



**Agenda
Stirling-Rawdon
Public Library Board
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, June 17, 2026 @ 6:00pm
Library**

Page

1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement

The Stirling-Rawdon Public Library acknowledges the land on which it is established and the work it does takes place in the traditional and unceded territory of the Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee and Anishinabek peoples and the neighbouring Mohawk and Algonquin Nations. We are committed to honoring their cultures and celebrating their commitment to the land. As settler Canadians we acknowledge the injustices of the past and express our collective desire for ongoing truth and reconciliation. We are grateful to have the opportunity to work and provide services on this land and by doing so we give our respect to its first caretakers and stewards.

2. Adoption of Agenda

2.1. Library Board Agenda -

That the agenda for the Regular Library Board meeting held on Wednesday, June 17, 2026, be adopted as presented.

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

4.1. Library Board Minutes -

[DRAFT May 2026 Minutes](#)

3 - 6

That the minutes of the Regular Library Board meeting held on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, be adopted as presented.

5. Business Arising from Previous Meeting

6. CEO Report

6.1. June 2026 CEO Report

[CEO Report](#)

7 - 8

That the June 2026 CEO Report be received and filed.

7. Chair Report

8. Council Report

9. Financial Report

9.1. April 2026 Financials

[April 2026 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures](#)

9 - 11

That the April 2026 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures be received and filed.

- 9.2. May 2026 Financials 12 - 14
[May 2026 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures](#)

That the May 2026 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures be received and filed.

10. Policy Review

- 10.1. The Library and Political Elections Policy #OP0829 15 - 19
[The Library and Political Elections \(for consideration\)](#)
[The Library and Political Elections OP0829](#)

That the Library and Political Elections Policy #OP0829 be approved as presented.

- 10.2. Community Information Policy #OP0828 20 - 21
[Community Information OP0828](#)

That the Community Information Policy #OP0828 be approved as edited.

- 10.3. General Gift Acceptance Policy #FRP0834 22 - 23
[General Gift Acceptance FRP0834](#)

That the General Gift Acceptance Policy #FRP0834 be approved as edited.

11. Correspondence / Information

- 11.1. Federation of Ontario Public Libraries 2026 Caucus Meetings 24 - 48
Feedback Summary
[FOPL 2026 Caucus Meetings Feedback Summary](#)

That the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries 2026 Caucus Meeting Feedback Summary be received.

12. Other Business

- 12.1. Quote for new AED 49
[Quote Stirling Rawdon Public Library CR2 AED](#)

That the quote from HeartFelt Response Medical Inc. for a new Lifepak CR2 Full Auto AED with CR Plus Trade-In be approved.

13. Date of the Next Meeting

September 16, 2026 at 6:00pm

14. Adjournment



**Township of Stirling-Rawdon
Stirling-Rawdon Public Library Board Meeting
Minutes
Library
Wednesday, May 20, 2026 @ 6:00 PM**

Members Present: Councillor Caroline Smith
Councillor Don Stewart
Member Stasia Bennett
Chair Miranda DeJong
Member Andy Kemp

Members Absent: Member Valerie Sills
Member Kristina Smith

Staff Present: Jaye Bannon, CEO / Head Librarian

1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement

Chair Miranda Dejong called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

The Stirling-Rawdon Public Library acknowledges the land on which it is established and the work it does takes place in the traditional and unceded territory of the Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee and Anishinabek peoples and the neighbouring Mohawk and Algonquin Nations. We are committed to honoring their cultures and celebrating their commitment to the land. As settler Canadians we acknowledge the injustices of the past and express our collective desire for ongoing truth and reconciliation. We are grateful to have the opportunity to work and provide services on this land and by doing so we give our respect to its first caretakers and stewards.

2. Adoption of Agenda

2.1. Library Board Agenda -

SRS-250520-1

Moved by Member Stasia Bennett
Seconded by Councillor Caroline Smith

That the agenda for the Regular Library Board meeting held on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, be adopted as presented.

Carried

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

None

4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

4.1. Library Board Minutes -

SRS-250520-2

Moved by Councillor Don Stewart
Seconded by Member Stasia Bennett

That the minutes of the Regular Library Board meeting held on Wednesday, April 15, 2026 be adopted as presented.

Carried

5. Business Arising from Previous Meeting

None

6. CEO Report

6.1. May 2026 CEO Report

SRS-250520-3

Moved by Councillor Caroline Smith
Seconded by Councillor Don Stewart

That the May 2026 CEO Report be received and filed.

Carried

7. Chair/Board Report

7.1. Ontario Library Service Spring Board Assembly Meeting- Andy Kemp

SRS-250520-4

Moved by Chair Miranda DeJong

Seconded by Member Stasia Bennett

That the report given by Andy Kemp regarding the Ontario Library Service Spring Board Assembly meeting held online on May 12, 2026 be received and filed.

Carried

8. Council Report

None

9. Financial Report

9.1. March 2026 Financials

SRS-250520-5

Moved by Councillor Caroline Smith
Seconded by Member Andy Kemp

That the March 2026 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures be received and filed.

Carried

10. Policy Review

10.1. Records Retention (NEW)

SRS-250520-6

Moved by Member Stasia Bennett
Seconded by Councillor Don Stewart

That the Records Retention Policy #OP0832 be adopted with the edits discussed.

Carried

10.2. Mission & Vision Statement

SRS-250520-7

Moved by Member Stasia Bennett
Seconded by Member Andy Kemp

That the Mission & Vision Statement #FP0811 be approved as presented.

Carried

11. Date of the Next Meeting

Wednesday June 17, 2026 at 6:00pm

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55pm



June 17, 2026

Staff Training

- **Municipal Safety Compliance:** Most staff have completed the assigned Health and Safety training videos offered through the Municipality on the Safetyhub website.

Programming & Events

- **Annual Fun Fair:** The annual Fun Fair was held on Friday May 22, 2026. Both the Arena and the Curling Club were filled with families, games and vendors although it is difficult to estimate how many people attended. The Lions Club provided a BBQ at the event and presented a cheque to the School Vice Principal and myself on Tuesday June 10th. Committee members were finalizing the financials to share with the group at a wrap-up meeting scheduled sometime during the week of June 16-19. We so appreciate all the help we had from Library Board members, school staff, library staff, arena staff, service club members and others.

Strategic Priority: Partnership Development

- **Summer Program:** Haley has finalized the full summer program schedule and calendar of events. A packed summer of reading, contests, drop-in activities, Stirling Fair Crafts, crocheting, 3D printing, crafts, games, and kitchen fun is planned for kids of all ages.

Strategic Priority: Services and Spaces

- **Rotary Club Anniversary:** Theresa and Leslie participated in the Rotary Club Anniversary with a number of simple activities Haley and Theresa put together for the attending children. The weather wasn't the most cooperative; however, they enjoyed being a part of the celebration and representing the Library.

Strategic Priority: Community Engagement & Partnership Development

- **Stirling Public School Graduation:** Library Board member, Andy Kemp, has offered to represent the Stirling Library Board at the upcoming graduation ceremony at the Stirling Public School on June 23, 2026. Andy will present the Library Board Bursary to a graduating student who has demonstrated an interest in reading ability by showing a strong work ethic.

Strategic Priority: Partnership Development



Stirling Rawdon Public Library Board - CEO Report by Jaye Bannon

June 17, 2026

Other

- **Records:** In line with the new Records Retention policy, I cleared considerable space in the storage room by sorting through old boxes and marking outdated timesheets, invoices, and irrelevant documents for proper disposal.
- **Loaner AED:** With the library's AED requiring new pads and batteries, a no-charge loaner AED was received from Stryker Canada ULC to use until either new pads/batteries or a new unit are purchased.

