

Toronto Public Library Board

Meeting No. 1: Monday, January 21, 2008, from 6:05 p.m. to 7:10 p.m.

Toronto Reference Library, Beeton Auditorium, 789 Yonge Street, Toronto

Members Present:

Ms. Kathy Gallagher Ross (Chair)
Mr. Okeima Lawrence (Vice Chair)
Ms. Eman Ahmed
Councillor Paul Ainslie
Mr. Adam Chaleff-Freudenthaler
Ms. Ann Decter
Ms. Tina Edan
Councillor Chin Lee
Councillor Anthony Perruzza
Ms. Kate Wilson

Regrets:

Councillor Janet Davis
Mr. Matthew Church
Councillor Adam Vaughan

08-001 Call to Order

Josephine Bryant, City Librarian and Secretary to the Board, called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

08-002 Election of the Chair of the Board

Josephine Bryant called for nominations for the Chair of the Toronto Public Library Board for January – December 2008.

*Moved by A. Decter, seconded by Councillor Lee, and carried:
That Kathy Gallagher Ross be nominated for Chair.*

Kathy Gallagher Ross agreed to stand for election.

*Moved by Councillor Ainslie, seconded by K. Wilson, and carried:
That nominations be closed.*

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Election of the Chair of the Board – continued

The City Librarian declared Kathy Gallagher Ross duly elected Chair of the Toronto Public Library Board for January - December 2008 by acclamation.

Kathy Gallagher Ross assumed the Chair.

08-003 Election of Vice-Chair of the Board

The Chair called for nominations for the Vice-Chair of the Toronto Public Library Board for January – December 2008.

*Moved by A. Chaleff-Freudenthaler, seconded by E. Ahmed, and carried:
That Okeima Lawrence be nominated for Vice-Chair.*

*Moved by Councillor Ainslie, seconded by Councillor Perruzza, and carried:
That nominations be closed.*

The Chair declared Okeima Lawrence duly elected Vice-Chair of the Toronto Public Library Board for January – December 2008 by acclamation.

08-004 Selection of Committee and Association Members – 2008

*Moved by A. Chaleff-Freudenthaler, seconded by E. Ahmed, and carried:
That the Toronto Public Library Board:*

1. *appoints the following Library Board member representatives to the following internal and external committees for 2008:*
 - a. *Budget Committee:
Councillor Paul Ainslie, Adam Chaleff-Freudenthaler,
Councillor Janet Davis, Kathy Gallagher Ross and Okeima
Lawrence.*
 - b. *Employee and Labour Relations Committee:
Adam Chaleff-Freudenthaler, Matthew Church, Councillor
Janet Davis, Ann Decter, Kathy Gallagher Ross (Ex officio),
Councillor Chin Lee.*
 - c. *City Librarian's Annual Performance Review Committee:
Eman Ahmed, Kathy Gallagher Ross and Okeima Lawrence.*

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Selection of Committee and Association Members – 2008 – continued

- d. City of Toronto Children's Services Advisory Committee:
Kate Wilson.
- e. Federation of Ontario Public Libraries:
Kathy Gallagher Ross and Kate Wilson.
2. *Requests that Tina Edan's participation in the Toronto Public Library Celebrates Reading Award Nomination Committee continues until completion of the 2009 nomination process.*

08-005 Approval of Agenda*Moved by Councillor Ainslie, seconded by K. Wilson, and carried:**That the Toronto Public Library Board:*

1. *approves the agenda.*

08-006 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest by members of the Library Board.

08-007 Approval of December 10, 2007 Toronto Public Library Board Meeting Minutes*Moved by A. Chaleff-Freudenthaler, seconded by E. Ahmed, and carried:**That the Toronto Public Library Board:*

1. *approves the Minutes of the December 10, 2007 Toronto Public Library Board meeting.*

08-008 Business Arising

There were no Business Arising items at the January 21, 2008 meeting.

08-009 Chair's Report**Keep Toronto Reading**

1. Programming for Keep Toronto Reading in February 2008 includes a variety of innovative formats and themes, with more than 47 different events located in 25 branches or partner locations throughout the city.

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Chair's Report – continued**Keep Toronto Reading – continued**

2. A media launch with Mayor David Miller is scheduled for Keep Toronto Reading and one of the Keep Toronto Reading initiatives, One Book, on Thursday, January 24 at 9:00 a.m. at the Toronto Reference Library.
3. One Book will see the Library lead a network of partners in engaging people across the city to read a single book, Michael Redhill's *Consolation*, throughout February. People will come together in a variety of forums to share their thoughts and opinions about the book and engage in discussion and dialogue about the themes or issues central to the book. Michael Redhill will participate (via LongPen® from France) in the media launch on January 24, and in-person at the Kick-off on February 4, as well as at other key programming events, including a book club event, a candlelight dinner and reading at Gibson House, a book signing and a discussion with students from four high schools.
4. KTR for Kids programs will take place both in the Library and in our partner locations. One of the in-branch programs will feature TVO Kid's host Gisèle visiting a number of Library branches to do storytelling. Offsite, TPL staff will be facilitating storytelling sessions at both the Ontario Science Centre, and the ROM. An event at the National Film Board's Mediatheque will have kids read and explore a book, and then create and view clay animation, based on the book.
5. Keep Toronto Reading is also an opportunity for the Toronto Public Library Foundation to generate support for the Library. The success of the annual Toonie campaign attests to the goodwill the people of Toronto feel for their library system. Along with the Book Lover's Ball on January 31, the "I Keep Toronto Reading" campaign includes branch sales of buttons for a toonie, and book bags for \$5. This initiative raises much-needed funds and helps position the Foundation to do the kind of corporate fundraising necessary to maintain a thriving library system in Toronto.
6. Keep Toronto Reading and One Book are being promoted through the Library's 99 branch network. There will be radio, television and print advertising throughout the city, made possible in large part through the generous support of numerous media and program sponsors. New online promotions have been added to the Keep Toronto Reading website, including blogs, a facebook group, and an interactive widget.

