



**From:** Claudette Mayne  
**To:** Nancy Marshall  
**CC:** Ellen Lewkowicz; Jane Litherland; Sharon Moynes  
**Date:** 07/12/2011 2:46 pm  
**Subject:** Deputation to Library Board  
**Attachments:** Claudette Mayne.vcf

Hello Nancy,

Kindly consider this request to speak at the upcoming Library Board Meeting on Monday December 12. As the High School Outreach (HSO) Librarian for Toronto, East of Yonge, I would like to speak to the board of the importance and reach of this program.

Since September 2011, I have met with over 3000 students and teachers promoting library services, registering students and teachers for library cards, and speaking to youth and teachers about information seeking skills. In 2010, the two librarians charged with presenting HSO have met with more people than all of TPL's User Education programs combined.

Beyond statistics, saving HSO is about maintaining our connection to schools, classes, teachers and teacher-librarians. When so many of our library programs for teens are either art or literacy-based, it is also essential teens look to libraries for academic support. HSO is one of a handful of programs that meets this academic need and informs students and school administrators of TPL's free after-school homework help programs and introduces students to advanced research skills using proprietary databases.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like me to elaborate on my speech prior to Monday's Board Meeting.

Sincerely,

Claudette Mayne

Claudette Mayne  
High School Outreach Librarian  
\*\*\*\*\*

North York Central Library  
Toronto Public Library  
5120 Yonge St.  
Toronto, ON M2N 5N9  
Cell: (416) 886-9686  
Fax: (416) 395-5668 cmayne@torontopubliclibrary.ca

[www.torontopubliclibrary.ca](http://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca)

**From:** Chris <chrisb@mtml.ca>  
**To:** <nmarshall@torontopubliclibrary.ca>  
**Date:** 08/12/2011 11:37 am  
**Subject:** Deputation at Monday's Board meeting

Dear Ms. Marshall,

I am requesting a 5 minute segment of time at your December 12th Board meeting, to address item #9 on the agenda.

Specifically, I would like to address the recommendation that the library cease funding adult literacy services.

While the relevant numbers appear in the Board Report, I would like to speak for those who lack the skills, knowledge, or confidence to speak for themselves. I would like to provide some context and impact before the Board votes on this critical item.

As the regional network organization for adult literacy in Toronto, we represent and advocate for all our member adult literacy programs in Toronto, including the Toronto Public Library.

Thank you for considering my request. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions or require more information.

Regards,

Chris Beesley / Executive Director  
Metro Toronto Movement for Literacy / [www.mtml.ca](http://www.mtml.ca)

344 Bloor Street West, Suite 405  
Toronto, ON M5S 3A7  
Tel: 416-961-4013  
Toll Free: 1-855-611-2212  
Fax: 416-961-8138

**Nancy Marshall - Re: deputation at the December 12th Library Board meeting**

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**From:** Lisa Sloniowski <lisa.sloniowski@gmail.com>  
**To:** Nancy Marshall <nmarshall@torontopubliclibrary.ca>  
**Date:** December 9, 2011 11:27 AM  
**Subject:** Re: deputation at the December 12th Library Board meeting

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I understand that my comments will become part of the public record.

In terms of outlining my submission - I wish to address the council about the proposed new set of cuts to TPL's budget which will diminish important services to kids and adults alike and will make the recommendation that the Board not recommend any further cuts to City Council.

Do you need more detailed information than that?

best  
Lisa Sloniowski

On Fri, Dec 9, 2011 at 11:23 AM, Nancy Marshall <nmarshall@torontopubliclibrary.ca> wrote:

Dear Lisa Sloniowski,  
Thank you for your email communication and for your request to make a deputation to the TPL Board on Dec. 12th. The meeting is scheduled to start at 6:00 p.m. in the Boardroom at the Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge Street. As we are expecting a larger-than-usual crowd at the Dec. 12th meeting, I'm recommending that you try to be here by 5:30 pm, if at all possible. Please introduce yourself to Library staff and let them know that you are a scheduled presenter.  
I am attaching information about addressing the TPL Board from the Board's Procedural By-law. As you will see, the following additional information is required:  
- **an outline of the submission to be made, and any relevant documentation; and**  
- **confirmation from you by email that the information and opinions contained in your written communication to the Board become part of the public record.**  
Thank you, and I look forward to hearing from you.  
Nancy Marshall  
Administrative Coordinator  
City Librarian's Office  
Toronto Public Library  
Tel: 416-393-7215  
Fax: 416-393-7083

