

**STAFF REPORT
INFORMATION ONLY**

**COMMUNICATIONS
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEETING – May 24, 2022

It is recommended that the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. receives Communication (a) from Sue Graham-Nutter, Chair, sent to Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam dated May 2, 2022 regarding the St. Lawrence Branch Relocation, for information.
2. Receives Communication (b) from Sue Graham-Nutter, Chair, sent to Joe Cressy, former Councillor, dated May 2, 2022 regarding the St. Lawrence Branch Relocation, for information.
3. receives Communication (c) from Sue Graham-Nutter, Chair, sent to Vic Gupta, CEO, CreateTO dated May 2, 2022 regarding the St. Lawrence Branch Relocation, for information.
4. receives Communication (d) from Sue Graham-Nutter, Chair, sent to Janie Romov, General Manager, Parks, Forestry, Recreation, City of Toronto, dated May 2, 2022 regarding the St. Lawrence Branch Relocation, for information.
5. Receives Communication (e) from Sue Graham-Nutter, Chair, sent to the Honourable Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, President Ontario Treasury Board, dated May 3, 2022 regarding the establishment of provincial digital libraries, for information.
6. Receives Communication (f) representing a sample of communication from Sue Graham-Nutter, Chair, sent to all provincial election candidates, as per the list (f1), dated May 18, 2022, regarding the three funding priorities of Toronto Public Library, for information.

May 2, 2022

Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Councillor Wong-Tam,

At the Toronto Public Library Board meeting on March 28, 2022, the Board unanimously and enthusiastically approved the motion to relocate the St. Lawrence Branch of the Toronto Public Library (TPL) to 125 The Esplanade, in St. Lawrence Market. The relocation to this site is critical in helping the library achieve the service level required for serving the residents of this community.

On behalf of all members of the Toronto Public Library Board, I would like to express our gratitude and appreciation for your support of this relocation and for your ongoing support of libraries generally. Your backing for this initiative has been instrumental in building the foundation to make this project a reality.

The Board will also be thanking CreateTO for their assistance in both identifying this site and helping to move the process forward. Additionally, we will thank our colleagues in Parks, Forestry & Recreation for agreeing to provide this site to build the new St. Lawrence Branch.

Thanks again for all your support and I look forward to celebrating the opening of this new library with you and the residents in this community!

.../2

Library Board

Chair

Sue Graham-Nutter

Councillor Paul Ainslie
Tamara Balan

Jonathon Hoss
Jennifer Liu

Vice Chair

Alim Remtulla

Sarwar Choudhury
Andrea Geddes Poole

Alison Menary
Councillor Gord Perks

City Librarian
Vickery Bowles

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sue Graham-Nutter', with a stylized, cursive script.

Sue Graham-Nutter
Chair, Toronto Public Library Board

Copy: Vickery Bowles, City Librarian

May 2, 2022

Joe Cressy
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Mr. Cressy,

At the Toronto Public Library Board meeting on March 28, 2022, the Board unanimously and enthusiastically approved the motion to relocate the St. Lawrence Branch of the Toronto Public Library (TPL) to 125 The Esplanade, in St. Lawrence Market. The relocation to this site is critical in helping the library achieve the service level required for serving the residents of this community.

On behalf of all members of the Toronto Public Library Board, I would like to express our gratitude and appreciation for your support of this relocation and for your ongoing support of libraries generally. Your backing for this initiative has been instrumental in building the foundation to make this project a reality.

The Board will also be thanking CreateTO for their assistance in both identifying this site and helping to move the process forward. Additionally, we will thank our colleagues in Parks, Forestry & Recreation for agreeing to provide this site to build the new St. Lawrence Branch.

Thanks again for all your support and I look forward to celebrating the opening of this new library with you and the residents in this community!

