

Toronto Public Library Board

Meeting No. 5: Monday, May 25, 2020, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.

Via Webex and Teleconference

Members Present:

Ms. Sue Graham-Nutter (Chair)

Mr. Jonathan Hoss (Vice Chair)

Councillor Paul Ainslie

Mr. Sarwar Choudhury

Mr. Fenton Jagdeo

Ms. Jennifer Liu

Ms. Alison Menary

Councillor Gord Perks

Ms. Andrea Geddes Poole

Mr. Alim Remtulla

Regrets:

None

20-080 Call to Order

Sue Graham-Nutter, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Ms. Graham-Nutter 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. Ms. Graham-Nutter reminded and reaffirmed as Torontonians and Canadians, accountability to these Indigenous nations, and to all Indigenous peoples and communities living in Toronto.

Ms. Graham-Nutter 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.

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Call to Order – continued

Ms. Graham-Nutter welcomed all participants to the Toronto Public Library Board tele/video conference meeting. She indicated that the Board is unable to hold in-person public meetings at this time because of the prohibition on gatherings and because the location where meetings are held is currently closed to the public related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Under Section 8(c) of the Toronto Public Library Procedural By-Law, Ms. Graham-Nutter has approved changes to the meeting location as required. She also indicated that for the sake of the tele/video conference meeting, recorded votes are required.

Vickery Bowles, City Librarian and Sue Graham-Nutter expressed appreciation to Dan Keon, Director, Human Resources, for his exceptional leadership and service to the Toronto Public Library Board since 1988. Mr. Keon is retiring soon from the Board.

20-081 Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

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

20-082 Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Ainslie, seconded by A. Remtulla:

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

1. add a Communications item from Brandon Haynes, President, Toronto Public Library Workers Union – Local 4948 regarding Agenda Item No. 11 – COVID-19 Emergency Response – Plans for Reopening;
2. add a Presentations items from Peter Holleley regarding Agenda Item No. 11 – COVID-19 Emergency Response – Plans for Reopening;
3. approve the receipt of a revised Agenda Item No. 11 – COVID-19 Emergency Response – Plans for Reopening report providing additional information.

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Approval of Agenda – continued

Recorded Vote Required:

Yes – 10 Councillor Paul Ainslie, Sarwar Choudhury, Andrea Geddes Poole, Sue Graham-Nutter, Jonathan Hoss, Fenton Jagdeo, Jennifer Liu, Alison Menary, Councillor Gord Perks and Alim Remtulla. No – 0
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Carried

20-083 Confirmation of April 27, 2020 Toronto Public Library Board Special Meeting Minutes

Moved by J. Hoss, seconded by F. Jagdeo:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

- 1. confirms the minutes of the April 27, 2020 Toronto Public Library Board Special meeting.*

Recorded Vote Required:

Yes – 10 Councillor Paul Ainslie, Sarwar Choudhury, Andrea Geddes Poole, Sue Graham-Nutter, Jonathan Hoss, Fenton Jagdeo, Jennifer Liu, Alison Menary, Councillor Gord Perks and Alim Remtulla. No – 0
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Carried

20-084 Confirmation of April 27, 2020 Toronto Public Library Board Meeting Minutes

Moved by A. Remtulla, seconded by A. Menary:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

- 1. confirms the minutes of the April 27, 2020 Toronto Public Library Board meeting.*

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Confirmation of April 27, 2020 Toronto Public Library Board Meeting Minutes
- continued

Recorded Vote Required:

Yes - 10 Councillor Paul Ainslie, Sarwar Choudhury, Andrea Geddes Poole, Sue Graham-Nutter, Jonathan Hoss, Fenton Jagdeo, Jennifer Liu, Alison Menary, Councillor Gord Perks and Alim Remtulla. No - 0
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Carried

20-085 Confirmation of April 27, 2020 Toronto Public Library Board Closed Meeting Minutes

Moved by J. Hoss, ***seconded by*** Councillor Ainslie:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *confirms the minutes of the April 27, 2020 Toronto Public Library Board Closed meeting.*

Recorded Vote Required:

Yes - 10 Councillor Paul Ainslie, Sarwar Choudhury, Andrea Geddes Poole, Sue Graham-Nutter, Jonathan Hoss, Fenton Jagdeo, Jennifer Liu, Alison Menary, Councillor Gord Perks and Alim Remtulla. No - 0
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Carried