Facilities

- **Windows:** A request was made to our Custodian to arrange to have the windows washed.
- **Odour:** The library has experienced a recurring gas-like smell on the main floor. While past Fire Department investigations confirmed the furnaces are not the source, their suggestion recently was to check the p-trap on the bottom of the elevator shaft. During a routine quarterly inspection on June 11, a TK Elevator technician inspected the drain at the bottom of the elevator shaft. Finding the trap dry, the technician poured water into the drain to restore the water seal and prevent sewer gases from escaping. We will monitor the area to ensure this resolves the issue.

Strategic Priority: Services and Spaces

April 2026/2025 Statistics

- Internet & Wifi usage: 162/180
- Inter-Library Loan: 101/115 (46 Borrowed/ 55 Loaned)
- Overdrive e-books borrowed: 729/747
- Library item circulation: 1233/1534
- Library Program Participation: 623/315
- Stirling Past & Present: 185/41
- CDC-Q Orders: 28/44
- New Patrons: 11/6

Stirling-Rawdon Public Library Statement of Revenue and Expenditures

Original Budget
For Library (0)
For the Fiscal Period 2026-4 Ending April 30, 2026

Account Number	Previous YTD Budget	Previous YTD Actual	Annual Budget	YTD Actual	Remaining Budget %
Revenues					
0-400000 0 - Ontario Grants Stirling-Rawdon	\$ 8,810.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	0.00%
0-400150 0 - Ontario Grants Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
0-400200 0 - Federal Grants Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
0-400250 0 - Municipal Grants Stirling-Rawdon	241,041.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
0-400375 5 - Surplus	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
0-400400 0 - Other Revenue	2,774.00	3,171.00	0.00	11,177.72	0.00%
0-400425 0 - Good Food Box Program Fees	0.00	1,840.00	0.00	1,440.00	0.00%
0-400450 0 - Fees & Service Charges	3,000.00	1,737.45	0.00	1,516.68	0.00%
0-400500 0 - Non Resident Fees	1,100.00	360.00	0.00	480.00	0.00%
0-400550 0 - Donations	3,000.00	839.75	0.00	2,321.90	0.00%
0-400600 0 - Interest	500.00	658.14	0.00	1,218.15	0.00%
0-400650 0 - Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
0-400700 0 - Contribution From Reserve	0.00	332.48	0.00	0.00	0.00%
Total Library Revenues	\$ 260,225.00	\$ 8,938.82	\$ 0.00	\$ 18,154.45	0.00%

Expenditures

0-500000 0 - Salaries	\$ 160,000.00	\$ 46,429.10	\$ 0.00	\$ 53,709.89	0.00%
0-500050 0 - Custodian	4,200.00	1,383.92	0.00	1,037.94	0.00%
0-500100 0 - Employee Benefits	28,800.00	7,673.29	0.00	11,294.06	0.00%
0-500150 0 - Education and Dues	1,870.00	231.41	0.00	150.00	0.00%
0-500200 0 - Travel	225.00	145.68	0.00	65.37	0.00%
0-500225 5 - Magazines	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
0-500250 0 - Books	10,000.00	3,089.40	0.00	4,509.33	0.00%
0-500350 0 - Library Supplies	2,000.00	229.50	0.00	91.62	0.00%
0-500375 5 - Deficit	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
0-500400 0 - Audio/Video/DVD	75.00	225.00	0.00	225.00	0.00%
0-500450 0 - Publicity & Programs	550.00	491.08	0.00	506.96	0.00%
0-500475 0 - Good Food Box Program Fees	0.00	1,840.00	0.00	1,900.00	0.00%
0-500500 0 - Property and Maintenance	6,000.00	685.81	0.00	535.01	0.00%
0-500550 0 - Elevator Maintenance	1,550.00	506.72	0.00	921.32	0.00%
0-500600 0 - Audit	4,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
0-500610 0 - Professional Services	0.00	0.00	0.00	407.04	0.00%
0-500625 5 - Licences/Subscription Services	4,505.00	2,293.54	0.00	2,556.38	0.00%
0-500650 0 - Postage	1,150.00	342.17	0.00	190.62	0.00%
0-500655 5 - Telephone/Internet	3,300.00	1,183.43	0.00	1,082.23	0.00%
0-500660 0 - Photocopy Maintenance	1,000.00	393.51	0.00	477.28	0.00%
0-500665 5 - Advertising	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
0-500670 0 - Computer Tech Support	1,000.00	77.66	0.00	77.12	0.00%
0-500725 5 - Heat	3,000.00	1,778.31	0.00	1,673.16	0.00%
0-500750 0 - Hydro	5,000.00	1,877.54	0.00	1,234.71	0.00%
0-500775 5 - Insurance	10,100.00	10,984.92	0.00	0.00	0.00%
0-500800 0 - Equipment Purchased	200.00	0.00	0.00	183.16	0.00%
0-500850 0 - Reimbursed Purchases	0.00	332.48	0.00	763.86	0.00%
0-500900 0 - Capital Expenditures	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
0-500950 0 - Transfer to Reserve	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%

Stirling-Rawdon Public Library
Statement of Revenue and Expenditures

Original Budget
For Library (0)
For the Fiscal Period 2026-4 Ending April 30, 2026

Account Number	Previous YTD Budget	Previous YTD Actual	Annual Budget	YTD Actual	Remaining Budget %
Total Library Expenditures	\$ 260,225.00	\$ 82,194.47	\$ 0.00	\$ 83,592.06	0.00%
Library Excess of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$ 0.00	\$ (73,255.65)	\$ 0.00	\$ (65,437.61)	0.00%

Stirling-Rawdon Public Library
Statement of Revenue and Expenditures
Original Budget

For the Fiscal Period 2026-4 Ending April 30, 2026

Account Number	Previous YTD Budget	Previous YTD Actual	Annual Budget	YTD Actual	Remaining Budget %
Total Revenues	\$ 260,225.00	\$ 8,938.82	\$ 0.00	\$ 18,154.45	0.00%
Total Expenditures	\$ 260,225.00	\$ 82,194.47	\$ 0.00	\$ 83,592.06	0.00%
Total Excess of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$ 0.00	\$ (73,255.65)	\$ 0.00	\$ (65,437.61)	0.00%

Stirling-Rawdon Public Library Statement of Revenue and Expenditures

Original Budget
For Library (0)
For the Fiscal Period 2026-5 Ending May 31, 2026

Account Number	Previous YTD Budget	Previous YTD Actual	Annual Budget	YTD Actual	Remaining Budget %
Revenues					
0-400000 0 - Ontario Grants Stirling-Rawdon	\$ 8,810.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	0.00	0.00%
0-400150 0 - Ontario Grants Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
0-400200 0 - Federal Grants Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
0-400250 0 - Municipal Grants Stirling-Rawdon	241,041.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
0-400375 5 - Surplus	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
0-400400 0 - Other Revenue	2,774.00	3,171.00	0.00	11,502.22	0.00%
0-400425 0 - Good Food Box Program Fees	0.00	2,540.00	0.00	2,217.50	0.00%
0-400450 0 - Fees & Service Charges	3,000.00	2,329.15	0.00	2,079.18	0.00%
0-400500 0 - Non Resident Fees	1,100.00	390.00	0.00	600.00	0.00%
0-400550 0 - Donations	3,000.00	946.25	0.00	2,871.90	0.00%
0-400600 0 - Interest	500.00	728.84	0.00	1,526.15	0.00%
0-400650 0 - Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
0-400700 0 - Contribution From Reserve	0.00	332.48	0.00	0.00	0.00%
Total Library Revenues	\$ 260,225.00	\$ 10,437.72	\$ 0.00	\$ 20,796.95	0.00%