.../2

Library Board

Chair

Sue Graham-Nutter

Councillor Paul Ainslie

Tamara Balan

Jonathon Hoss

Jennifer Liu

Vice Chair

Alim Remtulla

Sarwar Choudhury

Andrea Geddes Poole

Alison Menary

Councillor Gord Perks

City Librarian

Vickery Bowles

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sue Graham-Nutter'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Sue' being more prominent.

Sue Graham-Nutter
Chair, Toronto Public Library Board

Copy: Vickery Bowles, City Librarian

May 2, 2022

Vic Gupta

CEO

CreateTO

61 Front Street West Union Station, East Wing, 3rd Floor

Toronto, ON M5J 1E5

Dear Mr. Gupta,

At the Toronto Public Library Board meeting on March 28, 2022, the Board unanimously and enthusiastically approved the motion to relocate the St. Lawrence Branch of the Toronto Public Library (TPL) to 125 The Esplanade, in St. Lawrence Market. The relocation to this site is critical in helping TPL achieve the service level required for serving the residents of this community.

On behalf of all members of the Toronto Public Library Board, I would like to express our gratitude and appreciation for all the work CreateTO has done to help make this move possible. I understand that TPL has an excellent working relationship with CreateTO and that both Ryan Glenn and Barbara Carou have been instrumental in working with TPL staff to make this move happen. I want to let you know how much we appreciate all of CreateTO's efforts around real estate-related matters. This project and numerous others that Ryan and Barbara are working on with TPL staff have helped to move forward TPL's capital projects and ultimately, provide improved library service in the communities that we serve.

.../2

Library Board

Chair

Sue Graham-Nutter

Councillor Paul Ainslie

Jonathon Hoss

Tamara Balan

Jennifer Liu

Vice Chair

Alim Remtulla

Sarwar Choudhury

Alison Menary

Andrea Geddes Poole

Councillor Gord Perks

City Librarian

Vickery Bowles

I am looking forward to celebrating the opening of this new library!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sue Graham-Nutter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sue" being more prominent.

Sue Graham-Nutter
Chair, Toronto Public Library Board

Copy: Ryan Glenn, Vice President, Stakeholder Relations
Barbara Carou, Manager, Stakeholder & Client Relationship Management
Josie Scioli, Deputy City Manager, Corporate Services, City of Toronto
Vickery Bowles, City Librarian, Toronto Public Library

May 2, 2022

Janie Romoff
General Manager,
Parks, Forestry and Recreation
City of Toronto
Toronto City Hall 4th fl. W., 100 Queen St. W. Toronto ON

Dear Ms. Romoff,

At the Toronto Public Library Board meeting on March 28, 2022, the Board unanimously and enthusiastically approved the motion to relocate the St. Lawrence Branch of the Toronto Public Library (TPL) to 125 The Esplanade, in St. Lawrence Market. The relocation to this site is critical in helping the library achieve the service level required for serving the residents of this community.

On behalf of all members of the Toronto Public Library Board, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to you and your staff in Parks, Forestry & Recreation (PFR) for your cooperation and willingness to provide TPL with this site. We recognize that this site was originally designated as a parkette. In order to ensure that the community still has access to outdoor space, TPL will work with PFR, and through the library's community consultation process, will determine how best to provide outdoor space as a part of the overall library project.

Thanks again for your support and cooperation on this important project. We are looking forward to celebrating the opening of this new library!

.../2

Library Board

Chair

Sue Graham-Nutter

Councillor Paul Ainslie

Jonathon Hoss

Tamara Balan

Jennifer Liu

Vice Chair

Alim Remtulla

Sarwar Choudhury

Alison Menary

Andrea Geddes Poole

Councillor Gord Perks

City Librarian

Vickery Bowles

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sue Graham-Nutter', with a stylized, cursive script.

