

Appointment of Public Members to the Toronto Public Library Board

Date: January 24, 2022
To: Civic Appointments Committee
From: 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

The Civic Appointments Committee will conduct interviews and recommend eight candidates to City Council for appointment to the Toronto Public Library Board.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Clerk recommends that:

1. The Civic Appointments Committee recommend eight candidates for appointment to the Toronto Public Library Board, at pleasure of Council, for a term of office ending on November 14, 2026, and until successors are appointed.
2. City Council direct that the confidential information contained in Confidential Attachments 1 - 3 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 on January 5, 2023, the Civic Appointments Committee selected 16 candidates for interview at its February 1, 2023 meeting:

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2023.CA1.3>

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

Public members serve four year terms concurrent with City Council

Under the *Public Libraries Act*, a board member holds office for a term concurrent with the term of the appointing council, or until a successor is appointed. The eight successful candidates in this process will be appointed for a term of office ending November 14, 2026, and until successors are appointed.

This is a time-sensitive matter

The *Public Libraries Act* states that appointments shall be made at the first meeting of council in each term, but if the council fails to make the appointments at its first meeting, it shall do so at any regular or special meeting held within 60 days after its first meeting.

Public members should meet certain qualifications

In addition to the general eligibility requirements in the Public Appointments Policy, public members 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

To be eligible for appointment to this board public members must meet the eligibility requirements set out in the City of Toronto's Public Appointments Policy.

The *Public Libraries Act* also requires board members to be Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada.

Public appointments staff have consulted with the Toronto Public Library

In preparation for this process, Public Appointments staff consulted with the board's outgoing chair, the City Librarian, and Toronto Public Library staff in November 2022 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 experience in such areas as human resources, law, governance in the non-profit sector, city-building and development, technology, partnership-building, community leadership, equity, diversity, and geographic representation would be additional assets to the board.

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.

Public release of names of recommended candidates

The name of the recommended candidates will be publicly reported once the Civic Appointments Committee forward its recommendations to City Council.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

John D. Elvidge
City Clerk

ATTACHMENTS

Confidential Attachment 1 – List of Candidates, Qualifications, Confidential Diversity Information Summary, and Applications for Appointment to the Toronto Public Library Board (previously circulated with Item CA1.3)

Confidential Attachment 2 - Interview questions for February 1, 2023 (to be circulated under separate cover)

Confidential Attachment 3 - Interview schedule for February 1, 2023 (to be circulated under separate cover)