



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Naming New Branch – 3755 Bloor Street West

Date: January 26, 2026
To: Toronto Public Library Board
From: City Librarian

SUMMARY

A new library branch is being built in the Bloor-Kipling area of Etobicoke, located at 3755 Bloor Street West. The library branch will be located within the new Etobicoke Civic Centre, a mixed-use building with a community centre, library, community Council Chambers and municipal offices. The purpose of this report is to recommend approval of the name as Etobicoke Civic Centre branch.

The anticipated opening of the library branch will take place in late 2028/early 2029. A name must be assigned to the new branch early in the construction, as the branch name affects many components of the capital project such as the development of collections, cataloguing and how the branch is identified within our various library databases. Being based on geographic location, the recommended name complies with the Toronto Public Library's Naming Policy which outlines the protocol and preferred names for Toronto Public Library branches, rooms, programs and collections.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Librarian recommends 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.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact beyond what has already been approved in the current Capital budget.

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

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

The opportunities identified in this report support the 2025-2029 Strategic Plan priority of Shared Community Spaces by accelerating enhancements of our physical spaces to ensure that Torontonians have access to up-to-date multi-use library spaces that cater to diverse needs in every neighbourhood in the city.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

TPL's Equity Statement outlines the library's commitment to creating and maintaining work and public service environments where everyone is welcomed, included and supported, and that are grounded in tolerance and mutual respect, so that library customers, stakeholders, staff and the public can freely and equitably access or deliver library services, which meet the changing needs of Torontonians. The naming opportunities presented in this report have been considered in alignment with TPL's Naming Policy and Equity Statement.

DECISION HISTORY

At its [March 24, 2025 meeting](#), the Toronto Public Library Board approved TPL's updated [Naming Policy](#).

ISSUE BACKGROUND

TPL's [Naming Policy](#) requires that names for library branches be approved by the Board. The policy identifies that the Library will give priority to naming its buildings after their geographic location, either the community or the street location where they are situated. Alternatively, the Policy states that consideration will be given to naming, where appropriate, after the type of service or function offered at that branch; in exceptional circumstances, consideration will be given to naming a branch after an individual whose contribution to the Library or the City of Toronto, is well documented and is widely recognized and valued.

Toronto Public Library established the practice of naming its branches for their geographic locations when it opened its first branch, Northern, in 1884 in what was the northern part of the city. Since then, the majority of branches have been named for their geographic location. The naming of branches after the geographic location provides a sense of place and identity for the branch, as well as provides a clear indication of the location to make it easy for customers to find the branch.

COMMENTS

The new library branch in Etobicoke will be located at 3755 Bloor Street West within the new Etobicoke Civic Centre (formerly the Westwood Theatre Land). The Etobicoke Civic Centre will be a mixed-use building comprised of municipal offices, Council Chambers, community gathering spaces, childcare centre, library, public health clinic and recreation centre, designed to support and engage all residents of Etobicoke regardless of age, gender, culture, ability, and social standing by creating a sustainable, dynamic, inviting, and friendly environment.

The anticipated opening of the library branch will take place in late 2028/early 2029. A name must be assigned to the new branch early in the construction, as the branch name affects many components of the capital project such as the development of collections, cataloguing and branch is identified and various library databases.

In accordance with the [Naming Policy](#), Etobicoke Civic Centre is the recommended name for the new branch as it indicates the geographic location and community where the branch will be situated. The name is also consistent with the approach

for other branches co-located in municipal buildings such as the Scarborough Civic Centre branch and the City Hall branch. The local councillor has been consulted and is in agreement with this name.

The new library branch will measure approximately 27,211 square feet. It will have a collection size of up to 100,000 items with zoned areas for adults, children and teens, as well as:

- a Digital Innovation Hub
- a studio space
- an interactive early literacy centre (KidsStop)
- a Youth Hub
- a dedicated program space
- flexible spaces for co-working, studying, relaxing and connecting with the community
- options for study and seating

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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City Librarian



Overview of TPL's Naming Policy and Naming Opportunity - 3755 Bloor Street West

January 26, 2026

Naming policy overview

- TPL's Naming Policy establishes approval process and types of names for branches, rooms, programs, or collections
- Policy last updated in March 2025, along with TPL's Sponsorship Policy
- Naming Policy includes criteria for naming based on four types of names:
 - geographic location, function or subject;
 - commemoration of individuals and communities of significance;
 - naming in recognition of donations; and
 - naming as part of a corporate sponsorship agreement.

