

As the public announcement has been made (see September 21, 2015 – Agenda Item No. 22 – Naming Opportunity – Toronto Reference Library report – Rec. No. 2), Confidential Attachment No. 1 is now public in its entirety.

Naming Recognition: The Founder's Room

Date:	September 21, 2015
To:	Toronto Public Library Board
From:	City Librarian

CONFIDENTIAL RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Librarian recommends that the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. approves naming a public meeting room adjacent to the renovated Administration reception area, The Founders' Room;
2. approves that the naming will be recognized through the installation of appropriate signage; and
3. holds this matter in confidence until such time that the founders have been informed. At such time, the general terms of this confidential attachment will be made public.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

Summary

This report recommends that the Toronto Public Library Board approves a public meeting room adjacent to the renovated Administration reception area on the main floor of the Toronto Reference Library, **The Founders' Room**. This naming would help serve to recognize the exceptional contributions made to Toronto Public Library and to the Toronto Public Library Foundation by its founders Richard Boxer and Janet McKelvey since 1997.

Accompanying the naming, a plaque inside the meeting room would recognize Richard Boxer and Janet McKelvey as founders of the Toronto Public Library Foundation.

Financial Impact

Funding for the recognition will be provided by the Toronto Public Library Foundation. The Director, Finance and Treasurer has reviewed this financial impact statement and is in agreement with it.

Decision History

The Toronto Public Library Foundation presented its 2014 Annual Report at the June 22, 2014 Toronto Public Library Board Meeting. During this presentation the Foundation noted the exemplary efforts of the founders, Richard Boxer and Janet McKelvey, both of whom completed their board term as of May 28, 2015. The Library Board in turn requested "staff to report to the Board at the September meeting on recognition for long-serving Toronto Public Library Foundation Board members, Richard Boxer and Janet McKelvey."

The Library Board approved a Naming Policy on June 19, 2006, and adopted revisions to it on May 26, 2014. This policy provides the Toronto Public Library Board with the

responsibility for approving the naming of all Library branches, rooms, programs and collections.

The policy builds on the Library's history of naming branches, rooms, programs and collections for their location, function, or subject or in recognition of an individual or gift, and sets out criteria and conditions for naming.

Comments

The Library's Naming Policy sets out criteria for the honorary naming of rooms. The policy states that consideration "may be given to naming of rooms after an individual whose contribution to the Library or the City of Toronto is well documented and is widely recognized and valued."

Appropriateness of the Naming

Both Janet McKelvey and Richard Boxer have made a substantial contribution to the Toronto Public Library through their efforts with the Toronto Public Library Foundation. They served on the Foundation from its inception in 1997 until 2015. Janet McKelvey served as Foundation Board of Directors Chair from 2002 - 2012 and Richard Boxer served as Chair from 1997 - 2000.

Richard Boxer and Janet McKelvey are also closely associated with the Toronto Reference Library; in the 1990's Richard served on the former Metropolitan Toronto Library Board and in 1997, they established the Metropolitan Toronto Reference Library Foundation.

Toronto Public Library Foundation

Janet McKelvey and Richard Boxer founded the Toronto Public Library Foundation and were its longest serving members. The purpose of the Foundation "*is to build a city of life-long readers, learners and creators for a successful Toronto.*"

In 1996, financial constraints forced the Toronto Reference Library to reduce hours and lay off staff, forcing the Board to consider selling its most valuable possession, the magnificent 435 life-sized hand-coloured engravings created in the 1830's by John James Audubon. The Foundation formed to raise the funds to ensure that the collection would remain in the Toronto Public Library's possession and in the public domain, and to ensure continued support for the Library's services, programs, and collections.

Since 1997, over \$69 million has been raised by the Foundation in support of Toronto Public Library. Funds raised by the Foundation have helped support priorities, such as the development of early literacy, creativity, and writing skills in young children, and financial literacy skills and small business support. Funds raised have contributed to programs such as Ready for Reading, KidsStop Interactive Early Literacy Centres, and Home Library Services.

Innovative partnerships established by the Foundation include the TD Summer Reading Club, a program launched in Toronto, which has since become national, promoting children's

summer long to prepare them for returning to school in the fall; and the Sun Life Financial Museum & Arts Pass (MAP), which has enabled thousands of families to explore the best of Toronto's arts and cultural treasures for free.

The Toronto Public Library Foundation continues to raise substantial funds, and to promote awareness of the Toronto Public library and its benefits to the City.

Philanthropic work

Janet McKelvey has spent 40 years involved with philanthropy. Her volunteer pursuits include: The Canadian Tire Foundation/Canadian Tire Foundation for Families Toronto Public Library Foundation Board of Directors; Shaw Festival Board of Directors; and TRIP Canada (Founder).

Richard Boxer has been involved in on the boards of various not-for-profit organizations including: Toronto Rehab Hospital, the Canadian Paraplegic Association and Toronto Public Library Foundation.

Donations to Toronto Public Library

In addition to founding the Toronto Public Library Foundation, Richard and Janet have been among its most generous donors, setting an example for others to follow and both have fostered a much wider appreciation achieved for the vital contributions Toronto Public Library makes to our city every day.

General Terms

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Since 1997, over \$69 million has been raised by the Foundation in support of Toronto Public Library. As noted above, in addition to founding the Toronto Public Library Foundation, Richard and Janet have been among its most generous donors.

A public meeting room adjacent to the renovated Administration reception area of the Toronto Reference Library will be named, The Founders' Room and this will be recognized through the installation of appropriate signage, namely a plaque inside the meeting room recognizing Richard Boxer and Janet McKelvey as Founders of the Toronto Public Library Foundation.

Terms of Announcement

The Toronto Public Library Foundation requests that this matter be held in confidence by Toronto Public Library until such time that the founders have been informed. At such time, the general terms of this confidential attachment will be made public.