

TRI COUNCIL INFORMAL SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

Wednesday, July 02, 2025 – 1:30PM

Location: Young at Heart Seniors Centre, 136 Yonge, Burk's Falls

Attendance: Armour Township: Councillor Wendy Whitwell, CAO Dave Gray

Ryerson Township: Councillor Delynne Patterson, CAO/Treasurer Brayden Robinson

Village of Burk's Falls: Deputy Mayor Sean Cotton, CAO/Clerk Denis Duguay

Discussion Items:

Meeting called to order at 1:30 pm

Shared Services Agreements

Library Agreement review

The Committee reviewed the current composition of the Library Board and discussed the feasibility of reducing the number of Members-at-Large to four (4). Establishing clear guidelines for board applicants was also considered. In addition, the Committee explored the possibility of limiting Council members' service on the Board to a maximum of two (2) terms.

The conversation then shifted to funding considerations, including a potential transition to a population-based funding formula, similar to the existing fire services agreement. The inclusion of McMurrich/Monteith as a voting member and formal partner on the Library Board was proposed. In light of potential expanded regional collaboration, the Committee also discussed renaming the library (e.g., "Burk's Falls and Area") and exploring the development of a district-level model for library service delivery. It was further suggested that the agreement include a clause outlining a structured, step-by-step mediation process to be followed before any partner withdraws, modeled after the approach used in the fire services agreement.

Concerns were also raised regarding the library's current bookkeeping processes. The Committee considered the option of providing transition training for the CEO to assume this responsibility in the near future. Lastly, the Committee examined Section 3(d) of the existing agreement, focusing on the timing of payments. A proposal was made for the first payment to be made by January 30th, with the remaining proportional payments due within 30 days of each municipality's annual budget approval. The committee representative sitting on the library board will seek clarification as to the timing of payments

Next Step:

Armour CAO (Dave Gray) to draw up a library agreement with Ryerson CAO and Burk's Falls CAO's input before presenting to Council's

New Library Build

The committee discussed the slow progress of the project and the ongoing uncertainty felt by the library board and municipal partners. To help move the project forward, members considered the possibility of each of the three (3) partners establishing individual reserve funds for the new building. Additionally, to maintain momentum, the committee discussed having partners commit to a targeted build date of 2030 by council resolution.

Next Meeting:

August 5 @ 1:30 PM – Burk's Falls Senior Centre

Adjournment

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