



STAFF REPORT INFORMATION ONLY

Election of Officers to the Toronto Public Library Board and the Review of Committee membership

Date:	December 15, 2014
To:	Toronto Public Library Board
From:	Acting City Librarian

SUMMARY

This report identifies the timing of the elections of officers to the Toronto Public Library Board. The Procedural By-law stipulates that an election of the Chair and Vice Chair is required annually at the first meeting of the Board. In a municipal election year, it has been the practice of the Board to elect the Chair and Vice Chair at the first meeting of the Board following the appointment of all Board members – Councillors and citizens. While the appointment of Council Board members occurred at the December 3rd meeting of Council, the appointment of the citizen members will not occur until sometime in 2015. Until that time the current Chair and the newly elected Vice Chair will continue to hold office.

This report also identifies the requirement and timing of the review of committees and committee memberships.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This report has no financial impact beyond what has already been approved in the current year's budget.

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

DECISION HISTORY

The Toronto Public Library Board's Procedural By-law outlines the terms and conditions for the election of Board Officers. The Procedural By-law was revised and approved by the Board in September 2012.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

The Toronto Public Library Board's Procedural By-law stipulates that the Board will elect a Chair and Vice Chair by majority at its first meeting. The first meeting of the Board is defined in the Procedural By-law as follows:

First Meeting – After a municipal election, the first meeting of the new Board following its appointment by Council. In other years, the first meeting of the Board in the calendar year.

The practice of the Board has been to interpret the definition of first meeting of the Board in an election year to mean the first meeting following appointment of all Board members by Council and not the initial Councillor appointments. In the years when a municipal election is held, the practice has been that the officers of the Board continue to hold office until the full Board is appointed. Therefore, the current Chair and the newly elected Vice Chair will continue in these positions until the citizen appointments have been made. At the meeting following the appointment of the citizen members the Procedural By-laws require that elections for both Chair and Vice Chair take place.

The appointment of Board members by Council takes place in two stages: Councillors are appointed at the first meeting of Council following the municipal election, and citizen member appointments take place sometime thereafter. The Civic Appointments Committee of Council is responsible for nominating citizen members. These nominations must be approved by Council.

Committees of the Board

The Procedural Bylaws also require that the Board review the need for committees of the Board to continue and also to review the membership of Committees. This review is also required to take place at the first meeting of the Board. It is sensible that the review take place following the appointment of all members of the Board so that new members may participate in committees. As an interim measure and as required, the newly elected Vice Chair will replace the former Vice Chair on the Budget and City Librarian's Performance Review committees until the review of committees at the first meeting of the new Board.

COMMENTS

At the December 3rd City Council meeting, Council approved the appointment of four Councillors. The remaining Board members will be appointed by Council in 2015. Until that time the current Board Chair and the newly elected Vice Chair will continue to hold office.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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