

**Toronto Public Library Board**

**Meeting No. 8: Monday, November 20, 2006, from 6:05 p.m. to 7:07 p.m.**

**Toronto Reference Library, Board Room, 789 Yonge Street, Toronto**

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**Members Present:**

Mr. Bill Booth (Chair)

Dr. Kathy Gallagher Ross (Vice Chair)

Ms. Louise Aspin

Mr. Matthew Church

Councillor Janet Davis

Mr. Murthy Ghandikota

Ms. Gillian Mason

Councillor Karen Stintz

Ms. Kate Wilson

**Regrets:**

Councillor Gay Cowbourne

Mr. Okeima Lawrence

Councillor Kyle Rae

Councillor Sylvia Watson

**06-152 Call to Order**

Bill Booth called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

**06-153 Approval of Agenda**

*Moved by M. Ghandikota, seconded by G. Mason, and carried:*

*That the agenda be approved.*

**06-154 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest by members of the Library Board.

**06-155 Approval of October 16, 2006 Toronto Public Library Board Meeting Minutes**

*Moved by K. Gallagher Ross, seconded by M. Church, and carried:*

*That the minutes of the October 16, 2006 Toronto Public Library Board meeting be approved.*

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**06-156 Business Arising**

There were no Business Arising items at the November 20, 2006 meeting.

**06-157 Chair's Report**

- (1) Over the fall, TPL has been hosting a number of author visits, book talks and *On Stage* series events that focus on Toronto as a Renaissance City. Speakers discussed Toronto's new and renewed creative spaces including the AGO, OCAD, ROM, Soulpepper Theatre and the Distillery District. More than 100 were in attendance on most Friday nights. The series winds up on November 24 with a focus on the revitalization of the TRL building itself, with guests Raymond and Ajon Moriyama discussing its past, present and future transformation.
- (2) In October, TPL participated in *Canzine*, Canada's largest zine fair and festival of alternative culture, held at the Gladstone Hotel. The event was an excellent outreach to the mostly younger readers attracted to Toronto's alternative arts and culture scene. Staff reported an active interest pick-up of our general promotional material, such as *What's On*, as well as interest in the Library's growing zine collection.
- (3) The first of two free concerts to promote TPL's new Local Music Collection was held at North York Central Library earlier in November, attracting close to 250 youth. A second concert took place at TRL on November 18. There has been significant interest from the media in this new collection. *The Globe & Mail* published a story on October 28 regarding the collection. *The Star* also did an article about the collection on November 18, and *Book TV* filmed it for later coverage.
- (4) On November 1, the Toronto version of the Bibliothèque de référence virtuelle went online. BRV is the French-language version of our Virtual Reference Library (VRL), and can now be reached through a direct toggle from the VRL website. French language versions of the VRL have been serving all of Ontario, with a customized version for Ottawa, since 2005. Overall, TPL partnered with the Ottawa Public Library to develop the BRV, and funding was provided by Industry Canada and the Ministry of Culture. However, for our Toronto version, the *Ask a Librarian* component is delivered in partnership with Timmins Public Library.
- (5) Considerable work is being undertaken to improve and update TPL's website, based on the "User Experience" research carried on over the last year. This area of Library service continues to increase in importance to Library users.

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**Chair's Report** (continued)

- (6) TPL Foundation News:
  - (a) The fall Fundraising Campaign was launched throughout the Library in October with a focus on our Children and Youth collections. To date, more than \$10,000 has been raised. The awareness raised by such focused efforts, helps build the Foundation for future initiatives.
  - (b) Literary Circle donors, individuals who make an annual donation of \$1,000 or more to the Library, met in late October for a special evening of conversation and reading with the authors of the 2006 Scotiabank Giller short list.
- (7) In October, the Friends of the Arthur Conan Doyle Collection held a successful weekend conference to celebrate the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this collection. *ACD at Thirty-five*, held at TRL, drew close to 100 participants from Japan, Denmark, the UK, the US and all across Canada. The event not only raised the profile of the collection, but was also a fundraiser. The Friends of the Arthur Conan Doyle Collection were congratulated by the Board Chair for their efforts in planning and executing the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference.
- (8) David Crombie, a member of TPL Foundation's Governor's Council and former mayor of Toronto, was the guest speaker at the Library's annual staff recognition event on November 8. Mr. Crombie expressed his enthusiastic support for the Library as a public place, social equalizer, city-builder, positive community role model and the place for lifelong learning.
- (9) TPL is working with Heritage Toronto to install commemorative plaques celebrating the history of 11 Library branches that are listed in the City's *Inventory of Heritage Properties*. The first branch was Beaches, with an unveiling in September, and attended by the Chair of Heritage Toronto; local MPP Michael Prue; Deputy Mayor and Local Councillor Sandra Bussin; along with a large crowd of local residents and local history buffs. Riverdale's plaque was installed this month. TPL will continue this initiative throughout the rest of the branches.
- (10) TPL is currently holding the exhibit, *A Case of Considerable Interest*, in the TD Gallery. It marks the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Arthur Conan Doyle Collection and features books, film posters, manuscripts and memorabilia from his late Victorian world.

***Moved by M. Ghandikota, seconded by K. Gallagher Ross, and carried:  
That the Chair's Report be received for information.***

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**06-158 Presentations**

There were no Presentations at the November 20, 2006 meeting.

