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STAFF REPORT INFORMATION ONLY

2025 Fundraising Update

Date: February 23, 2026

To: Toronto Public Library Board

From: City Librarian

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on major gift fundraising and sponsorships secured by the Toronto Public Library Foundation (TPL Foundation) in 2025, and how they align with the Toronto Public Library Board (TPL Board) approved fundraising priorities. Some amounts reported as 2025 fundraising represent multi-year gifts, which are recorded in the year they are secured.

Using the TPL Board's February 2025 approval of Toronto Public Library's (TPL's) fundraising priorities for 2025-2029 as guidance, 2025 fundraising initiatives for major gifts over \$25,000 were developed to support the fundraising efforts of the TPL Foundation.

Some sponsorship funding was received in 2025 although the majority of 2025 donor giving continued to be philanthropic donations. In keeping with TPL's Sponsorship Policy reporting expectations, two sponsorships over \$500,000 were received in 2025: the sponsorship and naming of the Summer Reading Club and the sponsorship of TPL's AI Upskilling initiative. Both were approved by the Board

in 2025. All other 2025 sponsorships are highlighted in this report and were valued under \$500,000 and approved by the City Librarian, in accordance with the Sponsorship Policy.

Information about annual allocations to TPL from endowments held by the TPL Foundation and information on fundraising amounts below the major gift threshold are not included in this report.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The TPL Foundation's contributions to TPL's programs and services supplements TPL's approved capital and operating budgets.

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

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

The 2025-2029 strategic plan outlines four strategic priorities where TPL is to focus and invest over the five years of the strategic plan: Social connection, civic engagement and democracy; Shared community spaces; Learning and growth; and Awareness and availability. TPL has also made a commitment to focus on equity in everything we do - to understand and break down barriers to access and increase inclusion. The 2025-2029 fundraising priorities and the 2025 major gift fundraising initiatives are directly aligned with these strategic plan priorities and goals.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The 2025-2029 fundraising priorities were developed to help TPL meet its strategic plan goals to focus on equity. All 2025 fundraising opportunities were considered with the application of an equity lens that ensures the ongoing review of increasing access and removal of barriers for equity-deserving groups across the city.

DECISION HISTORY

At its February 24, 2025 meeting, the Library Board approved the [2025-2029 Fundraising Priorities](#) report and received the [2024 Fundraising Update](#) report for information.

At its October 27, 2025 meeting, the Library Board approved the [Renewal of Sponsorship and Naming of the Summer Reading Club](#) report.

At its December 2, 2024 meeting, the Library Board approved the [Sponsorship for TPL AI Upskilling Initiative](#) report.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

The Letter of Understanding between the TPL Board and the TPL Foundation Board outlines the requirement that the strategic plan fundraising priority areas be approved by the Board of TPL and the Board of the TPL Foundation in accordance with TPL's strategic plan. In addition, TPL and TPL Foundation Senior Leadership Teams are to consult not less than once a year with the objective of setting annual fundraising priorities which are consistent with and in accordance with TPL's strategic plan.

The 2025-2029 fundraising priorities were developed by TPL in consultation with the TPL Foundation in accordance with the Letter of Understanding. The 2025 major gift fundraising initiatives were also developed in consultation with the TPL Foundation and presented to the TPL Foundation Board for information.

COMMENTS

The 2025 major gift fundraising initiatives were developed to support the TPL Foundation's fundraising efforts. Some initiatives carried over from 2024 and the TPL Foundation already had donor proposals in or ready for market. Other initiative proposals were developed throughout 2025. If new initiatives are developed throughout the fundraising year, they are brought to the TPL Board for information or approval, where required.

TPL Foundation's fundraising efforts are guided by a gift designation and fundraising framework, which was endorsed by the TPL Board in 2017. The gift designation and fundraising framework helps the TPL Foundation attract:

- major gifts of over \$25,000 that can transform library service, including naming opportunity incentives; and
- smaller gifts under \$25,000, designated to an annual fund that helps to establish new and sustain existing programs.

The 2025 major gift fundraising initiatives, by Strategic Priority, are listed below. Major gift fundraising towards fundraising priority initiatives achieved in 2025 are also included. Some amounts reported as 2025 fundraising represent multi-year gifts, which are recorded in the year they are secured.

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Information about annual allocations to TPL from endowments held by the TPL Foundation and information on fundraising amounts below the major gift threshold are not included in this report.

