



STAFF REPORT INFORMATION ONLY

Communications Report

Date: May 25, 2026
To: Toronto Public Library Board
From: City Librarian

It is recommended that the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. receives Communication (a), emails pertaining to the April 20, 2026, Toronto Public Library Board meeting reports #15- Social and Crisis Support Services - Award of Contracts, and #17- Integrated Pest Management – Award of Contract, from Nicole Corrado, customer, dated April 17, 2026, for information.
2. receives Communication (b), an email pertaining to Jewish Heritage Month, from Shlomit Segal, customer, dated May 9, 2026, for information.
3. receives Communication (c), an email pertaining to the closure of the Junction Triangle branch, from Kevin Putnam, member of a local resident-led Junction Triangle Library Expansion Committee, dated May 22, 2026, for information.

SIGNATURE

Moe Hosseini-Ara
City Librarian



a.

STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED Social and Crisis Support Services – Award of Contracts Item 15

From N Corrado [redacted]
Date Fri 4/17/2026 11:02 AM
To Sara Tavakolian <saratavakolian@tpl.ca>

CAUTION: This email has originated from outside of TPL. Do not click on any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know that the content is safe.

Name; Nicole Corrado
Address and/or telephone number; [redacted]
Email address (if request is sent by email); [redacted]
Agenda item # (s) the presentation relates to; STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED Social and Crisis Support Services – Award of Contracts Item 15
Outline of the presentation;
Any relevant documentation;

Dear Toronto Public Library,

As a person on the autism spectrum, I appreciate the contract with Gerstien Centre and Taibu to provide a humane, non police community mental health service at the library. I was homeschooled because, in junior kindergarten, I would elope to the library because I found the classroom too noisy and busy. Even today, as an adult, the library is a good Elopement spot. I have high masking autism with hyperlexia and recognize a library to be a safe and socially acceptable elopement spot. I can imagine a lot of neurodivergent people who have hyperlexia and sensory processing differences would elope to a library when in sensory overload and feel neurological disregulation. The last thing these people want is police to come and disregulate them more. A Taibu or Gerstien person would recognize a meltdown or shutdown is not someone intentionally causing a disruption or not being defiant and would respond in a gentle way.

Selection of whether the presentation will be made in-person or via Webex during the Board meeting; Via WebEx
Signature, unless delivered by electronic mail.

Sincerely,

Nicole Corrado

On Friday, April 17, 2026 at 09:53:50 a.m. EDT, Nicole Corrado <ntcorrado@rogers.com> wrote:

- Name; Nicole Corrado
- Address and/or telephone number; [redacted]
- Email address (if request is sent by email); [redacted]
- Agenda item # (s) the presentation relates to; Item 17 STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED Integrated Pest Management Services – Award of Contract

- Outline of the presentation;
- Any relevant documentation;

Dear Toronto Public Library,

As an educational facility, you have an obligation to educate the public. I recognize the library has to be kept clean and safe for everyone. But why, for pest control, are you using one of the worst multibillion dollar American companies with a terrible track record for animal cruelty?

<https://www.ctvnews.ca/calgary/article/orkin-canada-fined-27500-for-chemical-use-near-calgary-park/>
https://www.reddit.com/r/pestcontrol/comments/1f05ctm/i_used_orkin_and_i_regret_it_you_were_right/
https://www.nj.com/news/2009/07/judge_fines_pestcontrol_firm_f.html
<https://web.aimsurplus.com/the-hidden-empire-of-pest-control-uncovering-the-enormous-orkin-net-worth/>

It may come as a surprise to you, but Orkin is one of the founders of rat poison, one of the world's worst environmental problems. They practically own the industry and send their propaganda everywhere. Orkin even considers community cats to be pests! <https://www.orkincanada.ca>

It's pest control down to political science. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Orkin>

Orkin uses glue traps, kill traps, and rodenticide bait. The glue traps are hidden inside live traps, to hide the cruelty. Animals tear at their fur, and even bite their arms and legs in a desperate effort to get out. I have found dead mice in glue traps. It is very disturbing. Glue traps are illegal to use in Wales and many other countries around the world. <https://www.change.org/p/orkin-pest-control-tell-orkin-to-stop-using-glue-traps-to-kill-mice#>

Rodenticides slowly kill over three to seven days by thinning blood. Bromadiolone is the most common anticoagulant used by orkin.

