

Toronto Public Library Board – Strategic Planning Steering Committee
Meeting No. 2: Friday, May 31, 2019, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Toronto Reference Library, Beeton Hall, 789 Yonge Street, Toronto

Members Present:

Mr. Fenton Jagdeo (Committee Chair)
Ms. Sue Graham-Nutter
Ms. Sharilyn Hale (TPL Foundation Board)
Mr. Jonathan Hoss
Ms. Pam Laycock (TPL Foundation Board)
Ms. Jennifer Liu
Mr. Alim Remtulla

Regrets:

Ms. Andrea Geddes Poole
Mr. Strahan McCarten

SPSC Call to Order

19-009 Fenton Jagdeo, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Mr. Jagdeo gratefully acknowledged that the Toronto Reference Library is on Indigenous land. He indicated this is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy (also known as the Six Nations Confederacy), the Wendat, and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Toronto Public Library gratefully acknowledges these Indigenous nations for their guardianship of this land. Mr. Jagdeo reminded and reaffirmed as Torontonians and Canadians, accountability to these Indigenous nations, and to all Indigenous peoples and communities living in Toronto.

Mr. Jagdeo further indicated that this land is also part of the Dish with One Spoon territory, that includes a treaty between the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Anishinaabek and allied nations, to peaceably share and care for this land, its waters, and all of the biodiversity in the Great Lakes region. All those who come to live and work here are responsible for honouring this treaty in the spirit of peace, friendship, and respect.

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SPSC Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

19-010 There were no Declarations of Conflicts of Interest by members of the Strategic Planning Steering Committee.

SPSC Approval of Agenda

19-011 *Moved by S. Graham-Nutter:*
That the Strategic Planning Steering Committee:
1. *approves the agenda.*

Carried

SPSC Confirmation of April 10, 2019 Strategic Planning Steering Committee

19-012 Meeting Minutes

Moved by J. Hoss:
That the Strategic Planning Steering Committee:
1. *confirms the Minutes of the April 10, 2019 Strategic Planning Steering Committee meeting.*

Carried

SPSC Communications

19-013 There were no *Communications* items at the May 31, 2019 Strategic Planning Steering Committee meeting.

SPSC Presentations

19-014 There were no *Presentations* at the May 31, 2019 Strategic Planning Steering Committee meeting.

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Item for Approval:

SPSC Strategic Plan 2020-2024: Environmental Scan and Phase 1 Consultation
19-015 Results

The Steering Committee members reviewed the environmental scan, phase 1 consultation results and draft focus areas. The members provided the input and feedback outlined below:

Identified Seven Focus Areas for Phase 2 Consultation:

1. Affordability and cost of living
2. Vulnerable populations (e.g. newcomers, seniors, low-income families and youth) and growing inequity
3. Library as public space
4. Changing demographics (e.g. population growth)
5. Rapid growth and disruptive technology
6. Responsive programming
7. Partnerships

At the session, Steering Committee members discussed the approach for phase 2 consultations. The two questions asked at the session were:

1. What unique value can the Library add in these focus areas?
2. What information should the Library gather in phase 2 consultations to ensure the Library is responsive to changing community needs?

Below are key highlights from the discussion:

- Offer a wide range of programs and services through various delivery channels and service points
- Provide access to new and current technology and a wide range of digital literacy training
- Increase awareness and promotion of the full range of library services
- The Library can strengthen partnerships by describing its unique value and the benefits of partnerships in increasing reach and service delivery to communities and vulnerable populations
- Libraries are impartial and trusted institutions, and can be advocates for data governance and stewardship, ethical AI, civic engagement, etc.
- Confirm the public's perception of libraries being impartial and leaders in providing access to technology

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**Strategic Plan 2020-2024: Environmental Scan and Phase 1 Consultation
Results – continued**

- Explore opportunities for new, existing and innovative partnerships
- Consult the public on the different types of programming they would like to see offered at the Library
- Further explore the Library as public space (e.g. revenue generation, use of library space, alternative service points, etc.)
- Explore intersectionality of vulnerable population groups (e.g. newcomer seniors)

Next Steps

- Once phase 2 consultations conclude, staff will develop a report outlining proposed priorities for the new Strategic Plan and present the report to the Strategic Planning Steering Committee for review and comment.

Moved by S. Graham-Nutter:

That the Strategic Planning Steering Committee:

1. *receives the environmental scan as outlined in the report;*
2. *receives the first phase of consultation results outlined in the report; and*
3. *recommends focus areas for Phase 2 consultations resulting from the May 31st strategy session to the Library Board for implementation.*

Carried

SPSC Adjournment

19-016

Moved by A. Remtulla:

That the Strategic Planning Steering Committee:

1. *adjourns the May 31, 2019 Strategic Planning Steering Committee meeting.*

Carried

The meeting ended at 12:00 p.m.

Signed: _____