Sue Graham-Nutter
Chair, Toronto Public Library Board

Copy: Paul Johnson, Deputy City Manager, Community & Social Services
Vickery Bowles, City Librarian, Toronto Public Library

May 3, 2022

The Honourable Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria
President of the Treasury Board, M.P.P.
Treasury Board Secretariat
Whitney Block, Room 4320, 4th Floor
99 Wellesley St. W
Toronto, Ontario, M7A 1W3

Dear Minister Sarkaria,

On behalf of the Toronto Public Library Board, I am writing to share a provincial issue that we are highlighting in a letter to all Toronto-area candidates in the upcoming provincial election. The Federation of Ontario Public Libraries (FOPL) and Ontario Library Association (OLA) are also advocating for this issue. The letter to all Toronto-area candidates outlines key issues and opportunities facing public libraries, and requests support in three main priority areas to ensure all Ontarians have access to library services that have the power to meaningfully improve lives.

One of these priority areas is **the creation of an Ontario Digital Public Library** to provide critical e-learning support and fair access to modern, digital resources for all Ontario public libraries. By leveraging the Province's significant purchasing power, our libraries can give all Ontarians access to a common core set of high-quality e-learning & online resources and more e-books.

In my letter of July 2021, I underscored the essential role libraries play in helping the Province achieve its digital strategy objectives. Sustainable library funding to provide access and digital inclusion is critical.

On behalf of the Toronto Public Library Board, thank you for your attention to the enclosed letter that we will send to all candidates once the nomination period is closed. Should you have any questions or wish to discuss, please contact the City Librarian's Office at citylibrarian@tpl.ca or 416-393-7032.

Library Board

Chair

Sue Graham-Nutter

Councillor Paul Ainslie

Jonathan Hoss

Tamara Balan

Jennifer Liu

Vice Chair

Alim Remtulla

Sarwar Choudhury

Alison Menary

Andrea Geddes Poole

Councillor Gord Perks

City Librarian

Vickery Bowles



Sue Graham-Nutter
Chair, Toronto Public Library Board

/attachment

Copy: The Honorable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance, M.P.P.
Sarah Harrison, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture
Industries
Vickery Bowles, City Librarian, Toronto Public Library

SAMPLE CANDIDATE LETTER

Dear [Candidate Name]

On behalf of the Toronto Public Library Board, and in partnership with the Ontario Library Association and Federation of Ontario Public Libraries, I am writing to update you on issues and opportunities facing public libraries and to request your support in ensuring all Ontarians have access to the services they provide.

Millions of Ontarians rely on local libraries in their daily lives: to work, to learn, to connect to community and government services, and to find or train for a job. Libraries are far more than books and computers. They are a critical lifeline and safety net for Ontario's most vulnerable people, in large cities and small communities alike. Every day, libraries and library staff confront many of the most difficult challenges facing Ontarians: mental health, homelessness, equity for Indigenous and racialized communities, newcomer integration, and child & youth poverty.

Yet despite these essential supports, many individuals and families across the province are struggling and unable to access the local public library resources they need. Many of these gaps existed prior to the pandemic, but the ongoing health emergency has brought them to a critical point.

The situation for public libraries on Ontario First Nation Reserves is even more challenging because of an unsustainable provincial funding model that has left many closed or with severely reduced access. For many First Nation communities, public libraries serve as an accessible gathering place and information-sharing resource. They are deeply important to maintain a sense of community and to minimize social isolation in these communities, many of which are remote or face systemic social and economic challenges.

Library Board

Chair

Sue Graham-Nutter

Councillor Paul Ainslie

Tamara Balan

Jonathan Hoss

Jennifer Liu

Vice Chair

Alim Remtulla

Sarwar Choudhury

Andrea Geddes Poole

Alison Menary

Councillor Gord Perks

City Librarian

Vickery Bowles

Given the critical and far-reaching role of public libraries, I am requesting your support in **three priority areas:**

