Mount Pleasant branch for approximately one year during construction.*

Carried

Items for Information:

21-171 Annual Risk Register – Update with confidential attachments

Elizabeth Glass reviewed the report and presented on the how the Annual Risk Register is developed.

Moved by Councillor Paul Ainslie, seconded by Tamara Balan:

That the Toronto Public Library Board

1. *receives the Annual Risk Register – Update with confidential attachments report for information.*

Carried

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21-172 Capital Budget Monitoring Report – September 30, 2021

Larry Hughsam reviewed highlights of the report for the Board.

Moved by Alim Remtulla, **seconded by** Sarwar Choudhury:

That the Toronto Public Library Board

1. receives the Capital Budget Monitoring Report - September 30, 2021 for information.

Carried

21-173 Operating Budget Monitoring Report – September 30, 2021

Howard Balter reviewed highlights of the report for the Board.

Moved by Jonathon Hoss, **seconded by** Sarwar Choudhury:

That the Toronto Public Library Board

1. receives the Operating Budget Monitoring Report – September 30, 2021 for information.

Carried

21-174 Toronto Public Library Board – 2022 Proposed Meetings and Locations Schedule

Vickery Bowles, City Librarian, reviewed highlights of the report for the Board.

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

That the Toronto Public Library Board

1. receives the Toronto Public Library Board – 2022 Proposed Meetings and Locations Schedule report for information.

Carried

21-175 Board Resolutions – Status Report (*Received by Consent*)

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

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

Carried

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21-176 Closed Meeting

At 8:15 p.m., it was:

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

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *conducts a Closed meeting as the subject matter being considered (Labour Relations Update – Verbal) involves labour relations or employee negotiations - Public Libraries Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter P. 44, s. 16.1(4).*

At 8:41 p.m., the Board resumed its meeting in public.

21-177 Adoption of Closed Meeting Action:**Labour Relations Update – Verbal**

Moved by Jonathon Hoss **seconded by** Councillor Paul Ainslie:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *receives the confidential Labour Relations Update – Verbal report for information; and*
2. *approves the information provided in the confidential report will not be made public, as it involves labour relations or employee negotiations.*

21-178 Adjournment

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

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *adjourns the October 25, 2021 Toronto Public Library Board meeting.*

The meeting ended at 8:42 p.m.

Signed: _____