>>> Lisa Sloniowski <lisa.sloniowski@gmail.com> 09/12/2011 11:09 am >>>

Would you please add me to the speaker's list for the Monday Dec 12th Library Board meeting? I'd like to give a deputation.

thanks  
Lisa Sloniowski

**Nancy Marshall - Letter to the Board, and request to speak**

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**From:** Guy Ewing <ewingguy@gmail.com>  
**To:** <nmarshall@torontopubliclibrary.ca>  
**Date:** December 9, 2011 12:55 PM  
**Subject:** Letter to the Board, and request to speak  
**Attachments:** Second letter to Library Board.doc

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Please see the attached letter to the Toronto Library Board regarding Monday's budget debate, also pasted in the body of this email.

I would also like to request to make a deputation at this meeting, to present my perspective as a community literacy worker and lecturer in literacy at OISE/UT.

Thank you.

Guy Ewing  
379 Concord Avenue  
Toronto, ON  
M6H 2P9

To the Toronto Public Library Board:

On November 20, prior to your last meeting, I sent a letter imploring you to defend our public libraries. I was hopeful that, at the very least, you would not actually reduce hours of service or diminish the integrity of the collection, that you would at least go no further than the \$9.7 million of (unnecessary) cuts that you have already approved.

Now it appears that you will be turning your attention to cutting essential services such as literacy programs for adults and children. This would nothing less than an all-out attack on the poor. That a Library Board would even consider eliminating access to reading by the poor boggles the mind.

I attended the public consultation at the Parkdale Public Library. In that consultation, the possibility of eliminating literacy programs for adults and children was not even mentioned. It would be unconscionable for you to strike such a major blow against your least powerful constituents, sweeping away years of community building by the Toronto Public Library, without even adequately consulting the public you serve.

Yours truly,  
Guy Ewing

## **Outline of deputation by Guy Ewing to the Toronto Public Library Board, December 12, 2011**

My deputation is focussed on the social consequences of eliminating funding to the Adult Literacy Program.

1. As a citizen of Toronto, I am proud that our Public Library opens its doors to fellow citizens who are not yet able to use all of the resources that it provides, but who want to learn.
2. Libraries are particularly effective sites for adult literacy learning.
  - They have the resources that adult literacy learners need: books, computers, knowledgeable staff that know how to bring books and people together.
  - They are approachable, informal, community-oriented.
  - They have flexible hours.
  - They are good places to recruit volunteer tutors.
  - They don't put limits on learning. The sky's the limit. At a library program, an adult literacy learner becomes a library user, able to pursue learning wherever it takes him or her. And this connection to lifelong learning is available to every citizen of Toronto on a continuous basis, whatever his or her economic circumstances.
3. The Toronto Public Library has developed effective, low-cost literacy programs that use volunteers from the community and reach into areas of Toronto where community literacy services are otherwise unavailable, for example North Etobicoke, Jane/Finch, Keele/Wilson, and the Malvern area of Scarborough.
4. To eliminate this program, for a savings of \$189,000, would undo years of community building. It would create a crisis in our already underdeveloped literacy services in Toronto. It would hit Etobicoke, North York, City of York, East York and Scarborough particularly hard.
5. By maintaining this program, the Toronto Public Library would be reaffirming its commitment to providing access to the resources of written language to all of its citizens, whatever their life circumstances. This is the kind of public library that the citizens of Toronto expect and deserve.
6. Having worked as a front-line literacy worker in Toronto for 30 years, although not in a Toronto Public Library program, I know that if anyone in this room walked into a Toronto Public Library Literacy Program, they would be moved and inspired by the courage of the adult learners who come to our libraries, often against great obstacles, to improve their reading and writing, and by the creativity and dedication of the staff and volunteers who make these programs work on a shoestring. These are not wasteful programs. To eliminate them would be wasteful in human lives and profoundly disruptive to the vision of this city, shared, I believe, by everyone in this room, as a place of equity and opportunity.



