



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

11.

Toronto Public Library Board – Memberships in Library Associations

Date:	December 12, 2011
To:	Toronto Public Library Board
From:	City Librarian

SUMMARY

To request Toronto Public Library Board direction regarding the renewal of Ontario, Canadian and American library association memberships for the Board.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Librarian recommends that the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. renews the Board's membership in the Ontario Library Association for four years at a reduced rate of \$1050 in 2011 and 2012 and at the rate of \$2,100 in 2013 and 2014;
2. renews the Board's annual membership in the Canadian Library Association at the rate of \$1,000; and
3. renews the Board's annual membership in the American Library Association at the rate of \$59 for each Board member at a total rate of \$767 (US).

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The total cost of renewing annual memberships in library associations of approximately \$2,900 in 2011 and 2012 is part of the Library's operating budget.

The Director, Finance and Treasurer, has reviewed this financial impact statement and is in agreement with it.

BACKGROUND

The Board Expense Policy states that Board members are eligible for memberships in the following library associations: Ontario Library Association (OLA); Canadian Library Association (CLA) and American Library Association (ALA).

Membership benefits in library associations include access to journals and magazines and discounts on conference registration costs.

The Board's memberships in OLA, CLA and ALA all expired in 2011.

COMMENTS

With the delay in the appointment of citizen members to the Library Board, membership renewals in the Ontario, Canadian and American library associations for Board members have been delayed in 2011, pending direction from the Library Board.

As an incentive for renewal, the OLA is offering the Board a four-year arrangement wherein the membership cost in the first two years would be half (\$1,050), with the remaining two years at the regular cost (\$2,100), resulting in a savings of a one-year membership. Board memberships in OLA and CLA are based on the Board as a whole; individual memberships are not an option.

Individualized memberships are an option in the American Library Association at a cost of \$59.00 (US) each.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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