Expenditures					
0-500000 0 - Salaries	\$ 160,000.00	\$ 58,057.10	\$ 0.00	66,909.17	0.00%
0-500050 0 - Custodian	4,200.00	1,729.90	0.00	1,383.92	0.00%
0-500100 0 - Employee Benefits	28,800.00	9,630.71	0.00	14,367.45	0.00%
0-500150 0 - Education and Dues	1,870.00	231.41	0.00	150.00	0.00%
0-500200 0 - Travel	225.00	145.68	0.00	65.37	0.00%
0-500225 5 - Magazines	200.00	0.00	0.00	167.70	0.00%
0-500250 0 - Books	10,000.00	3,869.56	0.00	5,076.58	0.00%
0-500350 0 - Library Supplies	2,000.00	356.29	0.00	177.70	0.00%
0-500375 5 - Deficit	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
0-500400 0 - Audio/Video/DVD	75.00	225.00	0.00	225.00	0.00%
0-500450 0 - Publicity & Programs	550.00	562.76	0.00	584.22	0.00%
0-500475 0 - Good Food Box Program Fees	0.00	2,540.00	0.00	2,217.50	0.00%
0-500500 0 - Property and Maintenance	6,000.00	951.69	0.00	642.82	0.00%
0-500550 0 - Elevator Maintenance	1,550.00	506.72	0.00	1,169.92	0.00%
0-500600 0 - Audit	4,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
0-500610 0 - Professional Services	0.00	0.00	0.00	407.04	0.00%
0-500625 5 - Licences/Subscription Services	4,505.00	2,293.54	0.00	4,065.17	0.00%
0-500650 0 - Postage	1,150.00	436.37	0.00	375.94	0.00%
0-500655 5 - Telephone/Internet	3,300.00	1,493.46	0.00	1,355.15	0.00%
0-500660 0 - Photocopy Maintenance	1,000.00	503.25	0.00	632.58	0.00%
0-500665 5 - Advertising	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
0-500670 0 - Computer Tech Support	1,000.00	96.94	0.00	985.88	0.00%
0-500725 5 - Heat	3,000.00	1,991.90	0.00	1,774.83	0.00%
0-500750 0 - Hydro	5,000.00	2,147.19	0.00	1,480.15	0.00%
0-500775 5 - Insurance	10,100.00	10,984.92	0.00	0.00	0.00%
0-500800 0 - Equipment Purchased	200.00	0.00	0.00	183.16	0.00%
0-500850 0 - Reimbursed Purchases	0.00	667.37	0.00	763.86	0.00%
0-500900 0 - Capital Expenditures	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
0-500950 0 - Transfer to Reserve	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%

Stirling-Rawdon Public Library
Statement of Revenue and Expenditures

Original Budget
 For Library (0)
 For the Fiscal Period 2026-5 Ending May 31, 2026

Account Number	Previous YTD Budget	Previous YTD Actual	Annual Budget	YTD Actual	Remaining Budget %
Total Library Expenditures	\$ 260,225.00	\$ 99,421.76	\$ 0.00	\$ 105,161.11	0.00%
Library Excess of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$ 0.00	\$ (88,984.04)	\$ 0.00	\$ (84,364.16)	0.00%

Stirling-Rawdon Public Library
Statement of Revenue and Expenditures
Original Budget

For the Fiscal Period 2026-5 Ending May 31, 2026

Account Number	Previous YTD Budget	Previous YTD Actual	Annual Budget	YTD Actual	Remaining Budget %
Total Revenues	\$ 260,225.00	\$ 10,437.72	\$ 0.00	\$ 20,796.95	0.00%
Total Expenditures	\$ 260,225.00	\$ 99,421.76	\$ 0.00	\$ 105,161.11	0.00%
Total Excess of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$ 0.00	\$ (88,984.04)	\$ 0.00	\$ (84,364.16)	0.00%

Stirling-Rawdon Public Library



Policy Type:	Operational	Policy Number:	OP0829
Policy Title:	The Library and Political Elections	Initial Policy Approval Date:	2018
		Last Review/Revision Date:	June 2022
		Year of Next Review:	2026

The Stirling-Rawdon Public Library operates in a non-partisan manner and supports the democratic process, fundamental freedoms, and informed discussion on political issues.

Section 1: Scope and Responsibility

1. As a local board of the municipality, the Library Board, employees and volunteers must strictly comply with the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, as well as municipal By-Law No. 24-2026, being a by-law to establish a Policy for the Use of Corporate Resources for Election Purposes.
2. This policy applies to the Library Board, employees, and volunteers:
 - a. in dealing with candidates and political parties, and
 - b. use of library resources during campaign periods for municipal, provincial or federal elections.
3. It is the responsibility of the CEO, or designate, to ensure that library staff comply with legislation related to elections at all levels – municipal, provincial, and federal.

Section 2: Use of Library Resources and Property

1. It is the responsibility of library staff to ensure that no candidate, registered third-party advertiser, or political party is provided with an unfair advantage in the use of library resources at any time.
2. For municipal elections, by May 1st in the election year, the Library Board must establish rules and procedures with respect to the use of library resources during the election campaign period in accordance with Section 88.18 of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, S.O. 1996, c. 32, Sched., as amended.
3. Rules for use of library resources and property are as follows:
 - a. All candidates and political parties have equal access to publicly available resources and library services.

- b. Meeting rooms may be rented in accordance with the Meeting Room Policy #OP294 10D.
- c. Library equipment, supplies, or personnel cannot be provided to candidates for campaign purposes.
- d. The library's logo cannot be used in any campaign material.
- e. All-candidates meetings may be held at the library provided that all candidates are invited to attend such meetings. A candidate shall not be featured or promoted in association with any regular library program or event.
- f. Candidates and political parties are not permitted to distribute campaign materials on public rights-of-way at the library as per municipal By-Law No. 24-2026, being a by-law to establish a Policy for the Use of Corporate Resources for Election Purposes.
- g. In accordance with Section 81.1 (1) of the Canada Elections Act, S.C. 2000, c.9, as amended, federal election candidates or their representatives are allowed to campaign in facilities that are available for free to the public.
- h. Candidates and registered third parties may not display campaign materials or hold campaign activities at municipal facilities except as subject to the following:
 - i. Candidates and registered third parties pay the full market rental fees and rates for use of such facilities; and
 - ii. Candidates and registered third parties set up and remove all campaign materials, including but not limited to election signs, posters, and other campaign-related paraphernalia within the allotted rental period; and
 - iii. Campaign materials may only be displayed within the rented area designated within the rental agreement.

Section 3: Campaign Contributions

1. Municipal Elections: The Library Board may not contribute to the campaign of any candidate or political party in the form of money, goods, or services, in accordance with Section 88.8 (4) 5. of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, S.O. 1996, c. 32, Sched., as amended.
2. Provincial Elections: The Library Board may not contribute to the campaign of any candidate of a provincial election, constituency association, nomination contestant, candidates, and leadership contestant of provincial political parties in the form of money, goods or services, in accordance with Section 16 (1) of the Election Finances Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. E.7, as amended.
3. Federal Elections: The Library Board may not contribute to the campaign of any candidate of a federal election, a registered party, a registered

association, a nomination contestant, a candidate, or a leadership contestant of federal political parties in the form of money, goods or services, in accordance with Section 363 (1) of the Canada Elections Act, S.C. 2000, c. 9, as amended.

Section 4: Participation in Election Campaigns

1. A library employee or volunteer involved in a political campaign must be politically neutral in carrying out their library duties and must not participate in campaign activities during working hours.
2. A library employee running as a candidate in a municipal election must comply with the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, S.O. 1996, c. 32, Sched., as amended, Section 30.
3. Library Board members may continue their responsibilities while running as a candidate in an election.

