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**STAFF REPORT
INFORMATION ONLY**

IT Security - Annual Report

Date: September 29, 2025

To: Toronto Public Library Board

From: City Librarian

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for the Toronto Public Library Board to receive the IT Security Annual Report which includes updates on Toronto Public Library's (TPL) compliance with the City of Toronto's Cybersecurity Compliance Program (formerly Cybersecurity Confirmation Program).

TPL is committed to achieving a safe and secure IT environment, including a targeted level of protection from internal and external cybersecurity threats. This objective is achieved through the IT Security, Risk & Governance Program which represents TPL's comprehensive approach to cybersecurity management.

The IT Security, Risk & Governance Program operates within the "Enable IT Security Advancement" workstream of the Digital Strategy 2025-2029. This program is designed to mature cybersecurity controls, processes, tools and measures while maintaining alignment with the National Institute of Standards

and Technology (NIST) Cyber Security Framework and the City of Toronto's Compliance Program.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

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

The Director, Finance & Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this financial impact statement and agrees with it.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

To enable TPL's Strategic Plan 2025-2029, a safe and secure IT environment is essential for both staff and customers. A key activity within the Digital Strategy 2025-2029 is to adopt a modern security approach to improve cybersecurity and TPL's overall security posture. Meeting this objective continues to include enhancements of IT security controls, investment in robust IT security solutions, and increased collaboration with strategic partners.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The IT Security, Risk & Governance Program will enable equitable access to technology in a secure manner that protects the privacy and confidentiality of customers and staff. The maturity of TPL's security posture will promote confidence that TPL protects people's information, identities and activities to participate in the digital world.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting on April 22, 2025, the Library Board considered and approved TPL's 2025-2029 Digital Strategy. IT security advancements were included in the Digital Strategy.

At its Feb 24, 2025 meeting, the TPL Board received an Annual Risk Register - Update. Cybersecurity risks were reported in the update.

At its meeting on September 23, 2024, the Board received the [IT Security – Annual Report](#).

At its meeting on February 26, 2024 the Board received the [Cybersecurity report on the investigation into TPL's cybersecurity attack](#).

At its December 4, 2023 meeting, the TPL Board received an [Annual Risk Register - Update](#). Cybersecurity risks were reported in the update.

At its meeting on March 27, 2023, the Board received the [IT Security – Annual Report](#).

At its September 19, 2022 meeting, the TPL Board received an [Annual Risk Register - Update](#). Cybersecurity risks were reported in the update.

At its December 6, 2021 meeting, the Board approved the [Information Security Policy](#) and TPL's participation in the City of Toronto's Cybersecurity Confirmation program.

At its meeting on [November 9, 2021,](#) City Council made a motion requesting that the Library Board direct TPL to participate in the Cybersecurity Confirmation Program: *AU10.4 Auditor General's Cybersecurity Review: Toronto Fire Services Critical System Review*.

At its [April 7, 2021](#) meeting, City Council received a report from the Auditor General on Cybersecurity Incidents at the City and its Agencies and Corporations: Integrated Incident Response Plan is Needed: Auditor General's Report in Item 2021.AU8.9

At its October 25, 2021 meeting, the TPL Board received an [update to the Risk Register](#). IT Security risks are included in this report.

At its January 25, 2021 meeting, the TPL Board approved the [Digital Strategy 2020-2024](#). IT Security Advancement was a focus area in the digital strategy action plan.

COMMENTS

The IT Security, Risk & Governance Program represents TPL's comprehensive approach to cybersecurity management. This program operates within the "Enable IT Security Advancement" workstream of the Digital Strategy 2025-2029. The IT Security, Risk & Governance Program is designed to mature cybersecurity controls, processes, tools and measures while maintaining alignment with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cyber Security Framework and the City of Toronto's Compliance Program.

TPL's Information Security Policy has the following guiding principles:
- Use a common industry standards-based approach for enterprise security: National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cyber Security Framework;
- Align with TPL's Enterprise Risk Management policy; and
- Align with the City of Toronto Cyber Security policy.

The Information Security Policy formalizes TPL's commitment to information security and designates the authority for governance with the Director, Digital Strategy & Chief Information Officer. The Policy also defines a core set of controls, establishes roles and accountabilities, and provides direction on compliance and exceptions. As per the Information Security Policy, a report will be regularly submitted to the Board outlining information security risks and major cyber security incidents.

TPL's level of maturity across the NIST Cyber Security Framework was once again assessed in 2025. The subsequent report has demonstrated a sustainment of TPL's IT security controls and Cyber Security Framework (see Confidential Attachment 1).

TPL continues to participate in the City of Toronto's Compliance Program. The program provides an independent assessment on twelve security controls across all participating agencies. These security controls are aligned with TPL's overall Cyber Security Framework.

CONCLUSION

TPL's IT Security, Governance & Risk Program is based on leading practices to ensure a safe and secure IT environment. TPL has made many IT security

improvements during service recovery from the cybersecurity incident to develop a more secure posture. By maintaining and improving policy, practices and technology, the risk of internal and external cyber security threats continues to be reduced.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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Moe Hosseini-Ara
City Librarian

ATTACHMENTS

Confidential Attachment 1   IT Security – Annual Report