



Toronto Public Library Board – Draft Meeting Minutes

Meeting Details

Meeting Number: 07

Date: Monday, June 23, 2025

Time: 6:05 p.m. to 8:04p.m.

Location: Toronto Reference Library, Boardroom, 789 Yonge Street and via WebEx

Members Present (in person)

Sakariya Ahmed

Deputy Mayor Paul Ainslie

Alim Remtulla (Chair)

Members Present (via WebEx)

Tamara Balan

Serda Evren

Deputy Mayor Amber Morley

Soo Wong

Regrets

Jonathan Hoss (Vice Chair)

Amina Mohamed

25-146 Call to Order

Alim Remtulla, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and welcomed all to the meeting.

Alim then introduced Vickery Bowles, City Librarian.

Vickery recognized that it is important to acknowledge that the land on which Toronto Public Library is located is Indigenous. She indicated this is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Wendat, and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Toronto Public Library gratefully acknowledges these Indigenous nations for their guardianship of this land.

Vickery then introduced the participants in the meeting.

Alim acknowledged that this was Vickery's final Board meeting as City Librarian and expressed gratitude on behalf of the Library Board for her dedication and outstanding contributions to Toronto Public Library.

25-147 Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

There were no *Declarations of Conflicts of Interest* by members of the Library Board at the June 23, 2025 meeting.

25-148 Approval of Agenda

There was a revision to the agenda. Item number 24 (TPL Foundation Framework for Space Naming Opportunities) was moved into open session and heard ahead of Item number 23 (Branch Relocation – Update).

***Moved by Deputy Mayor Amber Morley, seconded by Tamara Balan:
That the Toronto Public Library Board:***

1. *change the order of the agenda to consider item #24 (TPL Foundation Framework for Space Naming Opportunities) in open session ahead of item #23 (Branch Relocation – Update).*

Carried

25-149 Confirmation of May 26, 2025 Toronto Public Library Board Meeting Minutes

Moved by Deputy Mayor Paul Ainslie, **seconded by** Sakariya Ahmed:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *confirms the minutes of the May 26, 2025 Toronto Public Library Board meeting.*

Carried

25-150 Confirmation of May 26, 2025 Toronto Public Library Board Closed Meeting Minutes

Moved by Sakariya Ahmed, **seconded by** Serda Evren:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *confirms the minutes of the May 26, 2025 Toronto Public Library Board closed meeting.*

Carried

25-151 Confirmation of January 14, 2025 City Librarian Selection Committee Meeting Minutes

Moved by Deputy Mayor Paul Ainslie, **seconded by** Sakariya Ahmed:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *confirms the minutes of the January 14, 2025 City Librarian Selection Committee meeting.*

Carried

25-152 Confirmation of January 14, 2025 City Librarian Selection Committee Closed Meeting Minutes

Moved by Deputy Mayor Paul Ainslie, **seconded by** Sakariya Ahmed:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *confirms the minutes of the January 14, 2025 City Librarian Selection Committee closed meeting.*

Carried

25-153 Confirmation of March 25, 2025 City Librarian Selection Committee Meeting Minutes

***Moved by* Sakariya Ahmed, *seconded by* Serda Evren:**

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *confirms the minutes of the March 25, 2025 City Librarian Selection Committee meeting.*

Carried

25-154 Confirmation of March 25, 2025 City Librarian Selection Committee Closed Meeting Minutes

***Moved by* Sakariya Ahmed, *seconded by* Serda Evren:**

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *confirms the minutes of the March 25, 2025 City Librarian Selection Committee closed meeting.*

Carried

25-155 Approval of Consent Agenda Items

***Moved by* Deputy Mayor Amber Morley, *seconded by* Serda Evren:**

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *approves the consent agenda.*

Carried

25-156 Business Arising from the Minutes

There were no *Business Arising from the Minutes* items at the June 23, 2025 meeting.

25-157 City Librarian's Report (Received by Consent)

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *receives the City Librarian's Report for information.*

Carried

25-158 Communications

Moved by Deputy Mayor Paul Ainslie, **seconded by** Sakariya Ahmed:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. receives the Communications report for information.