**Nancy Marshall - Re: Request to make a deputation at TPL Board Meeting—Monday, December 12, 2011**

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**From:** <jenniferhann@rogers.com>  
**To:** Nancy Marshall <nmarshall@torontopubliclibrary.ca>  
**Date:** December 12, 2011 11:02 AM  
**Subject:** Re: Request to make a deputation at TPL Board Meeting—Monday, December 12, 2011  
**Attachments:** outline of submission to TPL Board—Jennifer Hann.pdf

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Dear Ms. Marshall,

Please find attached the outline of my submission to the Board (as a PDF document). My apologies for not getting this to you sooner. Please let me know if you have any difficulties opening this file.

As requested, I confirm that the information and opinions contained in my written communication to the Board will become part of the public record.

Please let me know if you require any further information from me.

Thank you kindly,  
Jennifer Hann

1-509 Markham Street  
Toronto, Ontario M6G 2L4  
[jenniferhann@rogers.com](mailto:jenniferhann@rogers.com)  
416-807-5242

--- On Fri, 12/9/11, Nancy Marshall <nmarshall@torontopubliclibrary.ca> wrote:

From: Nancy Marshall <nmarshall@torontopubliclibrary.ca>  
Subject: Re: Request to make a deputation at TPL Board Meeting—Monday, December 12, 2011  
To: jenniferhann@rogers.com  
Date: Friday, December 9, 2011, 1:20 PM

Dear Jennifer Hann:

Thank you for your email communication and for your request to make a deputation to the TPL Board on Dec. 12th. The meeting is scheduled to start at 6:00 p.m. in the Boardroom at the Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge Street. I recommend that you try to be here in advance of the 6:00 p.m. start time. Please introduce yourself to Library staff and let them know that you are a scheduled presenter.

I am attaching information about addressing the TPL Board from the Board's Procedural By-law.

As you will see, the following additional information is required:

- **an outline of the submission to be made, and any relevant documentation; and**
- **confirmation from you by email that the information and opinions contained in your written communication to the Board become part of the public record.**

Please also note that we ask that you limit your remarks to five minutes.

Thank you, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Nancy Marshall  
Administrative Coordinator  
City Librarian's Office  
Toronto Public Library  
Tel: 416-393-7215  
Fax: 416-393-7083

>>> <jenniferhann@rogers.com> 09/12/2011 1:12 pm >>>

Dear Ms. Marshall,

My name is Jennifer Hann and I have been a volunteer tutor in the TPL's Adult Literacy Program at S. Walter Stewart since 2007. I would like to address the Board regarding the potential impact of eliminating the Adult Literacy Program.

If you need any further information from me, I can be reached at 416-807-5242 or via email at [jenniferhann@rogers.com](mailto:jenniferhann@rogers.com).

Thank you kindly,  
Jennifer Hann

1-509 Markham Street  
Toronto, Ontario M6G 2L4  
[jenniferhann@rogers.com](mailto:jenniferhann@rogers.com)  
416-807-5242



## Jennifer Hann

1-509 Markham Street, Toronto ON M6G 2L4  
416 807 5242  
jenniferhann@rogers.com

Monday, December 12, 2011

Toronto Public Library Board  
789 Yonge Street  
Toronto, Ontario M4W 2G8

Dear Members of the Toronto Public Library Board,

My name is Jennifer Hann and I am a M.A. candidate in Adult Education & Community Development at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto. My research explores the impact of the urban reform movement on the Toronto Public Library in the 1970s and 1980s. In particular, I am interested in studying how public participation in the library planning process during this period resulted in the “equalization” of library services across the city, a renewal of the local branch system, and the restructuring of programs and services to meet community needs as defined by communities themselves.

