



Toronto Public Library Board - Draft Meeting Minutes

Meeting Details

Meeting Number: 01

Date: Monday, January 26, 2026

Time: 6:01 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

Location: via WebEx and Teleconference

Members Present (via WebEx)

Alim Remtulla (Chair)

Jonathan Hoss (Vice Chair)

Sakariya Ahmed

Tamara Balan

Ben Liu

Deputy Mayor Amber Morley

Amina Mohamed

Soo Wong

Regrets

Deputy Mayor Paul Ainslie

Serda Evren

26-001 Call to Order

Moe Hosseini-Ara, City Librarian, called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and welcomed all to the meeting.

Moe recognized that it is important to acknowledge that the land on which Toronto Public Library is located is Indigenous. He 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.

Moe then introduced the participants in the meeting.

26-002 Election of the Chair of the Board

Moe Hosseini-Ara called for nominations for the Chair of the Toronto Public Library Board.

Moved by Jonathan Hoss, ***seconded by*** Ben Liu:

That:

1. *Alim Remtulla be nominated for Chair.*

Carried

Alim Remtulla agreed to stand for election.

There being no further nominations, it was:

Moved by Sakariya Ahmed, ***seconded by*** Jonathan Hoss:

That:

1. *nominations be closed.*

Carried

Moe Hosseini-Ara declared Alim Remtulla duly re-elected Chair of the Toronto Public Library Board by acclamation.

Alim Remtulla assumed the Chair.

26-003 Election of Vice Chair of the Board

Alim Remtulla called for nominations for the Vice Chair of the Toronto Public Library Board.

Moved by Amina Mohamed, seconded by Sakariya Ahmed:

That:

1. *Jonathan Hoss be nominated for Vice Chair.*

Carried

Jonathan Hoss agreed to stand for election.

There being no further nominations, it was:

Moved by Sakariya Ahmed, seconded by Tamara Balan:

That:

1. *nominations be closed.*

Carried

Alim Remtulla declared Jonathan Hoss duly re-elected Vice Chair of the Toronto Public Library Board.

26-004 Selection of Committee Members, Board Representatives and Association Members – 2026

Moved by Amina Mohamed, seconded by Soo Wong:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *appoints Amina Mohamed to the City Librarian's Performance Review Committee;*
2. *appoints Sakariya Ahmed to the role of Board Liaison to Youth Advisors;*
3. *appoints Alim Remtulla to the Toronto Public Library Foundation Board;*
4. *appoints Jonathan Hoss, Deputy Mayor Amber Morley, and Amina Mohamed to the Naming Committee; and*
5. *appoints Ben Liu to the Board of the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries.*

Carried

26-005 Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

There were no *Declarations of Conflicts of Interest* by members of the Library Board at the January 26, 2026 meeting.

26-006 Approval of Agenda

Moved by Jonathan Hoss, **seconded by** Deputy Mayor Amber Morley:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. approves the agenda.

Carried

26-007 Confirmation of December 01, 2025 Toronto Public Library Board Meeting Minutes

Moved by Ben Liu, **seconded by** Amina Mohamed:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. confirms the minutes of the December 01, 2025 Toronto Public Library Board meeting.

Carried

26-008 Confirmation of December 01, 2025 Toronto Public Library Board Closed Meeting Minutes

Moved by Amina Mohamed, **seconded by** Soo Wong:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. confirms the minutes of the December 01, 2025 Toronto Public Library Board closed meeting.

Carried

26-009 Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Moved by Amina Mohamed, **seconded by** Soo Wong:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. approves the consent agenda.

Carried

26-010 Business Arising from the Minutes

There were no *Business Arising from the Minutes* items at the January 26, 2026 meeting.

26-011 City Librarian's Report (Received by Consent)

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

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

Carried

26-012 Communications (Received by Consent)

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. receives the Communications report for information.

Carried

26-013 Presentations:

There were no *Presentations* at the January 26, 2026 meeting.

