



Lake of Bays Township Public Library Board

Connecting community and sparking ideas, lifelong learning and empowerment for all.

Minutes

Monday July 7, 2025

Present: George Anderson, Jennifer Pearson, Cathy Vancleave, Cathy Fairbairn, Ron McLean, Pamela Calverley, Lori Riznek, John Nemeth, Edith Warr, Krista Wunsch

Call to Order: 5:30pm

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION: None

Decision/Discussion Items

- Motion to endorse Indigenous placemaking in the expansion of the Dwight Branch
 - Reasons to endorse
 - It is important to recognize Indigenous territory for the living area we reside and the impact where we are
 - The vision shared by Cathy Fairbairn would provide a memorable area to learn and grow
 - Having an Indigenous space provides the opportunity to refer to core values, mission statement and vision statement leaders within our community
 - Decolonizing library spaces is an idea within the Federal Libraries and could be supported within both branches
 - Opportunity is now for the planning phases of expansion
 - Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action responsibility
 - There is a mandate to create spaces within urban spaces and our library could be within that domain
 - Thinking about the future of Lake of Bays
 - Wilderness - air, land and water are essential to the beauty and way of life in our area and it is an opportunity to incorporate that within the space
 - Treaty Education and learning opportunities

- Reconciliation facilitates strong connection between natural environment, library space and Indigenous nations is sacred
- Move forward with collaboration and education
- Wondering about the items for education and artifacts and how a selection would be determined
- Library is for everybody and ensuring the equality for spaces within the library
- Need collaborative decision around what extends to boards endorsement
- “What” are the options for this endorsement
- The board wants to be flexible and move forward
- Small working group supporting relationships and reciprocity to ensure that a space represents those values
- Strategic Vision needed in order to provide guidance of the small working group
- Commitment to be prepared to all be supporting a strategic direction
- The board needs to be willing to take the time and act on the actions
- Community level support local history and artists are essential in creating this space
- Our principle of the values for inclusion and what actions commitment are essential to this motion
- Policies needed to support the governance around this vision and strategic vision for supporting this motion
- Tools to support the front line staff based on the feedback to ensure that the space is led well by them
- Communication between staff and board to support them based on any feedback on moving forward so that this space can be represented well
- Local history can be defined and needs to be determined as to what is the role within our vision and strategic vision to support this motion further
- In principle we the board support further investigation developing an Indigenous component for our space and request the working group with some proposed options or action plans for making that a reality.
- A Strategic Plan needs to include all the pillars and can connect to this motion
- Indigenous leaders within our community need to be the leaders for this space
- We represent our commitment to our mission and vision statement and we can be leaders in the community to truth and growth can start small and growth based on readiness
- We support the mandate to pursue the Indigenous place making

As a Board we support Indigenous placemaking in the Township of Lake of Bays Township Library System.

Motion to Jennifer Pearson and seconded by Lori Riznek.

Approved.

Moved to adjournment 7:12pm by Rod McLean.

Adjournment Next Meeting: August 19, 2025 in Dwight