- **The rapid implementation of a sustainable funding model for public libraries on reserves** to ensure that these important local hubs are fully funded and viable, working alongside First Nations Public Library leaders. This includes increasing direct provincial funding support to sustainably fund library operations and ensure a living income for frontline library staff in these communities.
- **The creation of an Ontario Digital Public Library** to provide critical e-learning support and fair access to modern, digital resources for all Ontario public libraries. By leveraging the Province's significant purchasing power, our libraries can give all Ontarians access to a common core set of high-quality e-learning & online resources and more e-books.
- **Increased investments in mental health and addiction crisis intervention services available to the community** to support the urgent needs of urban public libraries in addressing safety and security issues. Toronto in particular is a densely populated, complex urban environment where inequalities are growing; these inequalities have been amplified through the pandemic. Toronto Public Library's role in addressing critical social issues has been increasing because social services are not always available, in part, due to insufficient funding for supports and assistance. Vulnerable people experiencing challenges such as mental health issues, addictions and homelessness come to the library as a last resort with nowhere else to go. Increased provincial social services funding to support these vulnerable populations would help address this complex urban reality that is impacting safety and security of staff and the public in some library locations.

On behalf of the Toronto Public Library Board, I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to further discuss these issues and the opportunity before us to make meaningful changes that will positively impact Ontarians. Should you wish to arrange a meeting, please contact the City Librarian's Office at citylibrarian@tpl.ca or 416-393-7032.

Thank you for your attention.

Sue Graham-Nutter
Chair, Toronto Public Library Board

Cc: The Honourable Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, M.P.P., President of the Treasury Board
The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, M.P.P., Minister of Finance
Sarah Harrison, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture
Industries
Vickery Bowles, City Librarian, Toronto Public Library

2022 Provincial Election:
Candidates for Toronto Districts

District	District Name	Candidate Name
7	Beaches-East York	Angela Kennedy
7	Beaches-East York	Kate Dupuis
7	Beaches-East York	Mary-Margaret McMahon
7	Beaches-East York	Abhijeet Manay
7	Beaches-East York	Stephen Roney
7	Beaches-East York	Bahman Yazdanfar
7	Beaches-East York	John Ferguson
7	Beaches-East York	Drew Garvie
7	Beaches-East York	Joe Ring
19	Davenport	Marit Stiles
19	Davenport	Jerry Levitan
19	Davenport	Paul Spence
19	Davenport	Mario Bilusic
19	Davenport	Diti Coutinho
19	Davenport	Jack Copple
19	Davenport	Simon Fogel
19	Davenport	Nunzio Venuto
19	Davenport	Karen Stephenson
19	Davenport	Nicholas Alexander
20	Don Valley East	Sam Moini
20	Don Valley East	Adil Shamji
20	Don Valley East	Rizwan Khan
20	Don Valley East	Mara-Elena Nagy
20	Don Valley East	Denyse Twagiramariya
20	Don Valley East	Stella Kargiannakis
20	Don Valley East	Dimitre Popov
20	Don Valley East	Svetlozar Aleksiev
20	Don Valley East	Donald McMullen
20	Don Valley East	Wayne Simmons
21	Don Valley North	Vincent Ke
21	Don Valley North	Jonathan Tsao
21	Don Valley North	Ebrahim Astaraki
21	Don Valley North	Jay Sobel
21	Don Valley North	Ostap Soroka
22	Don Valley West	Mark Saunders
22	Don Valley West	Irwin Elman
22	Don Valley West	Stephanie Bowman
22	Don Valley West	Sheena Sharp
22	Don Valley West	Laurel Hobbs