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20-086 Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Moved by A. Remtulla, **seconded by** J. Hoss:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *approves the consent agenda and all other items not held on consent.*

Recorded Vote Required:

Yes – 10 Councillor Paul Ainslie, Sarwar Choudhury, Andrea Geddes Poole, Sue Graham-Nutter, Jonathan Hoss, Fenton Jagdeo, Jennifer Liu, Alison Menary, Councillor Gord Perks and Alim Remtulla. No – 0
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Carried

20-087 Business Arising from the Minutes

There were no *Business Arising from the Minutes* items at the May 25, 2020 meeting.

20-088 Communications

Moved by Councillor Ainslie, **seconded by** Councillor Perks:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *receives Communication (a) from Brandon Haynes, President, Toronto Public Library Workers Union – Local 4948 to the Toronto Public Library Board dated May 25, 2020 regarding Agenda Item No. 11 – COVID-19 Emergency Response: Plans for Re-Opening for information.*

Recorded Vote Required:

Yes – 10 Councillor Paul Ainslie, Sarwar Choudhury, Andrea Geddes Poole, Sue Graham-Nutter, Jonathan Hoss, Fenton Jagdeo, Jennifer Liu, Alison Menary, Councillor Gord Perks and Alim Remtulla. No – 0
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Carried

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20-089 Presentations**Agenda Item No. 11 – COVID-19 Emergency Response: Plans for Re-opening**

In response to an earlier communication from Peter Holleley, Sue Graham-Nutter provided the following information:

- a. Section 29 of the Toronto Public Library Procedural By-Law allows members of the public to appear before the Board to make a presentation on action or information items being considered by the Board at the same meeting.
- b. While any member of the public making a presentation is free to make comments and ask questions, there is no requirement in the Procedural By-Law for members of the Board to respond to a presenter's comments or questions.
- c. The Board does not interpret the March 27, 2020 letter from Kevin Finnerty, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Tourism and Culture Division, as revising Section 29 of the Procedural By-Law.
- d. If Board members have questions about a member of the public's presentation, Board members are permitted to ask questions after the presenter has finished their presentation. Presenters may ask questions of Toronto Public Library staff by contacting the City Librarian's office.

Peter Holleley addressed the Board referencing his written submission; in particular, his three suggestions for providing information to the public for the incremental reopening of branches. He indicated the key to the success of the reopening is to ensure the public know what to expect when they return.

Mr. Holleley suggested the Library take the opportunity upon completion of the City Librarian's performance review to celebrate the many successes of the Library under Vickery Bowles' leadership.

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Presentations – continued

Agenda Item No. 11 – COVID-19 Emergency Response: Plans for Re-opening
– continued

Moved by A. Remtulla, seconded by J. Hoss:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. receives the presentation from Peter Holleley regarding Agenda Item No. 11 – COVID-19 Emergency Response: Plans for Re-Opening for information.

Recorded Vote Required:

Yes – 10

Councillor Paul Ainslie, Sarwar Choudhury, Andrea Geddes Poole, Sue Graham-Nutter, Jonathan Hoss, Fenton Jagdeo, Jennifer Liu, Alison Menary, Councillor Gord Perks and Alim Remtulla.

No – 0

Carried

Item for Approval:

20-090 COVID-19 Emergency Response: Plans for Re-Opening

Sue Graham-Nutter advised of revisions to the *COVID-19 Emergency Response: Plans for Re-Opening* report after it was posted on the Library's website to provide additional information. The revised report is available on the Library's website.

Vickery Bowles reviewed highlights of the report for the Board. In response to a question from Councillor Perks, Ms. Bowles indicated that she is committed to continuing to keep the Toronto Public Library Workers Union – Local 4948 informed and to have management staff regularly meet with the Joint Health & Safety Committee.