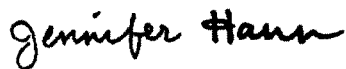
In addition to my scholarly interest in public libraries, I have also been a volunteer tutor in the Toronto Public Library’s Adult Literacy Program (first at Danforth/Coxwell and currently at S. Walter Stewart) since 2007. The Adult Literacy Program serves approximately 300 learners matched with 300 volunteer tutors at locations across the city. The *2012 Operating Budget and Associated Capital Budget Impacts Update* notes that while there are other literacy programs in Toronto, the majority of these programs serve learners with higher levels of literacy within a classroom-type setting. Many of our learners enter the program with very low levels of literacy and are in need of individual attention and support. We provide learners with one-on-one tutoring to help them to meet their goals. Many of these goals are modest: learning to fill out a job application form, feeling comfortable using an ATM, or reading bedtime stories to their children. I have witnessed firsthand how mastering basic literacy and numeracy skills can have a profound impact on learners, their families, and the wider community. It can lead to new job opportunities and a better quality of life. It can inspire a love of reading that is passed on from parent to child. At a basic level, it can help learners to feel more confident about themselves and their place in the world.

On a personal note, my involvement in the Adult Literacy Program has also had a profound impact on my life. It influenced my decision to pursue a graduate degree and to enter the field of adult education. Watching our learners change their lives as a result of this newfound love of learning is a gift. I wish that there were even more opportunities for people to become involved with the TPL as volunteers and to provide these much-needed services within their communities. I would like to emphasize that none of this would be possible without the leadership of the TPL staff that coordinate the Adult Literacy Program. They provide ongoing training and support to volunteer tutors, assess learners’ progress on a regular basis, and provide volunteers with the tools and resources we need to help learners achieve their goals. They also cultivate a sense of community within the program through book clubs, social gatherings, and other events for learners and tutors.

The Toronto Public Library has been asked to find ways to be more efficient. The *2012 Operating Budget and Associated Capital Budget Impacts Update* indicates that the Adult Literacy Program's 300 volunteers contribute 16,800 hours of volunteer hours each year. The hours contributed by volunteers in our program are valued at \$323,400 annually—I can't think of a more efficient model of service delivery!

The TPL's Adult Literacy Program helps those who have been marginalized to become full and active members of our society and enriches the lives of countless volunteers. I strongly urge the Board to reject the proposal for further budget reductions, especially the proposal to eliminate literacy programs for adults and children. I understand that these are uncertain times, but the Library Board can draw on a strong constituency of library supporters who have been extremely vocal about their opposition to these types of cuts. As Board members, you have the responsibility to act on behalf of all Torontonians to protect these programs and services for the next generation of library patrons. There is a remarkable amount of public support for the TPL at this critical juncture. Please use it.

With respect,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer Hann". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name and last name clearly distinguishable.

Jennifer Hann

## **Nancy Marshall - RE: [Possible Spam] Speakers List for Board Meeting on Dec 12**

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**From:** Marsha Melnik <mtmelnik@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <nmarshall@torontopubliclibrary.ca>  
**Date:** December 9, 2011 2:47 PM  
**Subject:** RE: [Possible Spam] Speakers List for Board Meeting on Dec 12

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Dear Nancy Marshall

Thank you for putting me on the speakers list for Dec 12

I haven't formalized my presentation yet, but here are the key points

### **Elimination of Adult Literacy Program**

As a volunteer tutor in this program for almost two years I am greatly saddened by the possibility of this program disappearing

- who are the people served in the program and why they so desperately need this program
- flexible hours, no cost - so it is accessible to the most needy
- how much money is really saved if the program is delivered by volunteers
- Toronto should serve all of its people, especially those who have no voice and may have fallen through the cracks
- my own two learners and what the program means to them

It's rough, but is it OK??

I confirm that the information and opinions contained in my written communication to the Board can become part of the public record.

Sincerely

Marsha Melnik

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Date: Fri, 9 Dec 2011 11:57:11 -0500  
From: nmarshall@torontopubliclibrary.ca  
To: mtmelnik@hotmail.com  
Subject: Re: [Possible Spam] Speakers List for Board Meeting on Dec 12

Dear Marsha Melnik,

Thank you for your email communication and for your request to make a deputation to the TPL Board on Dec. 12th. The meeting is scheduled to start at 6:00 p.m. in the Boardroom at the Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge Street. I recommend that you try to be here in advance of the 6:00 p.m. start time. Please introduce yourself to Library staff and let them know that you are a scheduled presenter.

I am attaching information about addressing the TPL Board from the Board's Procedural By-law.

