



To: Toronto Public Library Board – November 25, 2002

From: City Librarian

Subject: **Toronto Library Board Composition and Expense Reimbursement Status**

Purpose:

To provide the Toronto Public Library Board with the City of Toronto's *Toronto Library Board Composition and Expense Reimbursement Status* report for comment.

Funding Implications and Impact Statement:

There are no financial implications arising from the recommendation in this report.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Toronto Public Library Board:

- (1) receive the *Toronto Library Board Composition and Expense Reimbursement Status* report for information; and
- (2) provide feedback to the City of Toronto's ABC Ad Hoc Committee concerning the report and the proposals outlined in the report.

Background:

In April 1998, the amalgamated Library Boards recommended to the City that board members be compensated for expenses through a \$500 per annum payment. This was put into practice on an interim basis, and the City's Chief Administrative Officer was asked to review the practice as part of the review of remuneration policies for all Agencies, Boards and Commissions (ABC).

In June 2000, following a recommendation to reduce the membership size of Standing Committees of Council, in light of the new 45 member size of Council, the City Librarian wrote to City staff requesting consideration of also reducing the size of the Toronto Public Library Board. This request was due in part to address quorum issues and to reflect the reduction in City Council size.

These two requests were referred to the ABC Ad Hoc Committee as part of its mandate to rationalize existing models, recommend improvements and review board selection processes.

The ABC Ad Hoc Committee Work Program specifically identified reviewing the size and composition of the Library Board as part of the review of structural issues.

At the October 28, 2002 Library Board meeting, Karen Cooper, Corporate Management and Policy Consultant, Chief Administrator's Office, City of Toronto, spoke to the Board concerning the City's ABC Ad Hoc Committee Work Program. She advised that the Library Board would be provided with the recommendations concerning the Library Board composition and remuneration before the Board's November 25 meeting.

The attached *Toronto Library Board Composition and Expense Reimbursement Status* report was presented to the ABC Ad Hoc Committee for feedback at its November 21 meeting.

Comments:

At the November 25 Library Board meeting, Karen Cooper will provide the Board with the ABC Ad Hoc Committee's comments concerning the *Toronto Library Board Composition and Expense Reimbursement Status* report. As well, she will solicit the Library Board's feedback on the report, and in particular, to the following draft proposals concerning composition, qualifications and appointment process:

- (1) effective March 2004 the composition of the Toronto Public Library Board comprise eleven members including three Councillors and eight citizens, as follows:
  - a) the Mayor or designate;
  - b) 2 Councillors;
  - c) 2 citizen nominated by the Toronto District School Board;
  - d) 1 citizen nominated by the Toronto District Separate School Board; and
  - e) 5 citizen members nominated by a Selection Committee;
- (2) the six citizen members of the Board be appointed by Council giving due consideration to the following qualifications:
  - (a) a combination of extensive experience or knowledge with respect to:
    - Literature and Literacy
    - Arts and Culture
    - Science and Technology
    - Business
  - (b) skills, interest and experience in
    - Financial Management
    - Philanthropy
    - Public Sector Governance
    - Community Service
    - Community Diversity
  - (c) independence of judgement;
  - (d) personal integrity; and
  - (e) meets the requirements of the Public Libraries Act;

- (3) a Library Board Selection Committee be appointed by Council to nominate the candidates for the Library board and that the Selection Committee be comprised of the following members:
- Mayor or designate,
  - 2 Councillors currently on the Library Board,
  - Chair, Community Services Committee,
  - Chief Administrative Officer or designate,
  - Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; and
- (4) the CAO engage a facilitator to assist the Library Board Selection Committee in:
- (a) identifying high-profile candidates with significant achievements in disciplines outlined above;
  - (b) approaching potential nominees to ascertain interest and encourage participation; and
  - (c) arranging meetings with the Selection Committee.

Conclusion:

The Board's comments concerning the *Toronto Library Board Composition and Expense Reimbursement Status* report and the draft proposals contained in the report are requested before final recommendations are made to the ABC Ad Hoc Committee.

At a later date, the Library Board will be asked to comment on the draft remuneration policies proposed in a separate report to the Ad Hoc Committee.

Contact:

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City Librarian

List of Attachments:

Attachment 1: City of Toronto Report to the ABC Ad Hoc Committee: Toronto Library Board Composition and Expense Reimbursement Status