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Chair's Report – continued**Re-opening of Jane / Dundas Branch**

7. The Jane / Dundas Branch will reopen on Monday, February 4 at 1:00 p.m. With new spaces for children, teens and adults, wireless internet access and 11,000 new items on the shelves, the branch is expected to be more popular than ever.

Moved by E. Ahmed, seconded by O. Lawrence, and carried:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. receives the Chair's Report for information.

08-010 Presentations

Kathy Gallagher Ross offered Mr. T. S. Gill the opportunity to address the Board in a Closed meeting as the subject matter being considered concerns personal matters about an identifiable individual; Mr. Gill declined the offer.

Mr. Gill addressed the Board regarding Toronto Public Library's multilingual collections (see Agenda Item #11a – Communications – Minute No. 08-011). He outlined his concerns regarding what he believes is a lack of available information and books within the Toronto Public Library system with respect to languages other than English and French. He also requested that consideration be given to the Library purchasing additional materials from Canada Centre Publications.

Moved by Councillor Perruzza, seconded by A. Chaleff-Freudenthaler, and carried:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. receives the presentation of Mr. T. S. Gill concerning Toronto Public Library's multilingual collections for information;
2. requests staff to respond to Mr. Gill, and in particular, provide feedback on the use of other languages in What's On and other Library communication vehicles; and
3. requests staff to report on the use of other languages in What's On and other Library communication vehicles to the Board.

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08-011 Communications*Moved by E. Ahmed, seconded by O. Lawrence, and carried:**That the Toronto Public Library Board:*

1. receives the following Communication Items for information:
 - a. letter to Mayor Miller from T. S. Gill, received by e-mail from the Mayor's office on December 11, 2007, regarding Toronto Public Library's multilingual collections; and
 - b. Letter to T. S. Gill from Josephine Bryant dated December 20, 2007 in response to his letter regarding Toronto Public Library's multilingual collections.

Items for Approval:**08-012 2008 Interim Operating Budget - Adoption***Moved by Councillor Ainslie, seconded by A. Decter, and carried:**That the Toronto Public Library Board:*

1. adopts the 2008 interim operating budget of \$65.726 million gross and \$59.871 million net, as approved by City Council; and
2. authorizes and directs the appropriate Library officials to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

8-013 2008 Operating Budget – City Manager Recommended Target*Moved by K. Wilson, seconded by Councillor Lee, and carried:**That the Toronto Public Library Board:*

1. receives the 2008 Operating Budget – City Manager Recommended Target report;
2. approves the reduction options totaling \$700,000 in order to meet the City Manager recommended 2008 operating budget target of \$169.988 million gross (\$155.674 million net) or a four percent increase;
3. adopts the reduced 2008 operating budget of \$169.988 million gross (\$155.674 million net) as shown in Attachment 2, subject to Council approval; and
4. authorizes and directs the appropriate Library officials to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

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08-014 Write-off of Uncollectible Account – Arms Properties II Inc.*Moved by T. Edan, seconded by Councillor Ainslie, and carried:**That the Toronto Public Library Board:*

1. *approves the write-off of an uncollectible account of \$35,348.87 (excluding GST) for rent owing from a former tenant, Arms Properties II Inc.*

08-015 Toronto Reference Library – Fire Alarm System Replacement – Award of Tender*Moved by Councillor Ainslie, seconded by E. Ahmed, and carried:**That the Toronto Public Library Board:*

1. *awards the contract to the lowest bidder, Manning Electric Co. Limited, for the replacement of the Fire Alarm System at the Toronto Reference Library, at a cost of \$593,889.68 (excluding GST); and*
2. *authorizes and directs the appropriate Library officials to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.*

08-016 Toronto Public Library Board – 2008 Meeting Schedule*Moved by Councillor Peruza, seconded by A. Decter, and carried:**That the Toronto Public Library Board:*

1. *approves the 2008 Meeting Schedule.*

Items for Information:**08-017 2008 – 2012 Capital Budget – Update**

Larry Hughsam, Director, Finance and Treasurer advised the Board that while the Board's annual capital budget debt targets were approved by Council in December, the individual project budgets approved by the Board at the November 27, 2007 Special Toronto Public Library Board meeting, were not approved due to a technical oversight. Council approval of the Library's 2008 – 2012 capital budget will be requested at the next Council meeting. The Council-approved capital budget will be presented to the Board for adoption at the February 26, 2008 Board meeting.

*Moved by A. Chaleff-Freudenthaler, seconded by E. Ahmed, and carried:**That the Toronto Public Library Board:*

1. *receives the 2008 – 2012 Capital Budget - Update verbal report for information.*

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08-018 Ready for Reading - Update

Moved by E. Ahmed, seconded by O. Lawrence, and carried:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. receives the Ready for Reading – Update report for information.

08-019 Other Business

There were no Other Business items at the January 21, 2008 meeting.

08-020 Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Perruzza, seconded by Councillor Ainslie, and carried:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. adjourns the January 21, 2008 Toronto Public Library Board meeting.

The meeting ended at 7:10 p.m.

Signed: _____