



**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 Corrado
Secretary-Treasurer

Brian Raymer
Toronto Reference Library

Brandon Haynes
North York Central Library

Jenna Liu
North Region

Karen Smith
South Region

John Puusa
East Region

Karen DeSimone
West Region

Fitzgerald Steele
Facilities

Steven Burdick
Support Services

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Via Regular Mail

October 24, 2016

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

Dear Mr. Carinci:

RE: TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY 2017 OPERATING BUDGET

Our submission this evening will be even more simple than last month's. The City Librarian is recommending a budget increase of .9% which includes a reduction of 8.7 FTEs. This month she is also recommending a cut to service hours and to collections to meet city budget reduction target of 2.6%. It has been recognized by the city that your capital budget is facing a major crisis.

Let us remind you of our proud history as reflected in our latest TPLWU Local 4948 Word on the Street book bags. (Distribute bags to board members).

On January 1, 1883, by a vote of a large majority of Torontonians, the Toronto Public Library was established.

According to the Ontario Public Libraries Act, RSO 1990, Chapter P44, Section 20, Powers and Duties of the Board, Sub-section (a), A board shall seek to provide...a comprehensive and efficient public library service that reflects the community's unique needs.

Local 4948, the Library Workers, believe that a reduction of 2.6% coupled with inflation results in an equivalent cut of about 5% which results in a service budget reduction of about \$10 million which is equivalent to closing one branch. This mayor needs to be reminded that he promised in a Toronto Sun editorial in June 2016 that he will not close any public library branches.

We ask this board to advocate on behalf of our library and would challenge you that you can no longer fulfill your mandate as invested with you by the Public Libraries Act. The City of Toronto needs to be reminded of that.



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Torontonians cherish their public library.

Let's work together to keep it great. Great Library. Great City. Great People.

Yours sincerely,

Maureen O'Reilly

Maureen O'Reilly
President
TPLWU Local 4948

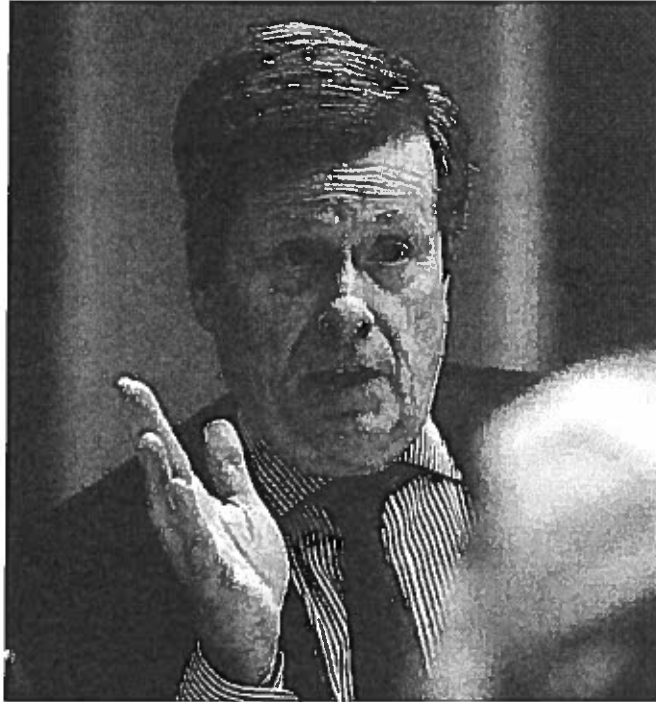
cc. TPLWU Executive Board

Attach.

City's finances aren't black and white: Tory

JOHN TORY, SPECIAL TO THE TORONTO SUN

FIRST POSTED: MONDAY, JUNE 06, 2016 08:10 PM EDT | UPDATED: MONDAY, JUNE 06, 2016 09:28 PM EDT



Mayor John Tory at the Police Services Board meetin May 19, 2016. (Craig Robertson/Toronto Sun)

TORONTO - When it comes to the City of Toronto's finances, the conversation is often framed around whether we have a revenue problem or a spending problem.

The truth is, we have both. And as mayor, I intend to deal with both — keep this city affordable and support the services and amenities, like parks and public libraries, that make Toronto a great place to live.

When it comes to spending, the city must use our tax dollars more efficiently. We are stuck in the past. We need to use the vast amounts of data we collect to ensure our programs are delivering value for money and we need to embrace technology to provide a customer service experience citizens expect in 2016.

We also need to ask whether the city needs to be delivering certain services at all, or whether it can be done on a more cost-effective basis by the private sector.

Garbage is but one service I would put in this category. However, my approach to this will be led by facts — not ideology. If it is cheaper and more efficient to contract out, I will support it. If the answer is “no,” I won't.

In the coming weeks, a task force of civilian experts and police officials will report on policing and how we ensure a modern police service that uses intelligence and technology to more effectively deploy highly-trained and, yes, costly police resources. This has been talked about for a many years. On my watch, it will happen within weeks.

This month we will also move ahead with consolidating the city's fourteen different real estate divisions, eliminating duplication and associated costs.

This could become a template for how we merge other functions like IT, procurement and accounting. Again, others have talked about this. I'm getting it done.

We must rein in spending. But my approach will always be balanced by what's in the public interest.

It cancel bus routes on which some of our poorest citizens depend to get to work and home again. And I will not close libraries where children learn to read and new immigrants get help with English so they can apply for jobs. That was the approach of my predecessor. It will not be mine.

If we want to build a truly great city, if we want to attract investment and talent from around the world, we need to build modern rapid transit and quality affordable housing.

We need to repair our social housing stock or else hundreds of families will be on the street. We also have to deal with the thousands of other families who are on the waiting list for affordable housing.

Workers shouldn't have to commute 90 minutes each way to work because they can't afford to live near their jobs.

All of this costs money.

We need new and reliable dedicated ways to pay for these large transit and housing projects. I won't put this on the backs of property taxpayers as I've repeatedly said, and I won't do what my predecessor did and just pretend we didn't have to pay by not issuing hundreds of millions of dollars in debt needed to finance many of the new projects the city desperately needs to build. That's not responsible. And it's not honest.

Let's stop pretending that our finances are a black and white issue.

It's not cut or spend. It will have to be a mix of both and I firmly believe the way to take Toronto from good to great is by using this approach.

— *Tory is mayor of Toronto*

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