Section 5: Requests for information about the library

1. The CEO or designate will coordinate requests for information about the library received from candidates or political parties.
2. Information that the library provides to one candidate or political party during an election campaign period will be provided to all other candidates and political parties upon request.
3. Any candidate or political party may request a meeting with the CEO or designate and/or a tour of the library.

Section 6: Procedures for Employees

1. Employees shall not use corporate resources in support of or in opposition to a candidate, political party, or registered third party.
2. Employees shall not canvass nor actively work in support of or in opposition to a candidate, political party, or registered third party during normal working hours, unless they are on a leave of absence without pay, lieu time, or vacation.
3. Employees shall not canvass nor actively work in support of or in opposition to a candidate, political party, or registered third party while wearing any item identifying them as a library employee.
4. Employees are advised to be especially mindful of public perception during municipal elections and to ensure that their activities do not conflict with or adversely affect their duties as employees of a municipal local board.

Stirling-Rawdon Public Library

Policy Type: Operational

Policy # OP0829

Policy Title: **The Library and Political Elections**

Policy Approval Date: April 24, April 2018, June 2022

Policy Review Date: 2026

Section 1: Scope and Legal Framework

The Library must act and appear to act in a non-partisan way at all times, especially during elections, while supporting the democratic process, freedom of expression and informed discussion on political issues. The library must comply with legislation related to elections. These regulations are included in the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* as amended by Bill 181, the *Municipal Elections Modernization Act, 2016*. Specifically, Clause 88.18 *Use of municipal, board resources* states:

Before May 1 in the year of a regular election, municipalities and local boards shall establish rules and procedures with respect to the use of municipal or board resources, as the case may be, during the election campaign period.

This policy applies to Board members, employees and volunteers of the library in their dealings with candidates and political parties and the use of library resources during the campaign periods for municipal elections, and these rules and procedures will also be used for provincial and federal elections.

Section 2 Campaign Contributions

1. In accordance with the *Municipal Elections Act*, Section 70(4), the *Elections Finances Act*, Section 16(1), and *Canada Elections Act*, Section 404(1), the Board may not make a contribution to the campaign of any candidate or political party in the form of money, goods or services.

Section 3: Use of Library Resources and Property

1. All candidates and political parties have equal access to publicly available resources and services of the library.
2. Meeting rooms may be rented in accordance with the Stirling Public Library Meeting Room Policy #OP294/10D.
3. Candidates cannot use equipment, supplies, staff or other operational resources of the library nor may they use the library's logo in any campaign material.
4. 'All-candidates' meetings can be held at the library, either as a library program or sponsored by another group, provided that all candidates are invited to attend such meetings. A candidate cannot be featured or promoted in association with any other regular library program or event.
5. Candidates and political parties are permitted to distribute campaign materials on public right-of-ways at the library, unless prohibited by a municipal by-law.

6. In accordance with the *Canada Elections Act* section 81.1(1) federal election candidates or their representatives are allowed to campaign in facilities that are available for free to the public. During municipal and provincial elections candidates will be granted the same right to campaign in the library.
7. During an election the library will provide an area where candidates may make available up to 25 copies of their campaign brochure; will promote awareness of the election; and provide general information on elections.
8. No election sign or poster specific to a candidate or political party can be posted on the grounds of the library or in the library building.

Section 4: Employee and Volunteer Participation in Election Campaigns

1. Any library employee running as a candidate in the municipal election will comply with Section 30 of the *Municipal Elections Act*.
2. A library employee or volunteer involved in a political campaign must be politically neutral in carrying out his or her library duties during and must not participate in campaign activities during his or her working hours.

Section 5: Library Board Members as Candidates

1. Board members may continue their library board responsibilities when they are running for office.

Section 6: Requests for information about the library

1. The CEO will coordinate requests for information about the library received from candidates or political parties.
2. Information that is provided by the library to one candidate or political party will be provided to all other candidates and political parties upon request during an election.
3. Any candidate or political party may request a meeting with the CEO or tour of the library.

Stirling-Rawdon Public Library



Policy Type:	Operational	Policy Number:	OP0828
Policy Title:	Community Information	Initial Policy Approval Date:	2011
		Last Review/Revision Date:	Feb 2022
		Year of Next Review:	2026

The Stirling-Rawdon Public Library makes available information on community activities, agencies and organizations in order to facilitate access to resources within the community and as a partner in promoting community services and events. The library encourages the display of bulletins, brochures and posters regarding events in order that residents can fully participate in community activities. This policy sets out the types of information suitable for collecting, displaying and distributing in the library.

Section 1: Community Information Collection and Services

1. The library will make every effort to collect and keep current information on the services of community agencies and organizations. This will include up-to-date information on:
 - a) municipal services
 - b) community groups
 - c) educational organizations
 - d) health and social services agencies and
 - e) religious, recreation and cultural institutions
2. The library will seek to provide easy, convenient and confidential access to information on agencies and organizations.
3. The library staff will be knowledgeable about community agencies and organizations and capable of referring people appropriately and in a sensitive manner.
4. Patron confidentiality will be respected at all times, **except in cases where requirements of the law intervene.**

Section 2: Community Information Displays in the Library

1. The library will make available space to display materials about community

activities, services and events in the following locations ~~within the~~ on library property:

- a) On the community bulletin board in the main lobby
 - b) On the display table in the main lobby for community booklets, calendars, periodicals etc.
 - c) In the brochure rack between the front doors
 - d) On the municipal bulletin board at the library's northwest corner.
2. The display of material does not constitute an endorsement of any group, activity, or event by the library.
 3. The library staff will handle all placement, posting and removal of all community information materials. ~~on the bulletin boards, table, and in the brochure racks.~~
 4. Materials will be accepted on a space-available basis using the following priorities:
 - a) notices of library programs, events, activities and services
 - b) notices of community interest from the local municipality and agencies.
 - c) notices of cultural, educational and recreational events
 - d) personal notices regarding lost pets etc at the discretion of the CEO
 5. All materials become the property of the Stirling-Rawdon Public Library and the library will dispose of materials as it sees fit.
 6. The library will not display or distribute:
 - a) materials that contravene the Ontario Human Rights Code, federal or provincial laws and regulations
 - b) faith-based materials whose primary purpose is the promotion of faith, however events sponsored by local religious groups may be displayed
 - c) materials advertising and promoting commercial products or services
 - d) personal ads and notices including notices of items for sale or rent
 - e) multiple copies of the same posting on the bulletin board
 7. Any complaints or appeals will be resolved by the CEO.

Section 3 Election Campaign Material

1. Material whose primary focus is partisan or political in nature cannot be displayed or distributed unless to announce meetings and forums for discussion of community issues.

Stirling-Rawdon Public Library



Policy Type:	Fundraising Policies	Policy Number:	FRP0834
Policy Title:	General Gift Acceptance	Initial Policy Approval Date:	2008
		Last Review/Revision Date:	Jan 2022
		Year of Next Review:	2026

The Stirling-Rawdon Public Library welcomes and encourages contributions from individuals, groups, foundations and businesses for the purpose of enhancing and enriching the programs and services of the Library. ~~This policy sets out the requirements for general gift acceptance in accordance with the Library's charitable status.~~

Section 1: Ethics and Definitions

1. The library is committed to the highest ethical standards of philanthropy, financial accountability, and development practices.
2. The Canada Revenue Agency defines a donation as a voluntary transfer of property to the library made without the expectation that any benefit will accrue to the donor.

Section 2: Types of Gifts

1. The library accepts the following types of contributions:
 - a) books and other printed materials
 - b) audio-visual materials
 - c) materials that have significance to the local history of Stirling and area
 - d) equipment (at the discretion of the CEO)
 - e) toys (at the discretion of the Children's Librarian)
 - f) cash
 - g) transfers of securities
 - h) planned gifts such as bequests or gifts of life insurance

Section 3: Acceptance of Donations

1. The library evaluates all donations and only accepts those which it feels aligns with the mission, values and standards of the library. Donations are reviewed and selected under the same parameters as material directly purchased by the Library.