2025-2029 Strategic Priority

Social connection, civic engagement and democracy

Major Gift Initiatives

Support development and implementation of a vision and service model for a learning and engagement centre focused on democratic values

2025 Major Gifts

A total of \$60,000 was received from:

- Metcalf Foundation in support of capacity building and planning for TPL's Centre for Democracy

- McConnell Foundation in support of capacity building and planning for TPL's Centre for Democracy

Intellectual Freedom, Civic Engagement and Democracy Programming

2025 Major Gifts

A total of \$112,457 was received from:

- McConnell Foundation in support of social connection and democracy programming
- Chris M. Reid in support of On Civil Society programming; and
- An anonymous donor

2025-2029 Strategic Priority *Shared community spaces*

Major Gift Initiatives

Support building social infrastructure to connect people and communities, including supporting enhancement or acceleration of capital projects

2025 Major Gifts

A total of \$1,940,000 was received from:

- Osmington Inc. in support of renovations (Flemington Park branch)
- WJ Properties in support of renovations (Flemington Park branch)
- RBC Foundation (Centennial branch)
- Haynes Connell Foundation (St. Lawrence branch)
- Maureen and Victor Dodig (Parkdale branch)

2025-2029 Strategic Priority *Learning and growth*

Major Gift Initiatives

Expand AI skills program options and increase access to AI software and technologies

2025 Sponsorship

A total of \$2,543,400 was received from:

- Google.org to support TPL's AI Upskilling initiative
- TPL's AI upskilling initiative is made possible with support from Google.org over a two-year (2025-2026) sponsorship term as reported to and approved by the TPL Board in 2024

Support the national TD Summer Reading Club initiative

2025 Sponsorship

A total of \$3,104,845 was received from:

- TD Bank Group through the TD Ready Commitment for a three-year (2026-2028) sponsorship term as reported to and approved by the TPL Board in 2025

Increase access to TPL's financial empowerment services that provide essential tools and counselling to access financial support resources

2025 Major Gifts

A total of \$436,928 was received from:

- Osmington Inc. (Flemington Park branch)
- W.J. Properties (Flemington Park branch)
- CIBC Foundation
- Burgundy Legacy Foundation
- Bank of America
- Jay and Leticia Reid
- Power Corporation of Canada
- Meridian Credit Union

Increase access to expert health programs and wellness and recovery supports and services, including TPL's Social & Crisis Support services

2025 Major Gifts

A total of \$ \$220,000 was received from:

- The Catherine and Maxwell Meighen Foundation
- BMO
- Lewitt Family Foundation
- J.P. Bickell Foundation

Expand initiatives in support of mental health and social well-being for youth

2025 Major Gifts

A total of \$310,422 was received from:

- 2025 Biblio Bash fundraising event
- TPL Foundation 2025 Summer Campaign
- Estate of Claudia Krawchuk
- TPL Foundation 2025 Spring Campaign
- Barça Foundation in support of the Improving Wellbeing Through Sport program

Expand and enhance literacy programs such as Leading to Reading in more neighbourhoods

2025 Major Gifts

A total of \$ \$402,000 was received from:

- Friends of Toronto Public Library, South Chapter in support of School Outreach; Young Voices Magazine; Residencies, Career Coaches in Residence
- In Memory of Penny Fine z"l in support of Leading to Reading expansion
- Friends of Toronto Public Library, North Chapter in support of Leading to Reading expansion
- Ralph M. Barford Foundation in support of Leading to Reading expansion
- Joan and Clifford Hatch Foundation in support of Leading to Reading expansion
- Earle and Janice O'Born Foundation in support of Leading to Reading expansion
- McMillan Foundation in support of Leading to Reading

Small Business programming, including Business Inc & Entrepreneur-in-Residence

2025 Major Gifts

A total of \$164,800 received from:

- Meridian Credit Union in support of TPL's Black and Women Entrepreneurship Initiative
- Google.org for TPL's Newcomer Entrepreneurship Initiative
- Holdbest Foundation in support of TPL's Newcomer Entrepreneurship Initiative

Heritage programming

2025 Sponsorship

A total of \$120,000 received from:

- TD Bank Group through the TD Ready Commitment over two years (2024 and 2025) in support of year-round Heritage Programming, including these three program series: Black History and Culture; Asian Heritage; and Indigenous Celebrations

2025-2029 Strategic Priority

Awareness and availability

Major Gift Initiatives

Community-Based Services Expansion

2025 Major Gifts

A total of \$6,670,538 received from:

- Waltons Trust in support of TPL's Reducing Seniors' Social Isolation initiative (2025-2030 commitment)
- Estate of Claudia Krawchuk in support of TPL's Reducing Seniors' Social Isolation initiative

- McLean Foundation in support of TPL's Reducing Seniors' Social Isolation initiative
- Catherine and Maxwell Meighen Foundation in support of TPL's Reducing Seniors' Social Isolation
- 2025 TPLF Holiday Matching Campaign

Collection access initiatives and *tpl:map*

2025 Major Gifts

A total of \$ \$140,000 received from:

- Estate of Claudia Krawchuk in support of Audio and/or e-Audio books
- Bennett Family Foundation for *tpl:map*

After School Clubs & Nutritious Snacks

2025 Major Gifts

A total of \$540,000 received from:

- Estate of Claudia Krawchuk
- Good Future Foundation
- Bennett Family Foundation

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SIGNATURE

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