As you will see, the following additional information is required:

- an outline of the submission to be made, and any relevant documentation; and
- confirmation from you by email that the information and opinions contained in your written communication to the Board become part of the public record.

Please also note that we ask that you limit your remarks to five minutes.

Thank you, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Nancy Marshall  
Administrative Coordinator  
City Librarian's Office  
Toronto Public Library  
Tel: 416-393-7215  
Fax: 416-393-7083

>>> Marsha Melnik <mtmelnik@hotmail.com> 09/12/2011 11:40 am >>>  
Dear Nancy Marshall

I would like to make a deputation at the Library Board Meeting on Dec 12. I am a volunteer with the Adult Literacy Program at the Downsview Branch and would like to speak about the elimination of the Adult Literacy Program

Thank you

**Nancy Marshall - Toronto Public Library Board Meeting Dec 12th 2011**

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**From:** Peter Dean <peter.dean@sympatico.ca>  
**To:** <nmarshall@torontopubliclibrary.ca>  
**Date:** December 9, 2011 1:35 PM  
**Subject:** Toronto Public Library Board Meeting Dec 12th 2011  
**CC:** <councillor\_mcconnell@toronto.ca>, <councillor\_davis@toronto.ca>,  
<councillor\_layton@toronto.ca>, <councillor\_vaughan@toronto.ca>,  
<pwhite@globeandmail.com>, <dridr@thestar.ca>

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Dear Ms Marshall

I wish to address the Toronto Public Library Board on the proposal to eliminate Bookmobile service at its Dec 12<sup>th</sup> 2011 meeting at the Toronto Reference Library.

I will be representing well over a hundred Island residents of all ages who are regular Bookmobile users – i.e. those who use the Bookmobile every Saturday morning on its Island Stop and several hundred others who use this service occasionally.

We all strongly oppose this proposal to eliminate such a vital service.

The bookmobile is essential to our community, especially for our large seniors population and our many, many young children especially those of preschool age. Separate trips to the city to visit a library are simply not feasible and expensive for many in our community.

Of particular importance to the Island community, is the ability of reserving books which when available are delivered Saturday morning.

Many Island residents will be attending with me, some of whom will also make deputations.

Yours,

Peter Dean                      (416) 203-2690  
26 Lakeshore Ave  
Toronto Island ON            M5J 1X7

**Nancy Marshall - Deputation - Board meeting - December 12**

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**From:** Ceta Ramkhalawansingh <ceta\_r@yahoo.ca>  
**To:** "nmarshall@torontopubliclibrary.ca" <nmarshall@torontopubliclibrary.ca>  
**Date:** December 9, 2011 4:03 PM  
**Subject:** Deputation - Board meeting - December 12  
**CC:** CetaRamkhalawansingh <ceta\_r@yahoo.ca>

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I would like to make a deputation to the TPL board meeting on Monday December 12, 2011 regarding the City Librarians proposed program and budget reductions.

Ceta Ramkhalawansingh  
62 Beverley Street  
Toronto, ON  
M5T 1X9

to Nancy Marshall  
from: Sandra Krzyzanowski 12 Omaha Ave Toronto M5T 1Z6  
416-203-1036 RE DEPUTATION DEC. 12

I wish to address the TPL Board at the 6<sup>00</sup> pm meeting on Mon. Dec. 12 with regard to the Library Mobile Vehicle being on the "chopping block" due to budget cuts.

416-203-1036  
K. Sandy  
I am submitting 1) an outline of my deputation which follows here 2) I will be bringing my stubs/receipts of materials that I have borrowed from the book mobile over a few years 3) my permission for anything contained in my deputation to be included in the public record

K. Sandy  
Outline of deputation - important points -  
for bookmobiles certainly must be maintained and used as they are now (or in an expanded program) to serve areas of Toronto which are far from libraries.

- 1) Bookmobiles are an extremely efficient way in terms of cost savings to connect Toronto residents to all the materials in all the libraries.
- 2) The Bookmobile encourages me to be discerning in what topics I wish to research, read, listen to, watch. I am forced to plan ahead, place my order, patiently wait, initiate a stream of fascinating books, videos, CD's. This is because of the small collection on board.
- 3) Mayor Ford promised no library closures. In fact, axing a bookmobile is equal to closing many libraries for many communities.

