



**Guelph Public Library**  
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## **Guelph Public Library Board**

### **Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes**

Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Prepared by: Shauna Parsons, Administrative Assistant

#### **Members**

Bang Ly (Chair)

Danny Williamson (Past Chair)

Alexandra Ortiz Carlsson\*

Renganathan Sadagoban (Vice Chair)

Vivian Webb

Denise Rishworth

Claire Cowan

Candice Lepage (Secretary)

Randalin Ellery

Councillor Rodrigo Goller (Vice Chair)

Councillor Leanne Caron\*

Councillor Carly Klassen\*

#### **Staff**

Dan Atkins (CEO)

Michelle Campbell (Deputy CEO)

Carolyn Elston-Ryder (Human Resources)

Meg Forestell-Page (Manager, Public Service)

Emily Tyschenko (Supervisor of Programming)

Shauna Parsons (Administrative Assistant)

#### **\* Attended Virtually**

Alternative formats are available by contacting the Library Administrative Assistant at 519-824-6220 as per the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act.

**Guests**

C. Maloney- Grinham Architects

**Regrets**

D. Williamson

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**1 Call to Order**

The regular monthly meeting of the Guelph Public Library Board was called to order by the Chair, B. Ly at 6:01 p.m. on Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

**1.1 First Nations Acknowledgement**

V. Webb read the Territorial Acknowledgement.

**1.2 Guelph Public Library Values**

C. Klassen shared their GPL Values.

**2 Approval of Agenda**

**Motion 45.26:**

Moved by C. Lepage

Seconded by R. Sadagoban

That the Guelph Public Library Board approve the May 2026 Board meeting agenda as circulated.

**Carried**

**3 Apologies for Non-Attendance**

D. Williamson

**4 Declaration of Pecuniary Interests**

No declarations to report.

**5 Consent Agenda**

**5.1 Adoption of April 2026 Minutes****5.2 CEO's Report****5.3 Service Utilization Scorecard****5.4 Service Capacity Scorecard****5.5 Operating Variance Report****5.6 New Central Library Update Report****Motion 46.26:**

Moved by C. Cowan

Seconded by R. Sadagoban

That the Guelph Public Library Board approve the Consent Agenda as circulated.

**Carried**

**6 Presentations and Reports****6.1 Accessibility Audit Report**

**Grinham Architects**

C. Maloney from Grinham Architects presented an overview of recent accessibility audits completed at five library branches. Challenges at each location were discussed with branch managers, documented, photographed, and measured. All suggested alterations were recommended based on the City of Guelph's Facility Accessibility Design Manual (FADM), as well as the Ontario Building Code (OBC). Improvements for accessibility purposes were made to interior and exterior spaces, bathrooms, doorways, circulation desks, workstations, paths of travel and more.

C. Lepage and A. Ortiz-Carlsson inquired whether the challenges were coming from uninformed staff regarding what creates accessibility issues, and whether suggestions could be coming from patrons. C. Maloney advised the items that could easily be changed by staff were sufficient, such as moving chairs to correct places. D. Atkins confirmed patron feedback is considered as each scenario arises. C. Elston-Ryder also confirmed monthly inspections are completed with managers.

C. Lepage and B. Ly inquired about alterations catered to disabilities such as sight and hearing difficulties. C. Maloney confirmed the audit was more focused on physical spaces overall, but that sight considerations such as contrast and colour were also taken into account. R. Sadagoban inquired about the financial impact of these changes. D. Atkins advised it is included in the capital budget.

**Motion 47.26:**

Moved by R. Goller

Seconded by L. Caron

That the Guelph Public Library Board receive the Accessibility Audit Report for information.

**Carried**

**6.2 Annual Programming Review**

**M. Forestell-Page**

M. Forestell-Page delivered an annual programming review, highlighting milestones such as team changes, program attendance records, partnerships, and community involvement. Over 36,000 patrons attended programs throughout 2025; a number reflecting the efforts of the department. An update was provided on the youth programming strategy, noting success with implementing a connection to teen demographics. Goals for the New Central Library were mentioned, which included strengthening inclusive opportunities, improving community collaboration, and expanding programming initiatives.

A discussion ensued regarding specifics of what the positive feedback was that the programming department has been receiving from the community. M Forestell-Page advised they are working with the Communications department to create an improved system for tracking feedback details from the programs and will be using that information to enhance future events, as part of the workplan.

**Motion 48.26:**

Moved by C. Lepage

Seconded by D. Rishworth

That the Guelph Public Library Board receive the Annual Programming Review for information.

**Carried**

**7 Authority to Move into Closed Session****Motion 49.26:**

Moved by D. Rishworth

Seconded by R. Sadagoban

That the Guelph Public Library Board now hold a meeting that is closed to the public pursuant to:

The Public Libraries Act, Section 16.1(4) A meeting or part of a meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered is,

- a) the security of the property of the board;
- b) personal matters about an identifiable individual;
- c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the board;
- d) a labour relations or employee negotiations;

**Carried**

The meeting was moved into closed at 7:02 p.m.

A motion to approve the closed agenda carried. – **Motion IC.19.26**

A motion to approve the closed consent agenda carried. – **Motion IC.20.26**

A motion to receive information carried. – **Motion IC.21.26**

A motion to adjourn carried. – **Motion IC.22.26**

The meeting was moved out of closed at 7:25 p.m.

## **8 New Business**

None to report.

## **9 Unfinished Business**

### **9.1 Board Evaluation Committee Update**

**A. Ortiz-Carlsson**

A. Ortiz-Carlsson provided an update on behalf of the Board Evaluation Committee, that evaluations from Executive members have been received. A committee meeting date will be arranged before results are presented to the Board. The second evaluation will take place in the fall.

## **10 Next Meeting**

Monday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m.

## **11 Adjournment**

**Motion 50.26:**

Moved by R. Ellery

Seconded by D. Rishworth

That the Guelph Public Library meeting of May 2026 be adjourned.

**Carried**

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

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**Library Board Chair      Date**

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**Library CEO      Date**

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