Carried

25-159 Presentations:

There were no *Presentations* at the June 23, 2025 meeting.

Items for Action

25-160 2024 Audited Financial Statements – Toronto Public Library Board

Alim Remtulla introduced Kevin Travers, Partner, KPMG; and Marco Cuoco, Director, Finance & CFO. Marco and Kevin reviewed highlights of the audited financial statements for the Board.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Amber Morley, **seconded by** Deputy Mayor Paul Ainslie:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. approves the 2024 Audited Financial Statements of the Toronto Public Library Board, appended as Attachment 1;
2. recommends that City Council receive via Audit Committee, the 2024 Audited Financial Statements, in Attachment 1 of this report dated June 23, 2025, and the Audit Findings in Attachment 1 of the report titled "Audit Findings Report – Year Ended December 31, 2024 – Toronto Public Library Board" dated May 26, 2025;
3. authorize the City Librarian, on behalf of the Board, to submit the Board's recommendation and materials in Recommendation 2, once approved by the Board at its meeting on June 23, 2025, to the Audit Committee Administrator for submission to Audit Committee and City Council.

Carried

Items for Information

25-161 TPL Board Education – Centre for Democracy Update

Pam Ryan, Director, Service Development & Innovation, and Will Scott, Chief Executive Officer, Toronto Public Library Foundation, delivered a presentation on the Centre for Democracy.

The presentation provided an overview of the work completed to date to develop a vision and service model for a learning and engagement centre focused on celebrating, practicing and promoting democratic values. Will shared a fundraising update and emphasized the strong donor support for fundraising initiatives in this area.

Deputy Mayor Amber Morley noted the importance of this work and requested that the Library prepare a list of TPL's current democracy-related programs and initiatives to be shared with the Board.

Moved by Serda Evren, seconded by Sakariya Ahmed:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. receives the Centre for Democracy Update presentation for information.

Carried

Items for Action

25-162 Financial Empowerment Service – Award of Contract (Approved by Consent)

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. approves the award of contract to North York Community House for Financial Empowerment Service at four TPL locations for a total potential value of \$1,537,546.80 excluding HST, comprised of:
 - a. Three-year base term from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2028, for \$903,194.26; and
 - b. Two one-year option renewal periods, subject to satisfactory performance and at the sole discretion of the City Librarian, for a total potential additional contract value of \$634,370.54 comprised of:
 1. July 1, 2028, to June 30, 2029, for \$313,957.14
 2. July 1, 2029, to June 30, 2030, for \$320,413.40

2. *approves the award of contract to WoodGreen Community Services for Financial Empowerment Service at one TPL location for a total potential value of \$523,006.50 excluding HST, comprised of:*
 - a. *Three-year base term from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2028, for \$307,676.31; and*
 - b. *Two one-year option renewal periods, subject to satisfactory performance and at the sole discretion of the City Librarian, for a total potential additional contract value of \$215,330.19 comprised of:*
 1. *July 1, 2028, to June 30, 2029, for \$106,616.69*
 2. *July 1, 2029, to June 30, 2030, for \$108,713.50*

Carried

25-163 Pleasant View Branch Expansion and Renovation Project – Award of Construction Contract and Budget Adjustment

Motions:

See the following:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Paul Ainslie, seconded by Sakariya Ahmed:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *I move that Item number 18: Pleasant View Branch Expansion and Renovation Project – Award of Construction Contract and Budget Adjustment; and Item number 19: Pleasant View Branch Expansion and Renovation Project – Increase to Architect Contract be deferred until a later date, to allow for further due diligence of the tender and award for the Pleasant View Branch Expansion and Renovation Project.*

Carried

25-164 Pleasant View Branch Expansion and Renovation Project – Increase to Architect Contract

Motions:

See the following:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Paul Ainslie, ***seconded by*** Sakariya Ahmed:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *I move that Item number 18: Pleasant View Branch Expansion and Renovation Project – Award of Construction Contract and Budget Adjustment; and Item number 19: Pleasant View Branch Expansion and Renovation Project – Increase to Architect Contract be deferred until a later date, to allow for further due diligence of the tender and award for the Pleasant View Branch Expansion and Renovation Project.*

Carried

25-165 Purchasing Policy - Update

Marco Cuoco, Director, Finance & CFO reviewed highlights of the report for the Board.