- 4) Having a library and its personnel available for only 2 hours per week at an appointed time is an extremely successful model of library use and availability because:

- A) I organize my weekend consistently to include a library visit — every weekend — because I want to grab the opportunity to take out and return materials.
- B) Following this structure or regime, I am constantly stimulated to think of or find more biographies, history, music etc which I've always wanted to know more about and then I order them.
- C) I see the same neighbours during the same hour 11<sup>00</sup> - 12<sup>00</sup> am. It forms a kind of book, film / music club as we quickly exchange impressions, recommendations on what we have borrowed and are returning.
- D) My exposure to library materials over the last few years especially has been enormous. I stopped watching T.V. Sept 1, 2011, as did many of my friends. The bookmobile is one of the reasons I did this. I do not own a computer. Without the bookmobile I would find sources other than libraries to mentally stimulate. I live too far from libraries (and grocery stores) I carry groceries to the island, not books.



**From:** Helena Aalto <haalto@abclifeliteracy.ca>  
**To:** <nmarshall@torontopubliclibrary.ca>  
**Date:** 09/12/2011 4:47 pm  
**Subject:** Request for deputation on adult literacy programs at TPL board meeting Mon. Dec. 12

Dear Ms. Marshall,

I would like to request an opportunity to make a deputation at the TPL board meeting on December 12, concerning the TPL's announcement about cutting adult literacy programs.

I am with ABC Life Literacy Canada, a national literacy organization based in Toronto at 110 Eglinton Avenue East, Suite 604 Toronto M4P 2Y1 416 218-0010 ext. 130; [haalto@abclifeliteracy.ca](mailto:haalto@abclifeliteracy.ca)

My presentation (about 3 minutes, shorter if needed) will focus on the positive impact and accessibility of the adult literacy programs in library branches, and the TPL's circulating literacy collections.

Thank you for your consideration.

Helena

--

Helena Aalto  
Good Reads Project Manager  
ABC Life Literacy Canada  
416 218-0010 ext. 130  
[haalto@abclifeliteracy.ca](mailto:haalto@abclifeliteracy.ca)

My office hours: Monday to Friday, 9:00 to 12:00 EST

**Nancy Marshall - Deputation to the TPLB December 12, 2011 TPLWU Local 4948**

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**From:** Maureen O'Reilly <president@local4948.org>  
**To:** 'Nancy Marshall' <nmarshall@torontopubliclibrary.ca>  
**Date:** December 12, 2011 10:09 AM  
**Subject:** Deputation to the TPLB December 12, 2011 TPLWU Local 4948  
**Attachments:** Deputation to the TPLB Dec 12 11.pdf

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Nancy

Attached you will find our deputation for this evening's meeting. We have made original copies which we will be bringing for distribution to the TPLB.

Mary Bissell, Barbara Baillaegeon and Theo Heras will be speaking at the end of my deputation.

As you know, each deputant is allotted 5 minutes.

Thank you,  
Maureen

*Maureen O'Reilly  
President  
TPLWU Local 4948  
20 Eglinton Ave. W., Suite 1109, Box 2053  
Toronto, ON M4R 1K8*

*Phone: 416-440-7981, Ext. 4800  
Fax: 416-440-7984*

*Please note my new email address: [president@local4948.org](mailto:president@local4948.org)*

***OurPublicLibrary.to  
[libraryworkersunion.blogspot.com](http://libraryworkersunion.blogspot.com)  
Twitter @4948President***



**Toronto Public Library  
Workers Union**  
Local 4948

Affiliated with  
CUPE and the  
Toronto & York Region  
Labour Council

**Maureen O'Reilly**  
President

**Brendan Haley**  
Vice-President

**Viveca Gretton**  
Recording Secretary

**Carmela DeGiorgio**  
Secretary-Treasurer

**Brian Raymer**  
Toronto Reference Library

**Philip Singer**  
North York Central Library

**Nahid Rahnavard**  
North Region

**Karen Smith**  
South Region

**Samee-Lee Grossman**  
East Region

**Mary Bissell**  
West Region

**James Johnson**  
Facilities

**Steven Burdick**  
Support Services

20 Eglinton Avenue West  
Suite 1109, Box 2053  
Toronto, ON M4R 1K8  
Telephone: (416) 440-7981  
FAX: (416) 440-7984  
Email: [info@local4948.org](mailto:info@local4948.org)

