

**Councillor Paul Ainslie**

Toronto City Council
Scarborough East - Ward 43

Chair, Government Management Committee

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Notice of Motion

Date: February 5, 2015

To: Toronto Public Library Board

Topic: Pilot Project Request for "Pop-up Storefront Branch"

Moved By: Councillor Paul Ainslie

Seconded By: Councillor Sarah Doucette

Background:

The Toronto Public Library as one of the largest per capita users has become a leader in many different areas. In 2015 the Toronto Public Library will be proudly be opening its 100th branch. Across all of our branches we offer a vast array of services which are in very high demand by our residents.

In a City of close to 2.5 million residential access to our library branches can be an issue due to time demands placed on parents, hours of our branches, the distance from branch to branch, the ability of people to afford to make the commute.

There is an opportunity in many areas of the City for the Toronto Public Library to open smaller storefront branches which could offer computer usage, study space, and many of our services, including the opportunity for residents to place "holds" on line and pick them up closer to their residence.

Recommendation:

1. Toronto Public Library staff be request to explore the feasibility of opening a "pop-up storefront" branch as a pilot project at a suitable location within the City of Toronto, along with the appropriate services which could be offered on a smaller scale than our currently operated branches.
2. Explore opportunity for partnership opportunities in operating the pilot project with City of Toronto Departments, as well as suitable partners in the private sector.
3. If feasible a request should be submitted to the City of Toronto for the 2016 Capital/Operating Budget cycle.
4. Toronto Public Library staff should report back to the June 22, 2015 Board of Directors meeting.