f.1

District	District Name	Candidate Name
22	Don Valley West	Kylie Mc Allister
22	Don Valley West	John Kladitis
22	Don Valley West	Paul Reddick
22	Don Valley West	John Kittredge
25	Eglinton-Lawrence	Robin Martin
25	Eglinton-Lawrence	Arlena Hebert
25	Eglinton-Lawrence	Natasha Doyle-Merrick
25	Eglinton-Lawrence	Jonathan Davis
25	Eglinton-Lawrence	Erwin E. Sniedzins
25	Eglinton-Lawrence	Sam Kaplun
25	Eglinton-Lawrence	Leah Tysoe
25	Eglinton-Lawrence	Bryant Thompson
25	Eglinton-Lawrence	Jonathan Davis
25	Eglinton-Lawrence	Lauren Dearing
28	Etobicoke Centre	Kinga Surma
28	Etobicoke Centre	Noel Semple
28	Etobicoke Centre	Mitchell Gilboy
28	Etobicoke Centre	Cathy Habus
28	Etobicoke Centre	Brian Maclean
28	Etobicoke Centre	Heather Vickers-Wong
28	Etobicoke Centre	Genadij Zaitsev
28	Etobicoke Centre	Richard M. Kiernicki
30	Etobicoke North	Doug Ford
30	Etobicoke North	Julie Mbengi Lutete
30	Etobicoke North	Gabriel Blanc
30	Etobicoke North	Andy D'Andrea
30	Etobicoke North	Victor Ehikwe
30	Etobicoke North	Aisha Jahangir
30	Etobicoke North	Carol Royer
29	Etobicoke-Lakeshore	Bill Denning
29	Etobicoke-Lakeshore	Christine Hogarth
29	Etobicoke-Lakeshore	Farheen Alim
29	Etobicoke-Lakeshore	Lee Fairclough
29	Etobicoke-Lakeshore	Mary Markovic
29	Etobicoke-Lakeshore	Thomas Yanuziello
29	Etobicoke-Lakeshore	Vitas Naudziunas
41	Humber River-Black Creek	Paul Nguyen
41	Humber River-Black Creek	Tom Rakocovic
41	Humber River-Black Creek	Ida Li Preti
41	Humber River-Black Creek	Keith Berry
41	Humber River-Black Creek	Iulian Caunei
41	Humber River-Black Creek	Lee Miguel Gonzalez
41	Humber River-Black Creek	Knia Singh
83	Parkdale-High Park	Monika Frejlich
83	Parkdale-High Park	Bhutila Karpoche
83	Parkdale-High Park	Karim Bardeesy
83	Parkdale-High Park	Danielle Height
83	Parkdale-High Park	Patrick Macklem
83	Parkdale-High Park	Oliver Roberts
83	Parkdale-High Park	Craig Peskett
83	Parkdale-High Park	Gunes Agduk
94	Scarborough Centre	Paul Beatty
94	Scarborough Centre	Dave Smith
94	Scarborough Centre	Neethan Shan
94	Scarborough Centre	Mazhar Shafiq
94	Scarborough Centre	Hidie Jaber

