



To: Toronto Public Library Board – September 24, 2001

From: City Librarian

Subject: **Ontario Public Library Week**

Purpose:

For information.

Funding Implications and Impact Statement:

Not applicable.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Toronto Public Library Board receive for information the *Ontario Public Library Week* report.

Comments:

Ontario Public Library Week – October 15 to 20, 2001 – is an annual week of acknowledgement of the contribution that public libraries make to the economic health and quality of life in our communities through their role in preserving and providing access to information in all its forms. The Library's theme this year is *All the World's a Page*.

In recognition of Ontario Public Library Week a number of library programs have been planned which stress some of the services available at the Toronto Public Library beyond books. These programs such as Internet and general research skills training are in addition to the many other events, programs and training opportunities offered by the Library during this and every other week of the year. Outlined below are several of the events being organized to commemorate the event:

- Tim Hudak, Minister, Tourism, Culture and Recreation is tentatively scheduled to present the Library with the Ministry's cheque in the amount of \$1.4 million for the development and operation of the Virtual Reference Library on October 18.
- A number of Internet-related programs are planned including an Internet Scavengers Hunt and a web-based Speakers' Corner to celebrate and promote the dramatic expansion of electronic services at TPL. These programs are the culmination of the Gates and UrbanCAP library initiatives that began in 2000. Prizes such as tee-shirts and caps will be available as part of the Internet Scavengers Hunt.

- Speaker Events are planned at Library branches throughout the City including a visit by Paul Hoffert, founder of the band *Lighthouse* and author of the *Bagel Effect* and *All Together Now* to discuss thriving in the digital age at the Toronto Reference Library on October 17 at 7:00 p.m.

Board members will be notified as soon as the visit of the Minister, Tourism, Culture and Recreation is confirmed.

Finally, the Heritage and Libraries Branch of the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation announces the winners of the annual Ontario Public Library Service Awards during Public Library Week. This year, Toronto Public Library submitted an application for an Award for Innovation for TPL's direct outreach campaign to high schools in the fall of 2000.

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City Librarian

List of Attachments:

Not applicable.