

E-Book Working Group: Update on Public Library Access to E-Books and E-Magazines

Date:	March 24, 2014
To:	Toronto Public Library Board
From:	E-Book Working Group

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to obtain the Toronto Public Library Board's approval of recommendations of the Board's E-Book Working Group concerning public library access to e-books and e-magazines.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The E-Book Working Group recommends that the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. requests a meeting with the Minister of Culture, Tourism and Sport and the Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages to discuss the issue of public library access to e-content;
2. requests that the Canadian Library Association provide their support in improving public library access to e-content; and
3. requests staff to bring the issues faced by libraries in securing access to e-content to the attention of the Competition Bureau staff, and report back on the response.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial impacts resulting from this report beyond what has already been approved in the current year's budgets.

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

DECISION HISTORY

The E-Book Working Group met on March 11, 2014 to consider the *Update on Public Library Access to E-Books and E-Magazines* report. The following recommendations were approved:

1. *requests a meeting with the Minister of Culture, Tourism and Sport and the Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages to discuss the issue of public library access to e-content;*
2. *requests that the Canadian Library Association provide their support in improving public library access to e-content;*
3. *requests staff to bring the issues faced by libraries in securing access to e-content to the attention of the Competition Bureau staff, and report back on the response;*
4. *requests staff to outline the e-content advocacy strategy for 2014 and 2015, including goals and objectives and report back to the working group; and*
5. *requests staff to consider a public engagement strategy with respect to e-content, and report back to the working group with respect to potential objectives, activities and recommendations.*

COMMENTS

The *Update on Public Library Access to E-Books and E-Magazines* report considered at the March 11th meeting of the Board's E-Book Working Group is provided as Attachment 1.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Jane Pyper
City Librarian

ATTACHMENT

Appendix 1: *Update on Public Library Access to E-Books and E-Magazines* report to the March 11, 2014 E-Book Working Group meeting