District	District Name	Candidate Name
94	Scarborough Centre	Raphael Rosch
94	Scarborough Centre	Serge Korovitsyn
94	Scarborough Centre	Maria Tzvetanova
94	Scarborough Centre	Fatima Faruq
94	Scarborough Centre	Kostadinos Stefanis
96	Scarborough North	Raymond Sung Joon Cho
96	Scarborough North	Justin Kong
96	Scarborough North	Anita Anandarajan
96	Scarborough North	James Bountrogiannis
96	Scarborough North	Tara McMahon
96	Scarborough North	Pete Grusys
96	Scarborough North	Mark Dickson
98	Scarborough Southwest	James McNair
98	Scarborough Southwest	Doly Begum
98	Scarborough Southwest	Lisa Patel
98	Scarborough Southwest	Cara Brideau
98	Scarborough Southwest	Peter Naus
98	Scarborough Southwest	Bret Snider
98	Scarborough Southwest	Barbara Everatt
98	Scarborough Southwest	Michelle Parsons
93	Scarborough-Agincourt	Aris Babikian
93	Scarborough-Agincourt	Soo Wong
93	Scarborough-Agincourt	Donny Morgan
93	Scarborough-Agincourt	Jacqueline Scott
93	Scarborough-Agincourt	Benjamin Lee Truong
93	Scarborough-Agincourt	Rane Vega
95	Scarborough-Guildwood	Alicia Vianga
95	Scarborough-Guildwood	Veronica Javier
95	Scarborough-Guildwood	Mitzie Hunter
95	Scarborough-Guildwood	Dean Boulding
95	Scarborough-Guildwood	Opa Hope Day
95	Scarborough-Guildwood	Kevin Clarke
95	Scarborough-Guildwood	William Moore
97	Scarborough-Rouge Park	Matthew Oliver
97	Scarborough-Rouge Park	Vijay Thanigasalam
97	Scarborough-Rouge Park	Felicia Samuel
97	Scarborough-Rouge Park	Manal Abdullahi
97	Scarborough-Rouge Park	Priyan de Silva
97	Scarborough-Rouge Park	Christopher Bressi
97	Scarborough-Rouge Park	Gordon Kerr
101	Spadina-Fort York	Husain Neemuchwala
101	Spadina-Fort York	Chris Glover
101	Spadina-Fort York	Chi Nguyen
101	Spadina-Fort York	Cara Des Granges
101	Spadina-Fort York	Angela Asher
101	Spadina-Fort York	Jan Osko
109	Toronto Centre	Jessica Goddard
109	Toronto Centre	David Morris
109	Toronto Centre	Nicki Ward
109	Toronto Centre	Steve Hoehlmann
109	Toronto Centre	Kristyn Wong-Tam
109	Toronto Centre	Ron Shaw
109	Toronto Centre	Ivan Byard
109	Toronto Centre	Jennifer Snell
110	Toronto-Danforth	Jennifer Moxon
110	Toronto-Danforth	Colleen McCleery

District	District Name	Candidate Name
110	Toronto-Danforth	Peter Tabuns
110	Toronto-Danforth	Mary Fragedakis
110	Toronto-Danforth	Milton Kandias
110	Toronto-Danforth	Marcelo Levy
110	Toronto-Danforth	Christopher Brophy
110	Toronto-Danforth	George Simopoulos
111	Toronto-St. Paul's	Blake Libfeld
111	Toronto-St. Paul's	Jill Andrew
111	Toronto-St. Paul's	Nathan Stall
111	Toronto-St. Paul's	Ian Lipton
111	Toronto-St. Paul's	Yehuda Goldberg
111	Toronto-St. Paul's	Margarita Sharapova
111	Toronto-St. Paul's	Zoe Alexandra
111	Toronto-St. Paul's	Christian Ivanov Mihaylov
112	University-Rosedale	Carl Qiu
112	University-Rosedale	Jessica Bell
112	University-Rosedale	Andrea Barrack
112	University-Rosedale	Diane Saxe
112	University-Rosedale	James Leventakis
112	University-Rosedale	John Canary
117	Willowdale	Lilya Eklishaeva
117	Willowdale	Birinder Singh Ahluwalia
117	Willowdale	Charles Roddy Sutherland
117	Willowdale	Stan Cho
117	Willowdale	Paul Saguil
117	Willowdale	Gian Pietro Arella
117	Willowdale	Hal David Berman
117	Willowdale	Joanne Csillag
117	Willowdale	Monica Henriques
117	Willowdale	Ben Barone
117	Willowdale	Jaime Rodriguez
120	York Centre	Mark Dewdney
120	York Centre	Parviz Isgandarov
120	York Centre	Michael Kerzner
120	York Centre	Shelley Brown
120	York Centre	Nick Balaskas
120	York Centre	Frank Chu
120	York Centre	Alison Lowney
120	York Centre	Don Pincivero
120	York Centre	Lionel Wayne Poizner
122	York South-Weston	James Michael Fields
122	York South-Weston	Faisal Hassan
122	York South-Weston	Nadia Guerrera
122	York South-Weston	Michael Ford
122	York South-Weston	Tom Hipsz
122	York South-Weston	Ignacio Mongrell Gonzalez
122	York South-Weston	Ana Gabriela Ortiz