

Toronto Public Library Board - Selection of Candidates for Interview

Date: March 19, 2021

To: Civic Appointments Committee

From: Interim City Clerk

Wards: All

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

This report deals with personal matters about identifiable individuals who are being considered for appointment to the Toronto Public Library Board.

SUMMARY

There is currently one vacancy on the Toronto Public Library Board due to a recent resignation. The Civic Appointments Committee must select candidates to interview for appointment to the Board. Following the interviews, the Civic Appointments Committee will recommend one candidate for appointment to City Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Interim City Clerk recommends that:

1. The Civic Appointments Committee select 6 of the candidates listed in Table 1 of Confidential Attachment 1 for interview at its next meeting for appointment to the Toronto Public Library Board.
2. The Civic Appointments Committee direct that the confidential information contained in Confidential Attachments 1 and 2 remain confidential in its entirety as it relates to personal matters about identifiable individuals being considered for appointment to the Toronto Public Library Board.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting held October 29 and 30, 2019, City Council appointed two candidates to fill vacancies on the Toronto Public Library Board, at pleasure of Council, for a term of office ending on November 14, 2022, and until successors are appointed:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.CA10.1>.

At its meeting held March 27 and 28, 2019, City Council appointed one candidate to fill a vacancy on the Toronto Public Library Board, at pleasure of Council, for a term of office ending on November 14, 2022, and until a successor is appointed:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.CA4.2>.

At its meeting held January 30 - 31, 2019, City Council appointed seven candidates to the Toronto Public Library Board, at pleasure of Council, for a term of office ending on November 14, 2022, and until successors are appointed. City Council also requested the Civic Appointments Committee to give consideration to a vacancy on the Toronto Public Library Board at its earliest opportunity:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.CA2.2>.

At its meeting held December 4, 5, and 13, 2018, City Council reduced the number of Council Member appointments to the Toronto Public Library Board from three to one, plus the Mayor or designate appointed by the Mayor:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.CC1.1>.

COMMENTS

Composition of the Toronto Public Library Board

The Toronto Public Library Board consists of 10 members composed of:

- the Mayor or designate
- 1 Member of Council
- 8 public members

One public member has resigned from the Board

There is currently one vacancy on the Toronto Public Library Board due to the resignation of Fenton Jagdeo on February 4, 2021.

The new member appointed to the board will complete the term of office held by the previous member, ending November 14, 2022, and until a successor is appointed.

Public members should meet certain qualifications

Public members of the Library Board collectively should have sound judgement and personal integrity and represent a range of expertise, experience, and achievement in:

- literature and literacy
- arts and culture
- science and technology
- business
- financial management
- philanthropy
- public sector governance
- community service
- community diversity
- a youthful perspective, defined as an individual in the 18-30 range, is a desired qualification for at least one public member

Public members must satisfy certain eligibility requirements

In addition to the general eligibility requirements in the Public Appointments Policy, the *Public Libraries Act* also requires board members to be Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada within the meaning of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*.

Public appointments staff have consulted with the Toronto Public Library

Public Appointments staff consulted with Toronto Public Library staff in February 2021 to discuss current trends in library programs and services, emerging challenges and opportunities, and how they relate to the board.

In addition to the Council-approved board qualifications and a commitment to the Toronto Public Library's vision, mission, values and services, it was suggested that consideration be given to candidates who help reflect the diversity of the city and the Library users across Toronto's communities.

Public members receive remuneration

Public members receive an annual retainer of \$350. If the chair is a public member, they receive an annual retainer of \$850. If the vice chair is a public member, they receive an annual retainer of \$600.

Outreach was conducted for these vacancies

The opportunity to join the Toronto Public Library Board was shared through social media, through presentation to stakeholder groups, on the Serve Your City website, and via the Public Appointments e-update list.

Next steps - Interviews

Once the Civic Appointments Committee has selected candidates for interviews, the City Clerk's Office will contact the candidates to schedule them for 15 minute interviews. 6 interviews plus deliberations will take approximately 2 hours to complete.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

John D. Elvidge
Interim City Clerk

ATTACHMENTS

Confidential Attachment 1 – List of Candidates, Qualifications, Confidential Diversity Information Summary, and Applications for Appointment to the Toronto Public Library Board

Confidential Attachment 2 – Diversity Summary of Current Members of the Toronto Public Library Board