Naming approval Process

- TPL Board is responsible for approving the naming of all branches
 - Naming Committee may be established to make recommendations to the Board, at the discretion of the City Librarian
- TPL Board is also responsible for approving the names of rooms, programs and collections where there is a commemorative name or a name in recognition of a donor or sponsor
 - No commitment regarding naming will be made to an individual or corporation prior to the TPL Board's approval of the name.
 - Naming Committee may be established to make recommendations to the Board, at the discretion of the City Librarian



Four types of naming opportunities

1) Geographic location, function or subject

- Priority is given to naming for geographic location or function
- Branches: Community or street location, or in some cases type of service or function
 - e.g. Bloor/Gladstone, Toronto Reference Library
- Rooms: Branch location plus function
 - e.g. York Woods Theatre
- Collections: Subject matter
 - e.g. Jewish Mosaic Collection
- Programs: Function, content and presenters
 - e.g. Seniors Book Club, Ready for Reading Storytime

2) Commemorative naming

- The updates to the Naming Policy include considerations for commemorative naming, including Indigenous names, that align with the City's Commemorative Naming Framework.
- Naming in commemoration of prominent individuals or communities of significance
 - Branches: e.g. Daniel G. Hill Branch, Ethennonnhawahstihnen Branch (Indigenous name)
 - Rooms: e.g. Gladys Allison North York History Room

3) Naming in recognition of donors

- The Naming Policy clarifies that the Library will consider naming branches, rooms, programs or collections after a donor, in recognition of significant financial contribution to the Library.
 - Branches: e.g. Barbara Frum Branch
 - Event space: e.g. Bram & Bluma Appel Salon at the Toronto Reference Library
 - Rooms: e.g. Gwen Liu Meeting Room

4) Naming as part of corporate sponsorship

- The Naming Policy clarifies language related to sponsorships, in alignment with TPL's updated Sponsorship Policy.
- The policy updates clarify that the Library will consider naming rooms, programs or collections as part of a corporate sponsorship proposal in recognition of significant financial contribution to the Library.
- Naming of branches will not be considered for corporate sponsorship.
 - Programs: TD Summer Reading Club

TPLF Framework for Space Naming Recognition Opportunities

- In June 2025, the TPL Foundation (TPLF) presented a Framework for Space Naming Recognition Opportunities, which was approved by the Board.
- The Framework provides minimum **donation and sponsorship** levels for naming opportunities specific to branches and different internal and external spaces at TPL Research and Reference, District and Neighbourhood branches.
- The Framework supports fundraising efforts by the TPL Foundation, on behalf of the Library, in compliance with the Library Board's Naming Policy.



Current naming opportunity

3755 Bloor Street West – geographic location

- A new library branch is being built at 3755 Bloor Street West within the new Etobicoke Civic Centre
- Etobicoke Civic Centre is the recommended name for the new branch
- Aligned with the Naming Policy in indicating the geographic location and community where the branch will be situated
- Also consistent with names of other branches co-located in municipal buildings such as the Scarborough Civic Centre branch and the City Hall branch

Recommendation

- Approves Etobicoke Civic Centre as the name for the new library branch located at 3755 Bloor Street West
 - Approval for naming the Etobicoke Civic Centre branch is being brought directly to the Board due to timing considerations, direct alignment with the Naming Policy and given the nature of the proposed name
 - A name must be assigned early in construction, as it affects many components of the capital project such as the development of collections and cataloguing.
 - The local councillor has been consulted and is in agreement with this name.

Upcoming Naming Opportunities

- Dufferin/St. Clair children's room (referral from October 27, 2025 Board meeting) – commemorative
- Dawes Road – commemorative (Indigenous name)
- Potential donor or corporate sponsorship opportunities - Interior spaces associated with upcoming capital projects (e.g. St. Lawrence, Flemingdon Park)