



Board Advocacy

The library board must ensure that the community is aware of the importance of the library and that funding bodies fully understand the important role which the library plays in the community. Through its non-partisan advocacy work, the library board seeks to promote the profile of the library and enhance its importance to the community. This policy sets out the advocacy responsibilities of the library board.

1. The board does not support, endorse or advocate the viewpoints or beliefs of any one candidate, political party, organization or group.
2. The board chair (or delegate) shall be the official spokesperson for the Guelph Public Library on issues approved by the library board.
3. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) shall be the official spokesperson for the Guelph Public Library on issues of a procedural or operational nature.
4. In pursuing its advocacy activities, the library board shall:
 - a. prepare an annual advocacy plan
 - b. inform council of the needs of the community, the development of library services, plans and achievements by means of reports
 - c. participate regularly in activities that build relationships with individuals and organizations that share interests with those of the Guelph Public Library
 - d. identify and respond to issues, concerns and government policies that may directly or indirectly affect the Guelph Public Library and ensure that government decision-makers at all levels are aware of the value of the library and its benefit to individuals and to the community

Notes:

11/2020 - In the introductory paragraph and point 1, GPL deviates from OLS Trillium Sample Policies in stressing its non-partisan position.

11/2020 - GPL also adds clause 3 to differentiate the official roles of the board and the CEO in speaking for the library.