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COVID-19 Emergency Response: Plans for Re-Opening – continued

Motions:

See the following:

Moved by Councillor Ainslie, **seconded by** J. Hoss:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *approves the reopening framework and phased reopening plan;*
2. *authorizes the City Librarian to execute the phased reopening plan, adjusting it as needed based on the changing conditions and circumstances in the city and elsewhere; and*
3. *receives ongoing updates on the plan's implementation at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.*
4. *directs the City Librarian to work with the Toronto Public Library Workers Union – Local 4948 to establish regular meetings of the Joint Health & Safety Committee regarding reopening COVID-19 and safety protocols.*

Carried as amended

Moved by Councillor Ainslie, **seconded by** J. Hoss:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *approves the reopening framework and phased reopening plan;*
2. *authorizes the City Librarian to execute the phased reopening plan, adjusting it as needed based on the changing conditions and circumstances in the city and elsewhere; and*
3. *receives ongoing updates on the plan's implementation at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.*

Recorded Vote Required:

Yes – 10

Councillor Paul Ainslie, Sarwar Choudhury, Andrea Geddes Poole, Sue Graham-Nutter, Jonathan Hoss, Fenton Jagdeo, Jennifer Liu, Alison Menary, Councillor Gord Perks and Alim Remtulla.

No – 0

Amended

Toronto Public Library Board**Meeting No. 5: Monday, May 25, 2020, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.****Via Webex and Teleconference****COVID-19 Emergency Response: Plans for Re-Opening** – continued***Moved in amendment by Councillor Perks, seconded by A. Menary:******That the Toronto Public Library Board:***

1. *directs the City Librarian to work with the Toronto Public Library Workers Union – Local 4948 to establish regular meetings of the Joint Health & Safety Committee regarding reopening COVID-19 and safety protocols.*

Recorded Vote Required:

Yes – 10

Councillor Paul Ainslie, Sarwar Choudhury, Andrea Geddes Poole, Sue Graham-Nutter, Jonathan Hoss, Fenton Jagdeo, Jennifer Liu, Alison Menary, Councillor Gord Perks and Alim Remtulla.

No – 0

Carried**Items for Information:****20-091 Operating Budget Monitoring Report – March 31, 2020**

Larry Hughsam, Director, Finance & Treasurer reviewed highlights of the report for the Board.

Councillors Ainslie and Perks provided additional information about the potential negative financial impact on library service without federal and provincial relief for significant budget pressures incurred by the City of Toronto during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Motions:

See the following:

Moved by A. Remtulla, seconded by Councillor Ainslie:***That the Toronto Public Library Board:***

1. *receives the Operating Budget Monitoring Report – March 31, 2020 for information; and*
2. *requests the Chair, on behalf of the Board, to communicate to the Mayor of the City of Toronto, the Board's support for seeking assistance from the federal and provincial governments to alleviate the City's operating budget pressure.*

Carried as amended

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Operating Budget Monitoring Report – March 31, 2020 – continued**Moved by A. Remtulla, seconded by Councillor Ainslie:****That** the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. receives the Operating Budget Monitoring Report – March 31, 2020 for information; and

Recorded Vote Required:

Yes – 10

Councillor Paul Ainslie, Sarwar Choudhury, Andrea Geddes Poole, Sue Graham-Nutter, Jonathan Hoss, Fenton Jagdeo, Jennifer Liu, Alison Menary, Councillor Gord Perks and Alim Remtulla.

No – 0

Amended**Moved in amendment by A. Remtulla, seconded by Councillor Perks:****That** the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. requests the Chair, on behalf of the Board, to communicate to the Mayor of the City of Toronto, the Board's support for seeking assistance from the federal and provincial governments to alleviate the City's operating budget pressure.

Recorded Vote Required:

Yes – 10

Councillor Paul Ainslie, Sarwar Choudhury, Andrea Geddes Poole, Sue Graham-Nutter, Jonathan Hoss, Fenton Jagdeo, Jennifer Liu, Alison Menary, Councillor Gord Perks and Alim Remtulla.

No – 0

Carried

In response to a request from Sue Graham-Nutter, Vickery Bowles indicated that highlights of the May 25, 2020 Toronto Public Library Board meeting would be publicized, including reference to the communication to the Mayor from the Board.

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20-092 Capital Budget Monitoring Report – March 31, 2020

Larry Hughsam reviewed highlights of the report for the Board.

Motions:

See the following:

Moved by J. Liu, **seconded by** A. Menary:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. receives the Capital Budget Monitoring Report – March 31, 2020 for information; and
2. directs the City Librarian to communicate to CreateTO, the Board's support for the Parkdale Hub project.

Carried as amended

Moved by J. Liu, **seconded by** A. Menary:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. receives the Capital Budget Monitoring Report – March 31, 2020 for information.