Toronto sadly uses cruel methods to manage mice like glue traps where animals rip their fur off and even lose limbs trying to escape, toothed kill traps that often merely injure the animals, and poison bait that thins blood, slowing and painfully injuring animals for days, making it easier for ectoparasites to bite them, and harming the entire food chain. What surprises a lot of people is that the bait boxes contain poisoned food, which attracts bears who can easily open a locked box simply by squashing the box open with their paws and/or bums. What these companies don't do is fix the holes or clean up the attractants. Please switch to a cruelty free local Canadian company through <http://www.rodenticidefree.ca>. The animals are never the problem; the holes and attractants are. Train the staff on animal welfare regarding common domestic and wildlife animals. Ban rodenticides, as they are a major bear attractant, and replace them with cruelty free alternatives. <http://www.rodenticidefree.ca>. Mandate that all waste management is animal proof. <https://tuffboxx.com/residential/>. Add bear mats to crucial areas. <https://www.tahoebearbusters.com/bear-deterrents/electric-doormats/> <https://ca.margosupplies.com>. And have humane education programs, including bear education. <https://wiseaboutbears.org>
Please also have a contract with <http://www.bearwithus.org> and <http://www.torontowildlifecentre.com>.

As you can see from my research, I love to read. Please consider pest control with compassionate, scientifically sound wildlife coexistence policies.

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Sincerely,

Nicole Corrado



Outlook

Item 17 STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED Integrated Pest Management Services – Award of Contract

From Nicole Corrado [REDACTED]
Date Fri 4/17/2026 9:54 AM
To Sara Tavakolian <saratavakolian@tpl.ca>

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- Name; Nicole Corrado
- Address and/or telephone number; [REDACTED]
- Email address (if request is sent by email); [REDACTED]
- Agenda item # (s) the presentation relates to; Item 17 STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED Integrated Pest Management Services – Award of Contract
- Outline of the presentation;
- Any relevant documentation;

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https://www.reddit.com/r/pestcontrol/comments/1f05ctm/i_used_orkin_and_i_regret_it_you_were_right/

https://www.nj.com/news/2009/07/judge_fines_pestcontrol_firm_f.html

<https://web.aimsurplus.com/the-hidden-empire-of-pest-control-uncovering-the-enormous-orkin-network/>

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Sincerely,

Nicole Corrado



Jewish heritage month

From Shlomit Alexandra [REDACTED]

Date Sat 5/9/2026 10:41 AM

To Sara Tavakolian <saratavakolian@tpl.ca>

CAUTION: This email has originated from outside of TPL. Do not click on any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know that the content is safe.

Dear Board members, Toronto Public Library

We would like to thank you for the diversity of voices that you have chosen for recommended books for Jewish heritage month this year.

Shlomit Segal

On behalf of the organization Toronto Jewish Families



TPL Board Submission for Monday, May 25, 2026

From Kevin putnam [REDACTED]
Date Fri 5/22/2026 11:35 AM
To Sara Tavakolian <saratavakolian@tpl.ca>
Cc Councillor_Bravo@toronto.ca <Councillor_Bravo@toronto.ca>; Alex MacCutchan <aMacCutchan@tpl.ca>; Nicole.Gliwinski@toronto.ca <Nicole.Gliwinski@toronto.ca>

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Good Morning Sara:

Copied below is a submission for Monday's TPL Board meeting. Thank you for circulating it with Board members.

Kind regards,

Kevin Putnam

May 22, 2026

Dear Chairperson Remtulla:

I am writing to you (and TPL Board members) on behalf of all members of the Junction Triangle Library Expansion Committee concerning the recent, extended closure of the branch due to a flood in January.

The library opened in August of last year and the three and a half month closure this winter only confirmed the view of the Committee and many area residents that the construction of the new library was poorly managed. While most organizations would stop the flooding, clean-up the mess and re-open their doors ASAP, the TPL took almost four month to resume service. As detailed in a submission to the Board in the fall last year, poor project management by the TPL added almost two years to the construction timeline. Despite repeated assurances by TPL management that everything was in place for the handover of the library shell from the builder, negotiations with the developer continued for more than another year when the property was ready for buildout. The TPL had more than six years to complete final terms while the developer demolished the existing structure, relocated a number of buried utilities crossing the property, moved the public access laneway and constructed their 14 storey building.

There were other signs that the project was poorly managed from the two week installation of paneling along the entire length of the library only to remove it all because it did not conform to spec. The TPL took possession of the property which subsequently failed a building inspection due to non-compliance with the fire code. The existing branch was closed prematurely and shut for most of the summer last year while the TPL waited for additional shelving units.

As a result of the most recent closure from a flood that was limited to the floor and caused no damage to the collection or the furniture, we are asking the Board to launch an external, independent review of the project from its inception to completion to identify failings and ensure they are not repeated in any of the 100 branches of the library system. Residents rallied to save our branch from the threat of closure in 2011 and used the opportunity to raise \$4.5-million dollars in new funding for the TPL to cover the costs of a new branch. That was the effort of residents and our former City Councillor not TPL management. So we are asking for this project review and opportunity to review and agree on the terms of that study. Were project shortcomings due to indifference, incompetence or other reasons? We deserve and expect a complete, unbiased answer.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kevin Putnam
Junction Triangle Library Expansion Committee