26-014 TPL Board Education - Cities for Digital Rights

Pam Ryan, Director, Service Development & Innovation, Ab Velasco, Manager, Innovation (AI Services), and Fiona O'Connor, Senior Services Specialist, Digital Literacy Initiatives delivered a presentation on the Cities for Digital Rights.

The presentation highlighted TPL's participation in the international Cities for Digital Rights coalition, an initiative dedicated to advancing digital rights-based policymaking that promotes freedom, security, and equitable access to the benefits of digital technology.

Deputy Mayor Amber Morley noted the importance and relevance of this work particularly with respect to the upcoming municipal election.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Amber Morley, **seconded by** Sakariya Ahmed:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. receives the Cities for Digital Rights presentation for information.

Carried

Items for Action

26-015 Naming New Branch – 3755 Bloor Street West

Shawn Mitchell, Director, Policy, Planning & Performance Management, and Heather Mathis, Acting Director, Branch Operations & Customer Experience reviewed highlights of the report for the Board.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Amber Morley, seconded by Amina Mohamed: That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *approves Etobicoke Civic Centre as the name for the new library branch located at 3755 Bloor Street West.*

Carried

26-016 Revised 2026-2035 Capital Budget and Plan Submission

Marco Cuoco, Director, Finance & Chief Financial Officer, reviewed highlights of the report for the Board.

Moved by Amina Mohamed, seconded by Sakariya Ahmed: That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *approves the revised 2026-2035 Capital Budget and Plan submission of \$72.776 million gross (\$51.087 million debt) for 2026 (including \$1.732 million of 2025 carry-forwards) and \$630.236 million gross (\$473.360 million debt) over 2026-2035, comprised of 19 projects as detailed in Attachment 1;*
2. *authorizes staff to forward this revised Capital Budget and Plan submission to the City for consideration.*

Carried

26-017 Adobe Licenses – Award of Contract (Approved by Consent)

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *award the contract to CDW Canada for the supply of Adobe software licenses for a five-year term at a cost of approximately \$1,188,000 excluding HST, comprised of a three-year term from January 21, 2026 to January 20, 2029 with a contract value of \$643,000; and*
2. *two one-year optional renewal periods for a total potential additional contract value of \$545,000, coverage periods January 21, 2029 to January 20, 2030 and January 21, 2030 to January 20, 2031 respectively.*

Carried

26-018 Toronto Public Library Board – 2026 Meeting Dates Schedule

(Approved by Consent)

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *approves the Toronto Public Library Board 2026 meeting dates schedule.*

Carried

Items for Information

26-019 2026 Operating Budget - Update

Marco Cuoco, Director, Finance & Chief Financial Officer, provided a verbal report to the Board.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Amber Morley, **seconded by** Sakariya Ahmed:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. *receives the 2026 Operating Budget- Update verbal report for information.*

Carried

26-020 Intellectual Freedom Challenges – 2025 Annual Report

Lisa Radha Vohra, Director, Collections & Membership Services, and Matt Abbott, Senior Manager, Collection Development reviewed highlights of the report for the Board.

Moved by Amina Mohamed, seconded by Tamara Balan:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. receives the Intellectual Freedom Challenges – 2025 Annual Report for information.

Carried

26-021 Reimagining tpl.ca (the Digital Experience Platform Project) - Update

Lisa Radha Vohra, Director, Collections & Membership Services, and Steve Till-Rogers, Director, Digital Strategy & Chief Information Officer reviewed highlights of the report for the Board.

Board members congratulated the team on the implementation of the new platform and app and expressed their enthusiasm for exploring the various features.

Moved by Ben Liu, seconded by Soo Wong:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. receives the Reimagining tpl.ca (the Digital Experience Platform Project) - Update report for information.

Carried

26-022 Adjournment

Moved by Tamara Balan, seconded by Amina Mohamed:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. adjourns the January 26, 2026 Toronto Public Library Board meeting.

Carried

The meeting ended at 7:15 p.m.

Signed: _____