[www.local4948.org](http://www.local4948.org)

December 12, 2011

Councillor Paul Ainslie, Chair and the  
Members of the Toronto Public Library Board  
Toronto Public Library  
789 Yonge Street  
Toronto, ON  
M4W 2G8

Dear Members of the Toronto Public Library Board:

**RE: 2012 OPERATING BUDGET**

Our deputation this evening will touch on several topics:

- Listening to Toronto
- This City Has a Spending Problem AND a Revenue Problem
- As for these Latest Cuts...
- Library Workers are Torontonians Too
- Three Library Workers Speak In their Own Words in Support of The Fundamental Role that Staff Play in the Delivery of the Library Service
- TPLWU Local 4948 Deputations

**Listening to Toronto**

From the outset, Torontonians were engaged in the debate around city services and especially around the library service.

It began in May and June of 2011, when the city received 13,000 responses to its own survey conducted by KPMG regarding city services. The library service ranked in the top ten (10) for "Priority Service Areas" and in the top five (5) for "Services to be Delivered by the Municipality". **The library was not only considered an essential service, but necessary, to make this city liveable and prosperous.**

The library workers undertook an online petition where we generated over 50,000 signatures in support of our public library campaign. This in turn generated thousands of emails to city councillors. **I am told it is the most emails received on a single issue at city hall, ever.**

On July 19<sup>th</sup> and September 19<sup>th</sup>, dozens upon dozens of deputants came forward in support of our public library.



**Toronto Public Library  
Workers Union**  
Local 4948

Affiliated with  
CUPE and the  
Toronto & York Region  
Labour Council

**Maureen O'Reilly**  
President

**Brendan Haley**  
Vice-President

**Viveca Gretton**  
Recording Secretary

**Carmela DeGiorgio**  
Secretary-Treasurer

**Brian Raymer**  
Toronto Reference Library

**Philip Singer**  
North York Central Library

**Nahid Rahnavard**  
North Region

**Karen Smith**  
South Region

**Samee-Lee Grossman**  
East Region

**Mary Bissell**  
West Region

**James Johnson**  
Facilities

**Steven Burdick**  
Support Services

20 Eglinton Avenue West  
Suite 1109, Box 2053  
Toronto, ON M4R 1K8  
Telephone: (416) 440-7981  
FAX: (416) 440-7984  
Email: info@local4948.org

[www.local4948.org](http://www.local4948.org)



Late in the summer the library workers launched a contest where we had over 800 Torontonians participate, both young and old, as to why their library matters to them.

In October, the library board approved its own public consultation process, where over the next month, thirteen (13) sessions were held, and over 800 citizens participated.

There was also an online component to this consultation process, whereby, over 9,000 people filled out surveys.

**I personally attended almost all of the public consultation sessions and I only heard four (4) people speak in favour of the cuts to the library. Four (4).**

For the November 21<sup>st</sup> board meeting, 8,645 communications were received in addition to 246 emails. Twenty one (21) members of the public deputed.

For every library board meeting since September, there has been an overflow room of over 100 people watching the library board meeting live. This has been unprecedented.

Please respect Torontonians and listen to what they have been saying.

### **This City Has a Spending Problem AND a Revenue Problem**

Last week at the launch of the 2012 budget for the City of Toronto, City Treasurer, Cam Weldon, declared "This city has a spending problem and a revenue problem".

To date, the Ford Administration has done nothing to address the revenue problem except to drive the city into the potential for greater economic turmoil by cancelling revenue sources.

**I provided a list last week during my deputation to the Budget Committee on options for revenue sources, and I did not receive one question.** These were revenue sources that other municipalities of a comparable size have successfully implemented.