Recorded Vote Required:

Yes – 10 Councillor Paul Ainslie, Sarwar Choudhury, Andrea Geddes Poole, Sue Graham-Nutter, Jonathan Hoss, Fenton Jagdeo, Jennifer Liu, Alison Menary, Councillor Gord Perks and Alim Remtulla. No – 0
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Amended

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Capital Budget Monitoring Report – March 31, 2020 – continued***Moved in amendment by Councillor Perks, seconded by A. Remtulla:******That the Toronto Public Library Board:***

1. *directs the City Librarian to communicate to CreateTO, the Board's support for the Parkdale Hub project.*

Recorded Vote Required:

Yes – 10 Councillor Paul Ainslie, Sarwar Choudhury, Andrea Geddes Poole, Sue Graham-Nutter, Jonathan Hoss, Fenton Jagdeo, Jennifer Liu, Alison Menary, Councillor Gord Perks and Alim Remtulla. No – 0
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Carried**20-093 Intellectual Freedom Challenges – 2019 Annual Report (*Received for Information by Consent*)*****That the Toronto Public Library Board:***

1. *receives the Intellectual Freedom Challenges – 2019 Annual Report for information.*

Carried**20-094 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

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20-095 Closed Meeting

At 7:15 p.m., it was:

Moved by Councillor Ainslie, **seconded by** J. Hoss:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *conducts a Closed meeting as the subject matters being considered (COVID-19 Emergency Response: Workforce Issues and City Librarian's 2019 and 2020 Performance Review) involve labour relations or employee negotiations and personal matters concerning an identifiable individual – Public Libraries Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter P. 44, s. 16.1(4).*

Recorded Vote Required:

Yes – 10

Councillor Paul Ainslie, Sarwar Choudhury, Andrea Geddes Poole, Sue Graham-Nutter, Jonathan Hoss, Fenton Jagdeo, Jennifer Liu, Alison Menary, Councillor Gord Perks and Alim Remtulla.

No – 0

Carried

At 7:40 p.m. the Board resumed its meeting in public.

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20-096 Adoption of Closed Meeting Action:
COVID-19 Emergency Response: Workforce Issues

Moved by Councillor Ainslie, ***seconded by*** J. Hoss:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *receives the confidential report from staff for action;*
2. *approves the recommendations in Confidential Attachment 1; and*
3. *approves the recommendations and information in Confidential Attachment 1 will not be made public, as it is about labour relations or employee negotiations.*

Recorded Vote Required:

Yes – 10 Councillor Paul Ainslie, Sarwar Choudhury, Andrea Geddes Poole, Sue Graham-Nutter, Jonathan Hoss, Fenton Jagdeo, Jennifer Liu, Alison Menary, Councillor Gord Perks and Alim Remtulla. No – 0
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Carried

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**20-097 Adoption of Closed Meeting Action:
City Librarian's Annual Performance Review Committee:
City Librarian's 2019 and 2020 Performance Review**

Moved by A. Geddes Poole, ***seconded by*** F. Jagdeo:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *recommends to the Toronto Public Library Board that it approves the City Librarian's Performance Review Committee's confidential recommendations for the City Librarian's 2019 and 2020 performance plans; and*
2. *recommends that the information concerning the City Librarian's 2019 and 2020 performance review not be made public as the subject matter being considered involves personal matters about an identifiable individual.*

Recorded Vote Required:

Yes – 10

Councillor Paul Ainslie, Sarwar Choudhury, Andrea Geddes Poole, Sue Graham-Nutter, Jonathan Hoss, Fenton Jagdeo, Jennifer Liu, Alison Menary, Councillor Gord Perks and Alim Remtulla.

No – 0

Carried

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20-098 Adjournment

Moved by F. Jagdeo, seconded by J. Hoss:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

- 1. adjourns the May 25, 2020 Toronto Public Library Board meeting.*

Recorded Vote Required:

Yes – 10 Councillor Paul Ainslie, Sarwar Choudhury, Andrea Geddes Poole, Sue Graham-Nutter, Jonathan Hoss, Fenton Jagdeo, Jennifer Liu, Alison Menary, Councillor Gord Perks and Alim Remtulla. No – 0
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Carried

The meeting ended at 7:45 p.m.

Signed: _____