
**COMMUNICATIONS
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEETING – October 22, 2012

It is recommended that the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. receives Communication (a) from Councillor Paul Ainslie, Chair, Toronto Public Library Board dated October 23, 2012 to John Rafferty, President and Chief Executive Officer, Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB); and
2. endorses the importance of providing accessible library materials for patrons with print disabilities and supports the CNIB's creation of a national Digital Hub to support service delivery to Canadians with print disabilities.

Background Information:

The CNIB is a registered charity. Its library is the largest source of alternative format content in Canada with a collection of over 90,000 items. TPL has worked closely with the CNIB Library over a number of years in the provision of services for patrons with print disabilities and joined the CNIB's provincially funded Partners Program when it was launched in 2010. Provincial funding for this program ended March 31, 2012.

In February 2011, the CNIB received federal financial support to develop a long term funding and service model for accessible library services across Canada beyond March 31, 2012. In response to this, the CNIB initiated a stakeholder consultation process, subsequently completing a business plan and multi-year implementation schedule in February 2012 to implement a National Digital Hub to support service delivery to Canadians with print disabilities.

The CNIB is proceeding with the plan for the National Digital Hub pending approval and the associated funding for the plan.

3. receives Communication (b) from Diane Shears to Toronto Public Library Board members dated September 22, 2012 regarding the 2013 operating budget for information;
4. receives Communication (c) from Joe Clark to the Toronto Public Library Board dated October 15, 2012 regarding the dangerous handling of fire at the Toronto Reference Library for information; and
5. receives Communication (d)* from Joe Clark to the Toronto Public Library Board dated October 15, 2012 regarding a conflict of interest between TPL and one of its commercial tenants for information.

* *Confidential as the subject matter being considered is a personal matter about an identifiable individual.*