

2012.02.20

**Re: Another request to address the Board or a Committee on new matters**

To the Toronto Public Library Board:

**Let's try this again.** What's happening here is I am a member of the public asking to address the Board on new matters. The Administrative Coordinator, City Librarian's Office, Nancy Marshall, insists up and down that I do this *solely according to procedural bylaw*. But, in an apparent effort to sabotage my application, Ms Marshall didn't bother to present the correct version of my previous request until the last minute. Nor, I gather, did she bother to brief the Board, or even the Chair, on the basics of the request.

**As a result,** Boardmembers reacted with bafflement last month and couldn't even muster a motion to accept my request to speak to the board. Procedurally, in January 2012 the Board did *precisely nothing* with my request. I assume even this Board is not so hostile to the general public that it will refuse a request from a member of the public to address it. I'm asking any member to move a motion to accept my request, another member to second that motion, and a majority of members to vote for it. After you hear what I have to say a month from now, you can then carry out the inevitable and vote to "receive" (ignore) my submission. But let's at least get to that stage, shall we?

**Again, then:** In accordance with §40 of the Toronto Public Library Board Procedural Bylaw, I am submitting this request to address the Board on new matters at the *next* meeting (March 2012). §38.3 of the Bylaw requires an outline of the new matters involved. I will present information and requests for motions in three groups.

1. **Boardmember accountability** in response to statements and actions by Boardmembers during the city budgetary process
2. **Statements of principle** reaffirming bedrock library principles called into dispute by Boardmembers and city councillors
3. **Rejection of outside interference**, including by elected officials and a newspaper columnist, in materials selection and policy

**§41.3 of the Bylaw** limits speakers to one address of up to five minutes (§41.1) on each topic. Hence to address the Board on these issues, I will need three five-minute segments.

Sincerely,

