

Toronto Public Library Board**Meeting No. 4: Monday, March 26, 2001, from 6:15 p.m. to 7:25 p.m.****Board Room, 789 Yonge Street, Toronto****Members Present:**

Ms. Gillian Mason (Vice-Chair)
Mr. William Booth
Mr. Meyer Brownstone
Ms. Lillian Knight
Councillor Denzil Minnan-Wong
Mr. Mark Nightingale
Ms. Marjorie Stephenson
Mr. Mitchell Weisberg

Regrets:

Mr. Rick Goldsmith (Chair)
Councillor Maria Augimeri
Councillor Olivia Chow
Councillor Mike Feldman
Councillor Joe Mihevc
Councillor Jane Pitfield
Councillor Kyle Rae

Staff Present:

Ms. Josephine Bryant, City Librarian
Ms. Anne Bailey, Acting Director,
Human Resources
Ms. Suzanna Birchwood, Director,
Marketing & Communications
Ms. Vickery Bowles, Director, East Region
Ms. Nancy Chavner, Director, West Region
Mr. Ron Dyck, Director, Information
Technology & Bibliographic Services
Ms. Linda Mackenzie, Director,
Research and Reference
Ms. Jane Pyper, Director, Service Planning and
Support
Mr. David Reddin, Director, North Region
Mr. Larry Hughsam, Acting Director,
Administration
Ms. Linda Karlinsky, Acting Director,
South Region
Mr. Bruce Barnett, Senior Manager, Facilities
Mr. Dan Keon, Senior Manager, Human
Resources
Ms. Wendy Hoover, Manager, Periodicals
and Newspapers
Ms. Kathy Scardellato, Project Leader,
Virtual Reference Library

There being no quorum of the Board at 6:00 p.m., the *NewsConnect* Internet Gateway (Information Agenda Item #9) was demonstrated to the members of the Board in attendance at that time. Wendy Hoover, Manager, Periodicals and Newspapers, and Kathy Scardellato, Project Leader, Virtual Reference Library, gave an overview of the Gateway which provides Internet access to news from around the world in over 70 languages.

01-53 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:15 p.m.

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01-54 Approval of Agenda

*Moved by M. Weisberg, seconded by L. Knight, and carried:
That the agenda be approved.*

01-55 Declarations of Interest

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

01-56 Approval of February 19, 2001 Toronto Public Library Board Meeting Minutes

*Moved by M. Weisberg, seconded by L. Knight, and carried:
That the minutes of the February 19, 2001 Toronto Public Library Board meeting be approved.*

01-57 Approval of March 5, 2001 Toronto Public Library Board Special Meeting Minutes

*Moved by M. Weisberg, seconded by G. Mason, and carried:
That the minutes of the March 5, 2001 Toronto Public Library Board Special meeting be approved.*

01-58 Business Arising

There was no business arising.

01-59 Presentation

Mr. John Wilson addressed the Board concerning the Library's 2001 operating and capital budgets. Mr. Wilson outlined a plan to communicate to the members of City Council the impact of budget cuts to library service.

01-60 Communications

*Moved by W. Booth, seconded by Councillor Minnan-Wong, and carried:
That the Toronto Public Library Board receive Communications Item (a) for information:*

- (a) *Letter from Novina Wong, City Clerk, dated March 14, 2001, to Josephine Bryant, City Librarian, Toronto Public Library, regarding the appointment by City Council of Marjorie Stephenson, Mark Nightingale, Meyer Brownstone, William R. Booth and Gillian D. Mason to the Toronto Public Library Board for a term of office to expire November 30, 2003. Also appointed by City Council as alternates should a vacancy occur on the Board during the term of Council are James Stewart Borland, Mizan Ibrahim and John Gryfe.*

Toronto Public Library Board**Meeting No. 4: Monday, March 26, 2001, from 6:15 p.m. to 7:25 p.m.****Board Room, 789 Yonge Street, Toronto***Items for Approval:***2001 Operating and 2001-2005 Capital Budgets – Status Report****01-61 2001 Operating Budget**