2. Donations become the exclusive property of the Library and will not be returned to the donor unless a signed agreement has been created
3. Items not suitable for the Library collection may be sold or discarded at the Library's discretion.

Caucus Meetings Feedback

Report To: The FOPL Board
Prepared by: Diana Chiavaroli and Dina Stevens
Prepared on: May 13, 2026

CAUCUS MEETING DATES AND ATTENDANCE

Caucus meetings were held in April of this year to gather feedback from our members. Feedback regarding our current priorities and direction is critical to inform our strategic direction. Though attendance was variable, we were still able to have productive conversations about proposed next steps for FOPL and current challenges our libraries are facing.

Francophone Caucus – 5 attendees
Northern Caucus - 10 attendees
Rural Caucus - 10 attendees
Small Medium Caucus - 33 attendees
Large Urban Caucus (including Toronto) – 21 attendees
First Nations Caucus – meeting TBD

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

FOPL's caucus engagement sessions revealed **a sector experiencing significant pressure, rapid change, and growing complexity**, while also demonstrating strong support for FOPL's overall advocacy direction and leadership. Across all caucuses, members consistently emphasized that Ontario public libraries are increasingly being asked to do more with limited and often stagnant resources, while simultaneously responding to broader societal challenges that extend well beyond traditional library service delivery.

The strongest and most consistent theme across every caucus was the **urgent need for increased and sustainable provincial funding**. Members repeatedly identified PLOG increases, long-term operational funding stability, capital funding, and support for digital collections as the advocacy priorities that would make the greatest local impact. Libraries of all sizes described growing pressure from staffing costs, population growth, infrastructure needs, and rising service expectations, while municipal funding remains constrained and increasingly unpredictable. Several members expressed concern that municipal governments continue to view libraries as discretionary services rather than essential community infrastructure.

At the same time, caucus members strongly reinforced that public libraries are **increasingly functioning as frontline social infrastructure**. Across urban, rural, northern, and small-medium systems, respondents

described growing impacts from homelessness, addictions, mental health crises, food insecurity, and social disorder within library spaces. While the scale and visibility of these issues vary across communities, there was broad agreement that libraries are increasingly **filling gaps created by insufficient social supports elsewhere in the system**. Members emphasized repeatedly that library staff are not social workers, healthcare professionals, or security personnel, and that libraries require stronger partnerships, clearer referral pathways, and upstream investments in mental health, housing, addictions, and community services.

One of the clearest pieces of feedback was the **importance of carefully framing FOPL's Safety and Security campaign**. While there was strong support for the campaign overall, members cautioned that messaging must avoid stigmatizing vulnerable populations or portraying libraries as unsafe spaces. Libraries continue to be viewed as trusted, welcoming, and inclusive community institutions, and caucus members stressed that advocacy messaging must preserve that public trust while still communicating the realities staff are facing. Respondents also expressed concern that fear-based messaging could unintentionally reinforce political narratives that libraries are incapable of managing their spaces independently, particularly in the context of Strong Mayor powers, governance changes, and broader provincial restructuring conversations.

Strong Mayor powers, governance concerns, and the Alberta intellectual freedom legislation emerged repeatedly throughout the discussions as growing sources of anxiety across the sector. Members are increasingly concerned about the erosion of local library autonomy, the weakening of independent library board governance, and the possibility of censorship-related legislation emerging in Ontario. **Alberta's Bill 28 was frequently referenced as a major warning sign for Ontario libraries**. Members repeatedly called for **stronger intellectual freedom advocacy, proactive preparation, crisis communications planning**, and clearer provincial leadership on these issues. Concerns about amalgamation, municipal overreach, school board restructuring, and regional governance changes further amplified fears about the long-term independence of public libraries.

Another major takeaway from the caucus feedback was the significant difference in realities between library systems across Ontario. **Rural, northern, and small-medium libraries consistently noted that many provincial conversations feel heavily urban-focused, particularly around safety and security**. Members acknowledged that while larger urban systems are experiencing highly visible incidents, smaller communities are facing different but still important challenges, including staffing shortages, poverty, aging infrastructure, governance issues, limited social supports, and capacity constraints. **There was a strong request for FOPL advocacy and communications to better reflect the diversity of library realities across Ontario and ensure rural and northern perspectives are represented more visibly in advocacy work**.

The caucus discussions also highlighted the growing **importance of evidence-based and financially grounded advocacy**. Members consistently reported that municipal councils and local MPPs respond most strongly to messaging focused on return on investment, efficiency, cost savings, partnerships, economic development, and measurable community impact. Libraries increasingly feel pressure to quantify their value through metrics, usage statistics, ROI data, and evidence-based storytelling. At the same time, many respondents expressed frustration that despite increased usage, expanded programming, and stronger public support, funding is not

keeping pace with demand. Several members described a disconnect between strong public support for libraries and political willingness to invest in them.

Emerging trends identified across the caucuses point to a **sector undergoing rapid transformation**. Libraries reported increased usage overall, rising demand for digital literacy support, growing reliance on library spaces due to affordability pressures, and expanding expectations around social supports, programming, and community services. AI and emerging technologies were repeatedly identified as both opportunities and concerns, particularly related to staff capacity, training, misinformation, and digital literacy. Staffing shortages, labour pressures, burnout, recruitment challenges, and organizational fatigue were recurring concerns across nearly every caucus.

Despite these pressures, the overall tone of the caucus discussions remained supportive of FOPL's advocacy work and direction. Members expressed appreciation for FOPL's leadership, campaigns, and growing advocacy presence. **However, caucus members also emphasized the need for stronger communication loops between caucuses, the Board, and membership; greater transparency in decision-making processes; and more opportunities for member input earlier in advocacy development.** Members want FOPL to continue acting as a strong, united provincial voice while ensuring advocacy reflects the diversity of experiences across Ontario's public library sector.

SURVEY

This year Slido was used during the meetings. Slido is an audience interaction platform used to crowd-source questions through live polling. This allowed us to gather anonymous feedback with a set of questions that was consistent for each caucus meeting, allowing us to compare the results. The anonymity allowed attendees to be more forthcoming with their answers and encouraged conversation. Overall, using Slido was a success and promoted discussion from each person participating and resulted in a huge increase in feedback over previous years.

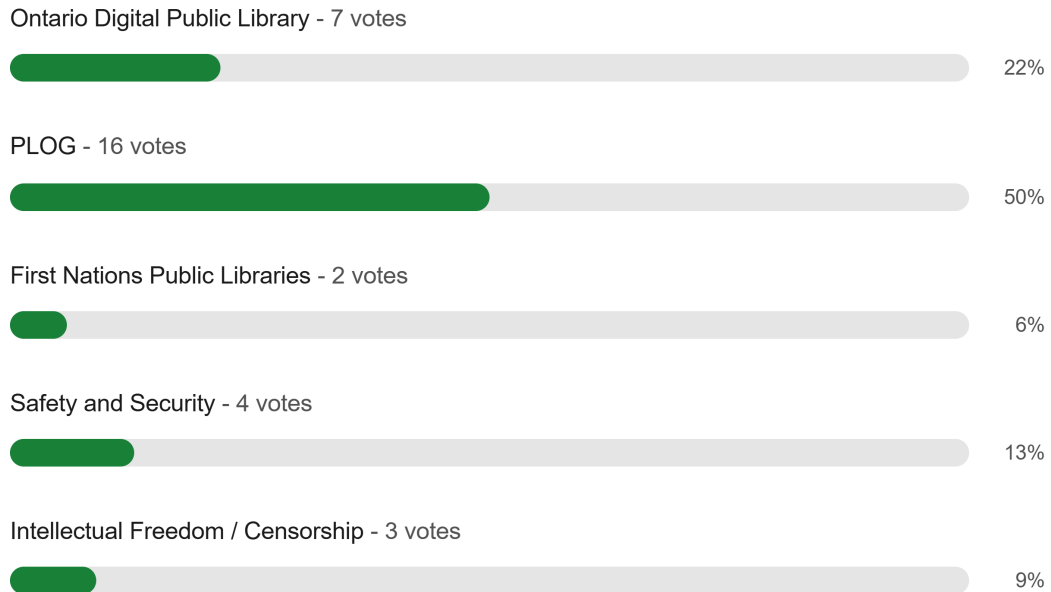
A few notes to consider:

- We have provided the results collated by question for comparison purposes.
- No one from the Francophone Caucus answered any of the Slido questions.
- The slido will be shared in advance with the membership ahead of the caucus meetings to allow for more time to consider and answer the questions. This will help prompt open discussion as well.
- I have highlighted pieces of feedback that are of particular interest.
- Caucus feedback will be distributed to members after the board meeting.

