

**City Librarian's Report – January 29, 2018 Toronto
Public Library Board Meeting Minutes – Resolution No.
18-012**

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| Date: | February 26, 2018 |
| To: | Toronto Public Library Board |
| From: | City Librarian |

SUMMARY

At the January 29, 2018 Toronto Public Library Board meeting in considering the City Librarian's Report, a Board member requested clarification regarding the role of the Board in relation to library programming and other administrative issues. As a matter of business arising, information is provided to summarize the Library Board's overall responsibilities.

COMMENTS

The Public Libraries Act (PLA) is the key piece of legislation governing all public libraries in Ontario to support equitable and universal access to free public library service. Under the PLA, library boards are responsible for the management and control of the public library and the PLA describes the powers and duties of boards as providing a comprehensive and efficient public library service that reflects the community's unique needs.

<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90p44/v3>

The Library Board is accountable for policy, strategic planning and fiscal oversight; the City Librarian manages and directs the overall operation of the library system, its programs, services and staff.

The City of Toronto's Public Appointments website summarizes the Library Board's responsibilities: <https://secure.toronto.ca/pa/decisionBody/28.do>

The Board is responsible for effectively managing library resources and providing quality library services to the people of Toronto.

The Board's responsibilities include the following:

- *directing and approving the Library's strategic plans, goals, and policies based on community needs, and ensure that these plans are efficiently and effectively implemented;*
- *approving the annual operating and capital budgets for recommendation to City Council;*
- *acting as an advocate for library services and representing the Library before City Council and in the community;*
- *protecting the public's right to read materials of their choice;*
- *hiring and evaluating the City Librarian, who is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the library and its staff;*
- *is legally accountable for the Library's activities and for ensuring that it complies with all applicable legislation.*

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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