

To: Toronto Public Library  
Attn: Vickery Bowles, City Librarian and  
Toronto Public Library Board Meeting March 24, 2025  
789 Yonge Street  
Toronto, ON  
M4W 2G8  
Phone: 416-393-7134  
Email: [citylibrarian@tpl.ca](mailto:citylibrarian@tpl.ca)

Date: March 20, 2025

From: Kate Mills  
Member of For Our Kids Toronto  
And Toronto Public Library Patron <3

Dear Vickery Bowles and Toronto Public Library Board,

I want to start by saying I am a huge fan of The Toronto Public Library, and I am almost always reading a digital or hard copy book from TPL (not to mention the books my kids have out)! Our branch is the Tomorden Room!

As much as I appreciate the TPL, I am deeply concerned with its association with TD Bank through the “TD Summer Reading Club” and I’m sharing that concern with you in the hope that TPL might reconsider that association.

I feel that TD is using the Toronto Public Library to greenwash their company. The “TD Summer Reading Club” gives TD positive advertising with current users of the TPL, reinforces positive associations with current TD bank customers and possibly even encourages children to bank with TD in the future.

Unfortunately, TD bank is one of the top funders of fossil fuels in the world, investing more than \$29 billion last year (2023) alone, despite broad consensus that we must stop financing oil and gas development immediately if we have any chance of meeting our climate commitments and avoiding climate catastrophe.

TD’s total investments in oil and gas add up to \$173 B since the Paris Agreement. Although TD has recently set a \$500 B sustainable and decarbonization finance target for the quickly approaching deadline of 2030, in my opinion, their sustainability investment is voided by their continued investment in fossil fuels. Unfortunately, right now, we don’t see TD moving away from fossil fuel investment at the urgent pace we need.

As a parent of children who are already living with the impacts of climate change, I am extremely worried about how it threatens our children’s health, safety, food security, and lives. Children are facing more natural disasters, more days of extreme heat per year,

increased risk of illness due to wildfire smoke, and greater food insecurity in a warming world.

In addition, families have lost their homes, schools, and businesses to floods, storms and fires, and the affordability crisis is only expected to worsen due to the rising costs of the climate crisis.

TD and other Canadian banks are also top funders of projects like Trans Mountain and Coastal Gaslink pipeline, which violate Indigenous sovereignty and have been used to justify violence against land defenders. These projects undermine reconciliation, which is essential to creating an equitable world now and for future generations.

Fossil fuels are **the number one cause of climate change**, and we need to end our reliance on them now. Banks like TD have the power to move us away from fossil fuels and toward a safer future before it's too late.

I am saddened by the Toronto Public Library's association with a company that is hurting my children's future through its ongoing financing of fossil fuel companies and projects. As a lifelong patron and supporter of TPL, I'm requesting that:

1. TPL reconsider its collaboration with TD and instead seek alternate funding for its valuable summer reading program
2. TPL communicate to TD that your patrons are concerned about TD's fossil fuel financing.

I would be very happy to discuss this further with you or other representatives from the TPL.

Sincerely a concerned patron,  
Kate Mills