Question #1: Strategic Priorities - If FOPL could only advance ONE priority this year, what should it be?

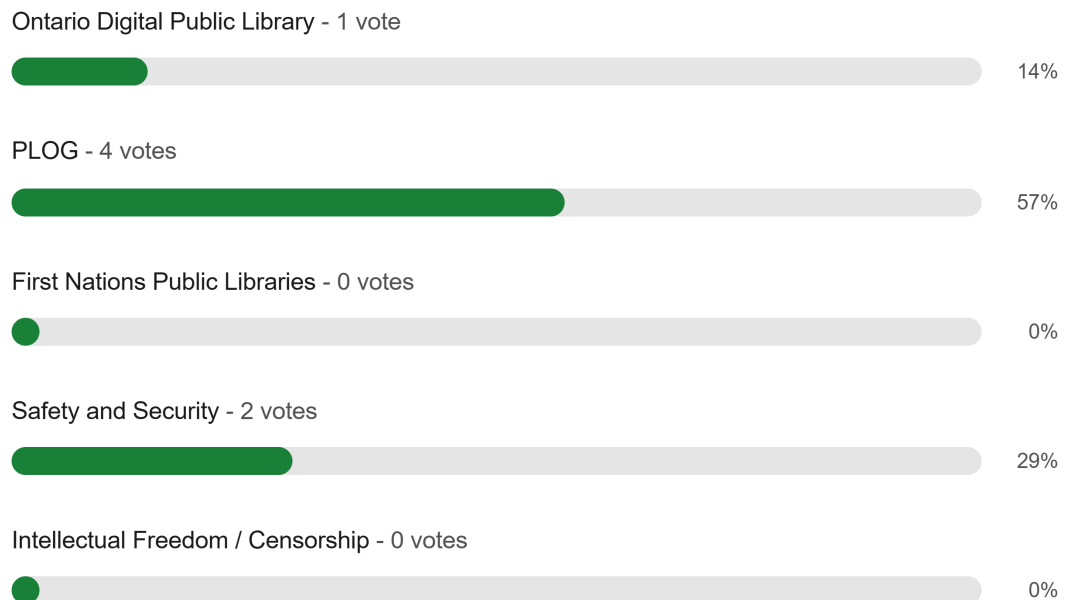
Small Medium Caucus

Multiple Choice Poll 32 votes 32 participants



Northern Caucus

Multiple Choice Poll 7 votes 7 participants



Rural Caucus

Multiple Choice Poll 13 votes  13 participants

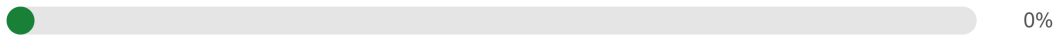
Ontario Digital Public Library - 7 votes



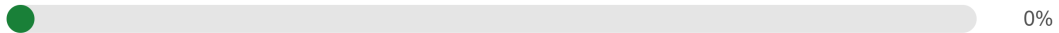
PLOG - 6 votes



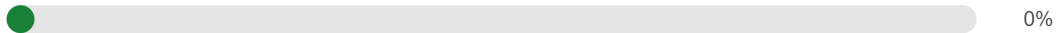
First Nations Public Libraries - 0 votes



Safety and Security - 0 votes



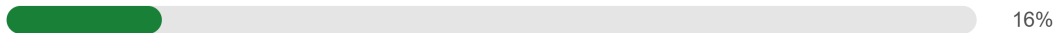
Intellectual Freedom / Censorship - 0 votes



Large Urban and Toronto Caucuses

Multiple Choice Poll 19 votes  19 participants

Ontario Digital Public Library - 3 votes



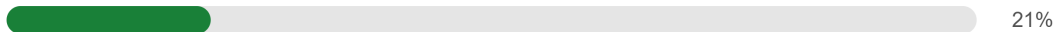
PLOG - 7 votes



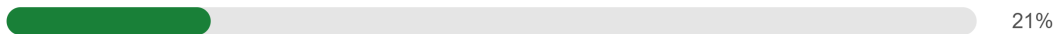
First Nations Public Libraries - 1 vote



Safety and Security - 4 votes



Intellectual Freedom / Censorship - 4 votes



Question 2: Strategic Priorities - Where will provincial advocacy make the biggest difference locally?

Small Medium Caucus

- Strong consensus around the need for increased and stable provincial funding:
 - PLOG increases and long-term predictable funding
 - Reducing pressure on municipal budgets
 - Supporting staffing, programming, and long-term planning
 - Greater support for small, rural, and growing communities
- Significant support for the Ontario Digital Public Library (ODPL):
 - Reducing digital collection costs
 - Improving equitable access to digital resources across Ontario
 - Supporting digital literacy and skills development
 - Allowing libraries to redirect funds to programming and services
 - Opportunity for coordinated public awareness campaigns
- Concerns about increasing pressures on libraries:
 - Safety and security challenges
 - Mental health and social issues impacting staff and services
 - Libraries increasingly serving as frontline community spaces
- Concerns related to municipal governance and policy:
 - Strong Mayor powers and unpredictable funding decisions
 - Development Charges and sustainable funding for growing communities
 - Need for clearer provincial expectations around municipal library support under the Public Libraries Act
- Support for provincial coordination and advocacy:
 - Shared provincial resources and service coordination
 - Digital equity and connectivity
 - Stronger advocacy for intellectual freedom, library independence, and anti-censorship efforts

Northern Caucus

- Increased provincial funding was the dominant priority:
 - Higher PLOG funding
 - Reducing financial pressure on municipalities
 - Expanding library service options and capacity
- Strong concern about limited municipal support:
 - Perception that libraries are not a municipal priority
 - Municipalities expecting greater provincial responsibility for funding
- Need for clearer communication and advocacy tools:
 - Simplifying information for municipal officials
 - Increasing understanding of the Library Act and library governance
 - Improving awareness of library needs among local decision-makers

Rural Caucus

- Strong support for increased provincial funding:
 - PLOG increases

- Concerns about municipalities clawing back provincial increases
- Importance of sustaining municipal funding alongside provincial support
- Digital access and equity were major priorities:
 - Support for the Ontario Digital Library/ODPL
 - Increased funding for digital resources
 - Concern about growing service gaps between rural and urban libraries
- Strong emphasis on advocacy and awareness-building:
 - Raising awareness of the value and impact of libraries
 - Keeping libraries visible to municipal councillors and decision-makers
 - Reinforcing libraries as essential community services
- Concern that rural libraries are falling behind larger urban systems:
 - Perception of a growing “two-tier” library system in Ontario

Large Urban and Toronto Caucuses

- Increased and sustainable provincial funding was the top priority:
 - PLOG increases
 - Operating and capital funding
 - Funding for collections, e-books, and e-audio
- Strong concern about growing societal pressures impacting libraries:
 - Mental health and addictions
 - Homelessness
 - Safety and security issues
 - Need for upstream provincial investment in social supports
- Provincial policy decisions impacting libraries locally:
 - Development Charges (DCs)
 - Strong Mayor powers
 - Reduced education funding increasing reliance on libraries
- Strong support for intellectual freedom advocacy:
 - Concerns about censorship legislation similar to Alberta
 - Protecting independent library governance and collection management
- Desire for stronger, coordinated provincial advocacy:
 - Need for a united provincial voice
 - More proactive leadership from FOPL
 - Support for municipalities in advocacy efforts
- Other recurring themes:
 - Communicating the value of libraries to stakeholders
 - Recognition that advocacy priorities are interconnected and cannot be addressed individually

Question 3: Campaigns - Safety and Security: What are you experiencing that would strengthen this campaign?