The City Librarian reviewed for the Board the 2001 budget process to-date including the outcome of the review with the Budget Advisory Committee on March 26, 2001. The Budget Advisory Committee asked the Library Board to consider the impact of a 3.3 percent increase over the Library's 2000 Adjusted Base Operating Budget and to report to the Committee on its recommendations. This recommendation requires a reduction of \$3.2 million to the Library's 2001 budget submission including \$464,600 in further service reductions. The Budget Advisory Committee directed the Board to look at options to achieve the \$464,600 in savings without reducing library collections or branch hours.

After discussion, it was:

Moved by M. Weisberg, seconded by M. Brownstone, and carried:

Whereas the Toronto Public Library Board has reduced its budget by 25 percent and staffing by 23 percent (535 full-time positions) since 1991; and

Whereas the Library's administration and support areas have been reduced by 36 percent over the first three years of amalgamation, and

Whereas the population has grown by 230,000 (ten percent), and the collection usage has increased by ten percent,

That the Toronto Public Library Board communicate to the Budget Advisory Committee its appreciation of the Committee's recognition of the Library's Operating Budget pressures, especially with respect to Pay Equity; and

That the Library Board is committed to achieving \$233,000 in further reductions through reduced staffing for the beginning and the end of the Sunday season and through the annualization of savings in program adjustments; and

That the Library Board will make every effort to achieve the additional \$231,600 requested by the Budget Advisory Committee by means of a thorough review of branch hour and library collection reductions, and, if a further review of non-program areas identifies any further possible efficiencies, these will be used to offset possible service reductions.

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01-62 2001 – 2005 Capital Budget

The City Librarian reported the following information concerning the Budget Advisory Committee's response to the Library's Capital Budget presentation:

- (a) The St. James Town New Construction project has been deferred to 2002 with the exception of \$150,000 for design costs for the project.
- (b) The renovations to the Runnymede, McGregor Park, Long Branch and Beaches branches have been deferred until 2002. The Committee has requested visits to the Runnymede, McGregor Park, Long Branch and Beaches branches for Committee members.
- (c) The theatre component of the Malvern renovation has been removed from the project.

After discussion, it was:

Moved by M. Weisberg, seconded by Councillor Minnan-Wong, and carried:

That:

- (1) *The Toronto Public Library Board communicate to the Budget Advisory Committee its concerns regarding the deferral of the capital budget renovations for the Runnymede, McGregor Park, Long Branch and Beaches branches especially relating to State of Good Repair issues, and that*
- (2) *The Toronto Public Library Board welcomes the opportunity to provide the members of the Budget Advisory Committee with a tour of the Runnymede, McGregor Park, Long Branch and Beaches branches.*

01-63 Official Mark for *Historicity: Toronto Then and Now*

Moved by W. Booth, seconded by Councillor Minnan-Wong, and carried:

That:

- (1) *The Toronto Public Library Board register an official mark for Historicity: Toronto Then and Now; and that*
- (2) *The appropriate staff be authorized to take the necessary action to effect this action.*

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01-64 Official Mark for *SmallBizXpress: Information for Ontario*

Moved by M. Weisberg, seconded by L. Knight, and carried:

That:

- (1) *The Toronto Public Library Board register an official mark for SmallBizXpress: Information for Ontario; and that*
- (2) *The appropriate staff be authorized to take the necessary action to effect this action.*

Other Business

01-65 Volunteer Recognition Event

Board members were reminded of the Library's annual Volunteer Recognition Event on Tuesday, April 24 at 6:00 p.m. at the Auditorium at the North York Central Library.

01-66 Adjournment

Moved by M. Weisberg, seconded by L. Knight, and carried:

That the Toronto Public Library Board meeting be adjourned.

The meeting ended at 7:25 p.m.

Signed: _____