Moved by Sakariya Ahmed, ***seconded by*** Deputy Mayor Paul Ainslie:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *approves the revised Purchasing Policy as amended in Attachment 1;*
 - a. Schedule B Temporary Provisions in response to tariffs*
 - b. General Amendments to Toronto Public Library's Purchasing Policy*

The proposed changes will be implemented through updated provisions in Toronto Public Library (TPL) tendering documents and will take effect as of July 2, 2025.

Carried

25-166 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2025 - 2029

Brian Daly, Director, Human Resources, and Darren Cooper, Manager, Accessibility reviewed highlights of the report for the Board.

Moved by Soo Wong, **seconded by** Serda Evren:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *endorse the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2025-2029, as outlined in attachment 1 of the report.*

Carried

25-167 Bridge Platform – Extension of Contract (Approved by Consent)

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *approve a contract extension and increase to the commitment with Thinksmart Technologies FC LLC for Bridge platform hosting, licensing, technical support and enhancements for a total estimated value of \$490,000 which increases the value of the contract from \$500,000 to \$990,000 for the period January 1, 2026, to December 31, 2028.*

Carried

25-168 TPL Foundation Framework for Space Naming Opportunities

Will Scott, Chief Executive Officer, Toronto Public Library Foundation, and Shawn Mitchell, Director, Policy, Planning, & Performance Management reviewed highlights of the report for the Board.

Moved by Sakariya Ahmed, **seconded by** Soo Wong:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *approves the TPL Foundation Framework for Space Naming Recognition Opportunities as included in Attachment 1;*
2. *directs TPL staff to work with the TPL Foundation to bring naming opportunities related to the TPL Foundation Framework for Space Naming Recognition Opportunities to the TPL Board Naming Committee and Library Board for concept approval in compliance with the Naming Policy;*
3. *receives for information the confidential memorandum in Attachment 2 to the report; and*

4. *holds the information contained in Attachment 2 to the report in confidence, not to be released publicly, in order to protect the confidence, not to be released publicly, in order to protect the competitive position and future economic interests of TPL.*

Carried

Closed Meeting

25-169 Closed Meeting

At 7:14pm p.m., it was:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Paul Ainslie, **seconded by** Serda Evren:
That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *conducts a Closed meeting as the subject matter being considered (TPL Foundation Framework for Space Naming Opportunities – Confidential Attachment 2; Branch Relocation; Reducing Seniors Social Isolation – Fundraising Update) involves security of the security of the property of the Board; and (City Librarian Selection Committee Report) personal matters concerning an identifiable individual. Public Libraries Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter P. 44, s. 16.1(4).*

Carried

At 8:03 p.m., the Board resumed its meeting in public.

25-170 Adoption of Closed Meeting Actions: Branch Relocation - Update

Moved by Serda Evren, **seconded by** Deputy Mayor Amber Morley:
That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *receives the confidential branch relocation verbal report for information.*

Carried

25-171 Adoption of Closed Meeting Actions: Reducing Seniors Social Isolation

Moved by Tamara Balan **seconded by** Soo Wong:
That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *receives the confidential Reducing Seniors Social Isolation verbal report for information.*

Carried

25-172 Adoption of Closed Meeting Actions: City Librarian Selection Committee report

Deputy Mayor Paul Ainslie called for a recorded vote on this item, which passed unanimously.

***Moved by* Sakariya Ahmed, *seconded by* Deputy Mayor Paul Ainslie:
*That the Toronto Public Library Board:***

- 1. approve the recommendations in the City Librarian Selection Committee tabled report.***

Carried

25-173 Adjournment

***Moved by* Soo Wong, *seconded by* Tamara Balan:**

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

- 1. adjourns the June 23, 2025 Toronto Public Library Board meeting.***

Carried

The meeting ended at 8:04 p.m.

Signed:_____