Small Medium Caucus

- Increasing impacts from homelessness, mental health and addictions
 - Overdoses and substance use in and around libraries
 - Escalated and unpredictable behaviour
 - Growing need for housing and food security supports
 - Theft and damage to technology and library property
- Strong message that libraries are not social service agencies:
 - Staff are not social workers or security guards
 - Libraries are serving as frontline community spaces without adequate supports
 - Need for upstream provincial investment and systemic solutions
- Increased need for staff support and training:
 - De-escalation training
 - Mental health first aid
 - Emergency response protocols
 - Preparation for emerging issues, even in smaller/rural communities
- Importance of partnerships and coordinated community responses:
 - Better collaboration with shelters, social services, police, and first responders
 - Desire for community agencies to work within library spaces, not rely on libraries as stop-gap supports
 - Cross-departmental municipal collaboration seen as valuable
- Recognition that impacts vary by community:
 - Larger and urban libraries experiencing more visible incidents
 - Smaller and rural libraries reporting fewer issues currently, but concern that challenges are growing and could emerge locally
 - Some local decision-makers still view these as “urban” or “health” issues rather than library issues
- Support for the campaign approach and messaging:
 - Support for framing libraries as partners, not replacements, for social services
 - Recognition that this is a multi-sector issue requiring systemic solutions
 - Interest in sharing real-life stories and involving community organizations in advocacy efforts

Northern Caucus

- Increasing impacts from homelessness, addictions, and vulnerable populations:
 - Drug use and drug selling in libraries
 - Patrons using libraries as safe/warm spaces or temporary shelter
 - Seasonal increases in visible homelessness and encampments
- Safety concerns for staff:
 - Staff working alone
 - Requests for panic buttons and funding for minimum two-staff coverage
 - Concerns that situations could escalate quickly without supports in place
- Strong message that library staff are not social workers:

- Staff frequently approached by individuals in crisis
- Uncertainty around where to direct people for appropriate supports
- Need for better community resource connections and referral tools
- Desire for upstream and preventative approaches:
 - Focus on addressing root causes of addictions and trauma
 - More resources for children, families, and community resiliency
- Importance of community and municipal partnerships:
 - Municipal and community support seen as valuable where it exists
 - Recognition that local collaboration helps libraries manage challenges more effectively

Rural Caucus

- Increasing impacts from mental health, addictions, and homelessness:
 - More patrons presenting with visible mental health or substance use challenges
 - Libraries increasingly serving as safe spaces for vulnerable populations
 - Issues occurring in both larger rural hubs and small villages
- Growing strain on library resources and operations:
 - Significant staff time diverted away from core library services and strategic priorities
 - Concerns about patron discomfort and loss of traditional library users
 - Increasing security costs, including hiring security guards
- Need for more training and support resources:
 - Positive feedback on de-escalation and homelessness training
 - Concern that smaller libraries cannot afford adequate training resources
- Desire for stronger municipal awareness and support:
 - Need for mayors and municipal leaders to better understand library pressures
 - Recognition that libraries are managing broader community challenges
- Mixed perspectives on advocacy approach:
 - Some support for broader social service investment and upstream solutions
 - Others concerned increased social funding could come at the expense of library funding
 - Interest in framing libraries as safe spaces while also advocating for direct library resources and supports

Large Urban and Toronto Caucuses

- Significant increase in safety and security incidents:
 - High levels of substance use in and around libraries
 - Drug paraphernalia regularly found in branches
 - Increasing conflicts between patrons
 - Growing pressures related to homelessness, mental health, and food insecurity
- Rising operational and financial pressures:
 - Increased need for security staff and facility safety upgrades
 - Frozen provincial funding making it difficult to sustain responses
 - Police and security services often lack sufficient capacity to assist
- Strong need for mental health and community supports:
 - Desire for dedicated mental health partners and upstream supports
 - Concern about the impacts of provincial decisions, including safe consumption site closures

- Recognition that libraries are increasingly filling gaps in the social support system
- Importance of effective messaging and advocacy framing:
 - Support for updated campaign language and framing
 - Concern that safety and security messaging could be misused politically to challenge library board governance or autonomy
 - Need to clearly communicate realities to stakeholders and government
- Interest in storytelling and evidence-based advocacy:
 - Desire for more real-life examples and anecdotes
 - Importance of sharing experiences with MPPs and stakeholders to strengthen understanding of the issue

Question #4: Campaigns - Safety and Security: What would success look like for your library in 12 months?

Small Medium Caucus

- Stronger external social and health supports:
 - Increased housing, shelter, and mental health resources
 - Better healthcare intervention and crisis supports
 - More community agencies available to assist vulnerable individuals
 - Libraries no longer acting as replacements for social services
- Stronger partnerships and coordinated responses:
 - Closer collaboration with municipal and community partners
 - Support services operating within libraries
 - Clear referral pathways for people in crisis
 - Continued reliable support from city and community partners
- Safer and more welcoming library environments:
 - Reduction in incidents, theft, and unsafe behaviour
 - Libraries remaining welcoming and family-friendly
 - Patrons feeling safe, secure, and comfortable using library spaces
- Increased staff support and preparedness:
 - Comprehensive staff training
 - Clear safety policies and protocols
 - Staff feeling confident and supported when responding to incidents
 - Clear boundaries around the role of library staff versus social workers or medical professionals
- Increased funding and infrastructure support:
 - Funding for security, specialized staff, and facility upgrades
 - Improvements to library spaces and washrooms
 - Resources to implement new or enhanced services
- Recognition of broader societal challenges:
 - Greater public awareness of the root causes impacting libraries
 - Understanding that safety and security issues are community-wide and systemic, not solely library issues

Northern Caucus

- Increased staffing and funding supports:
 - Funding to ensure two staff are working at all times
 - Reduced instances of staff working alone
 - Increased wage funding to improve staffing coverage during evenings and weekends
- More staff training and safety supports:
 - Additional training on de-escalation, safety, and responding to challenging situations
 - Staff feeling safer entering and leaving work, particularly during winter evenings
 - Interest in grants for improved lighting and safety infrastructure
- Stronger addictions and social service supports:
 - Better local access to addictions and mental health services
 - Increased engagement and responsiveness from social service agencies
 - Reduced need for police involvement related to substance use incidents in libraries
- Desire for libraries to return focus to core services:
 - More funding directed toward children's resources and library programming
 - Reduced operational strain caused by safety and security incidents

Rural Caucus

- Fewer incident reports
 - Fewer challenging patron interactions in-person and over the phone
- Stronger supports in rural communities:
 - Increased local social and community services
 - More equitable funding for rural municipalities
 - Reduced pressure on libraries in small communities with limited resources
- Increased staff preparedness:
 - All staff completing safety and de-escalation training
- Greater public understanding of underlying issues:
 - Increased awareness of root causes related to homelessness, addictions, and mental health
- Improved housing and shelter supports:
 - More shelter and housing options for unhoused individuals using library spaces