**Let me remind you that library service costs Torontonians just 19 cents a day.**

No matter how many books you cut from the budget, no matter how many open hours you cut from a neighbourhood library, no matter how many library materials in other languages you do not buy, no matter how much



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Local 4948

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CUPE and the  
Toronto & York Region  
Labour Council

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President

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Vice-President

**Viveca Gretton**  
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**Carmela DeGiorgio**  
Secretary-Treasurer

**Brian Raymer**  
Toronto Reference Library

**Philip Singer**  
North York Central Library

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South Region

**Samee-Lee Grossman**  
East Region

**Mary Bissell**  
West Region

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you charge for the circulation of a DVD, even if it was possible, you will still not solve the city financial issues unless the city looks at the revenue issue on a broader scale.

As library board member, you cannot solve the city's financial crisis. It is beyond your scope.

### **As for these Latest Cuts...**

When we talk about ...

- Closing 30 library branches
- Cutting almost 20,000 open hours
- Cutting staff by 161 positions for a total staff cut of 17% since 1998
- Reducing the library collections materials budget by \$3 million
- Eliminating children's and adult literacy programs
- Eliminating high school and kindergarten outreach services
- Eliminating bookmobile service
- Eliminating the One Book Community Reads Program
- Eliminating the Keep Toronto Reading Festival
- And more...

There has not been one public consultation on these latest cuts. Before you make any decisions tonight, you must return to our public and ask for their input.

**We are really talking about the elimination of the library service.** Period. Let's get this over with. We are the city's 1 daresay most efficient service and without a doubt the city's most popular service. It doesn't seem to matter. It just doesn't.

As one of our deputants wisely said in her correspondence to the board last month: "An amputation that in seeking to appease will, as the history books show, encourage even more tyrannical budget demands".

The Ford Administration clearly does not understand nor support what a library service is. Why don't we stop this farcical exercise, and just eliminate the library service – the whole thing – and then we will know where we truly stand.

As a professional librarian, and as the president of this local, I am appalled at the grocery list of service cuts under consideration tonight.

**This will be the legacy of this board in complete contempt of what the Public Libraries Act demands of you.**



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TPLWU Local 4948 asks you to not cut beyond the 5.7% you have already passed, and, indeed we are asking you to re-examine the elimination of the 100 library jobs.

## **Library Workers are Torontonians Too**

But really, it's all been very simple.

This has not been about listening to the public about the kind of city they want.

This has not been about solving our revenue problem here in the city.

This has always been about the elimination of staff.

Let me tell you who some of those library workers are who will be eliminated.

**86% of all library workers live here in Toronto.** So that means we are your neighbours, your friends, that family down the street, we are your constituents.

Half of library workers are already part-time workers in receipt of no benefits or pension to begin with.

So can anyone explain to me, how laying off Torontonians

- who pay taxes and will not be able to do that anymore
- who will no longer be able afford to shop in the local economy
- who will have children who can no longer participate in the recreational and cultural experience of the city
- who no longer be able to purchase items from their local stores
- who will be driven to food banks and other social service agency supports

## **Can someone please explain to me, how this helps Toronto?**

The City Librarian has not been able to demonstrate so far how the elimination of staff will be achieved by attrition only.



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## **Three Library Workers Speak In their Own Words in Support of The Fundamental Role that Staff Play in the Delivery of the Library Service**

Tonight I have brought with me, three (3) library workers, who will speak on just what the elimination of 161 or 100 jobs means for the library service:

- Mary Bissell, part-time librarian
- Barbara Baillargeon,, literacy librarian
- Theo Heras, long serving children's librarian

I ask you to listen to their words and keep them in mind when you are making your decisions tonight.

### **TPLWU Local 4948 Deputations**

The union respectfully requests that all deputations be included in the public record including the one delivered on November 21, 2011.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maureen O'Reilly".

Maureen O'Reilly  
President  
TPLWU Local 4948





**From:** Shu Liang <prepost@gmail.com>  
**To:** <nmarshall@torontopubliclibrary.ca>  
**Date:** 11/12/2011 4:51 pm  
**Subject:** Request to Participate on Monday's Deputation

Hi Nancy,

Robert Murdoch from Reno & Associates recommended that I come to the session on Monday evening at the Toronto Reference Library. As an active Toronto Library user and Toronto resident, I would like to make a deputation if possible.

Since I have never participated in a similar event before, any information would be appreciated, including audience, format, length, topic, etc.

Thanks very much!

Regards,  
Shu  
Cell: 647-920-9486