**06-159 Communications**

*Moved by G. Mason, seconded by Councillor Stintz, and carried:*

*That the Toronto Public Library Board receive Communication Items (a) – (e) for information:*

- (a) *Report to the Toronto Public Library Board from Kate Wilson, Toronto Public Library Board member, concerning Learning in Libraries: A National Call to Action, Urban Libraries Council Conference in New York, October 19 – 20, 2006.*
- (b) *Letter to Josephine Bryant, City Librarian, Toronto Public Library, dated November 1, 2006, from Caroline Di Cocco, Minister of Culture, announcing the Ministry's 2006/2007 operating grant to the Toronto Public Library in the amount of \$4,127,362.*
- (c) *Letter to The Honourable Caroline Di Cocco, Minister of Culture, dated November 13, 2006, from William Booth, Chair, Toronto Public Library Board, expressing appreciation for the Ministry's 2006/2007 operating grant to the Toronto Public Library in the amount of \$4,127,362.*
- (d) *Letter to Toronto Public Library Board, dated November 6, 2006, from Jim Watson, Minister of Health Promotion, announcing the province's financial commitment in the amount of \$245,000 to the Toronto Public Library for the Consumer Health Information Service for the period of April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007.*
- (e) *Letter to The Honourable Jim Watson, Minister of Health Promotion, dated November 14, 2006, from William Booth, Chair, Toronto Public Library Board, expressing appreciation for the Ministry's grant to the Toronto Public Library for the Consumer Health Information Service for the period of April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007 in the amount of \$245,000.*

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***Items for Information:*****06-160 Book Lover's Ball**

Heather Rumball, President, Toronto Public Library Foundation provided the following verbal report regarding the 2007 Book Lover's Ball:

- (a) The 2007 Book Lover's Ball will take place on Thursday, February 15 at The Liberty Grand at Exhibition Place beginning at 6:00 p.m.
- (c) Approximately 600 guests, including celebrity authors, are expected to attend; 200 more than attended the 2006 Ball.
- (b) Guests are encouraged to dress black tie or in costume using their favourite book or character for inspiration.
- (c) The event's Honourary Co-Chairs are Mayor David Miller and Kim McArthur.
- (d) Seamus O'Regan, of CTV's *Canada AM*, will be the event's host.
- (e) Margaret Atwood will participate using *Long Pen* technology from Tokyo.
- (f) The evening will begin with a cocktail reception, followed by dinner, a fashion show, and dancing.
- (g) Renowned celebrity chef Michael Stadtländer will welcome guests with hors d'oeuvres, and chef Angie McRae and sommelier Stacey Metulynsky from the Food Network, will provide the food and drink combinations throughout the evening.
- (h) The fundraising goal for the event is \$150,000.

Board members were provided with a video presentation of the 2006 Book Lover's Ball.

To further update the Board on the Foundation's work, Gillian Mason, in her dual role as Library and Foundation Board member, advised of the Foundation's plans to implement a social marketing strategy in 2007 based on the positioning focus that Toronto Public Library is the catalyst and nexus of community building and community vitality in Toronto. Foundation updates on the progress of the plan will be provided at future Board meetings.

***Moved by L. Aspin, seconded by K. Gallagher Ross, and carried:***

***That the Toronto Public Library Board receive the Book Lover's Ball and Foundation verbal updates for information.***

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**06-161 Operating Budget Monitoring Report – September 30, 2006**

*Moved by G. Mason, seconded by K. Gallagher Ross, and carried:*

*That the Toronto Public Library Board receive the Operating Budget Monitoring Report – September 30, 2006 for information.*

**06-162 Capital Budget Monitoring Report – September 30, 2006**

*Moved by Councillor Stintz, seconded by M. Ghandikota, and carried:*

*That the Toronto Public Library Board receive the Capital Budget Monitoring Report – September 30, 2006 for information.*

**Items for Approval:**

**06-163 2007 Operating Budget – City Manager Proposed Budget**

*Moved by Councillor Davis, seconded by G. Mason, and carried:*

*That the Toronto Public Library Board:*

- (1) receive the 2007 Operating Budget – City Manager Proposed Budget report;*
- (2) review the options for reducing the 2007 operating base budget by \$2.2 million to achieve the City Manager's proposed budget; and*
- (3) agree to accept the minor service impact reductions of \$1,285,300 as outlined in Attachment 1; and*
- (4) defer a decision concerning the major service impact reductions until the January 2007 Board meeting when the Councillor representatives to the Board are officially in place.*

**06-164 Bloor/Gladstone Branch – Award of Tender**

*Moved by K. Gallagher Ross, seconded by M. Church, and carried:*

*That:*

- (1) the Toronto Public Library Board award a contract to the lowest bidder, Pre-Eng Contracting Ltd., for the renovation and expansion of the Bloor/Gladstone branch, at a cost of \$7,049,000, including applicable taxes of \$399,000; and*
- (2) the appropriate Library officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.*

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**06-165 Bloor/Gladstone Branch – Closure for Renovation**

*Moved by M. Ghandikota, seconded by Councillor Stintz, and carried:*

*That the Toronto Public Library Board approve the closure of the Bloor/Gladstone Branch for approximately one year for renovation, and that the plans for alternate service be approved for the duration of the closure.*

**Other Business**

**06-166 Mayor of All the People – Donation of Book**

Councillor Karen Stintz presented an autographed copy of Nathan Phillips' book, *Mayor of All the People*, on behalf of Councillor Gay Cowbourne, for inclusion in the Library's collection. The book was given to Councillor Cowbourne by a constituent.

**06-167 Closed Meeting Minutes**

*Moved by G. Mason, seconded by K. Gallagher Ross, and carried:*

*That the Closed Meeting minutes of the October 16, 2006 Toronto Public Library Board meeting be approved.*

**06-168 Adjournment**

*Moved by G. Mason, seconded by Councillor Davis, and carried:*

*That the November 20, 2006 Toronto Public Library Board meeting be adjourned.*

The meeting ended at 7:07 p.m.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_