Large Urban and Toronto Caucuses

- Reduction in incidents and security concerns:
 - Fewer monthly incidents and security reports
 - Reduced mental health-related safety issues
 - Less staff time spent responding to and documenting incidents
 - Safer and more welcoming library spaces
- Increased external supports and wraparound services:
 - More embedded social services and community supports
 - Improved intake, outreach, and treatment programs for vulnerable populations
 - Better local and provincial funding for social supports
 - Governments working collaboratively on solutions
- Increased funding and operational capacity:
 - Dedicated funding for safety and security measures

- Funding for staff or specialized safety-related roles
- Stronger municipal supports to reduce immediate pressures on libraries
- Stronger collaboration and coordinated responses:
 - Closer partnerships between libraries, human services, and municipalities
 - Shared community approaches and coordinated problem-solving
- Staff training and empowerment:
 - Training that is practical and empowering rather than fear-based
 - Continued focus on staff preparedness and confidence in handling incidents

Question 5: Safety and Security: What risks should we be aware of in how we're framing this issue?

Small Medium

- Strong concern about stigmatizing vulnerable populations:
 - Avoid profiling people experiencing homelessness, addictions, or mental health challenges
 - Avoid portraying certain patrons as “the problem”
 - Recognize that these issues are complex and not always visible
- Importance of maintaining libraries as welcoming spaces:
 - Libraries must continue to be seen as safe, inclusive, and welcoming for everyone
 - Concern about messaging making libraries appear unsafe or “drug dens”
 - Need to balance safety with compassion and inclusivity
- Concern about shifting responsibility onto libraries:
 - Libraries should not be positioned as the solution to broader social crises
 - Risk of normalizing unsustainable expectations on library staff and services
 - Need to reinforce that libraries require resources and external supports
- Importance of collaborative and multi-sector framing:
 - Messaging should emphasize partnerships with municipalities, social services, and community organizations
 - Avoid alienating organizations already doing this work
 - Reinforce that this is a community-wide issue, not solely a library issue
- Concern about political and public perception:
 - Risk that advocacy could be interpreted as libraries stepping outside their mandate
 - Concern about public narratives that libraries should “stay in their lane”
 - Need to avoid fear-based or punitive messaging
- Importance of supporting staff while maintaining morale:
 - Acknowledge real staff safety concerns without sensationalizing the issue
 - Ensure messaging supports staff wellbeing and realistic workplace expectations

Northern Caucus

- Careful to not frame the library as unsafe
- The More Than Books title doesn't speak to the actual meat of the campaign

Rural Caucus

- Strong concern about public perception:
 - Libraries must continue to be viewed as safe spaces

- Risk of discouraging patrons from visiting libraries if messaging is overly fear-based
- Concern about reinforcing perceptions that libraries are unsafe
- Importance of balanced messaging:
 - Avoid overstating incidents in ways that overshadow the broader value of public libraries
 - Need to balance safety concerns with messaging about inclusion, community, and library services
- Concern about unintended impacts on vulnerable populations:
 - Risk of unhoused individuals feeling targeted or becoming agitated by public discourse
 - Importance of framing the issue compassionately and carefully
- Concern about operational and funding impacts:
 - Risk that funding could be redirected away from libraries toward other priorities
 - Concern that expectations for increased security measures could become normalized across all libraries
- Awareness of broader community perceptions:
 - Recognition that highly visible security responses in some systems may influence public expectations province-wide

Large Urban and Toronto Caucus

- Importance of recognizing differences between communities:
 - Safety challenges vary significantly across library systems
 - Messaging should reflect diverse local realities and experiences
 - Avoid presenting the issue as uniform across Ontario
- Strong concern about public fear and perception:
 - Libraries must continue to be positioned as safe, welcoming, and comfortable spaces
 - Concern about messaging making libraries appear dangerous or unmanageable
 - Risk that fear-based framing could discourage library use
- Need for careful and balanced messaging:
 - Avoid appearing unsympathetic toward vulnerable populations
 - Recognize the issue extends beyond homelessness to include mental health, addictions, and incivility
 - Maintain focus on compassion and community support
- Concerns about campaign messaging and narrative control:
 - Desire to avoid slogans or framing that could be misunderstood
 - Concern that libraries could appear ill-equipped to manage services and spaces
 - Risk of losing control of the public narrative or media interpretation
- Concerns about government response and advocacy outcomes:
 - Skepticism about whether the current government will fund meaningful solutions
 - Some members felt the greater risk would be avoiding the issue altogether
- Importance of trust and credibility:
 - Messaging should build trust with the public, partners, and stakeholders
 - Libraries should continue to be viewed as reliable and community-centered institutions

Question 6: Gaps and Blind Spots - What is FOPL not talking about that we should be? Use one or two words.

Caucus	Main Themes
Small Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library boards and governance • Strong mayor powers impacting libraries • Challenges facing rural libraries • Diversity in rural public libraries • Safety and security campaign framing • Libraries as essential community infrastructure • Base provincial funding for libraries • Municipal clawbacks of PLOG increases • Libraries' community partnership networks • Pressure on library spaces and facilities • Strengthening the Public Libraries Act • Supports for CEOs and library boards • Rural access to library services • Library board recruitment and training • Overemphasis on digital infrastructure funding • Political pushback against library investment • Support for library professionals • Challenges with volunteer library boards • Increased and sustainable PLOG funding
Northern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artificial intelligence
Rural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong mayor powers and library governance • Rural poverty and rural library challenges • Public awareness of library value • PLOG compared to other government priorities • Development charge changes and library growth • Library space and infrastructure needs
Large Urban/Toronto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong stance on provincial decisions • Strong mayor powers and development charges • Intellectual freedom and censorship • Alberta Bill 28 concerns • Funding pressures and municipal support • AI and emerging technologies • Declining library use • Municipal support for libraries • Safety and security operational impacts • Development charges and community benefit funding • FOPL governance and decision-making clarity

Question 7: Where is FOPL least aligned with your reality right now?

Small Medium Caucus

- Rural and small library realities:
 - Perception that advocacy is often focused on large/urban systems
 - Smaller and rural libraries feel less represented in some provincial conversations
 - Safety and security concerns are not impacting all libraries equally
- Need for stronger municipal advocacy support:
 - Desire for more support building relationships with municipal councils
 - Interest in advocacy tools that help libraries locally
- Funding pressures remain a major concern:
 - Continued emphasis on PLOG increases
 - Pressures related to growth, amalgamation, and municipal funding challenges
- Different local realities across Ontario:
 - Some libraries are not currently experiencing significant safety and security issues
 - Recognition that provincial priorities may not reflect every community equally
- General alignment with FOPL priorities:
 - Several respondents indicated FOPL is generally aligned with their needs
 - Positive feedback on current campaigns and strategic direction

Northern Caucus:

- ODPL and digital resource priorities:
 - Some smaller libraries do not heavily rely on e-resources
 - Perception that ODPL may not benefit all libraries equally
- Northern and rural representation:
 - Concern that advocacy is often centered on southern and urban realities
 - Recognition that safety and security issues manifest differently in smaller and northern communities
 - Concern that urban-focused narratives dominate provincial conversations because they attract more public attention and media coverage

Rural Caucus:

- ODPL and digital resource priorities:
 - Some smaller libraries do not heavily rely on e-resources
 - Perception that ODPL may not benefit all libraries equally
- Northern and rural representation:
 - Concern that advocacy is often centered on southern and urban realities
 - Recognition that safety and security issues manifest differently in smaller and northern communities
 - Concern that urban-focused narratives dominate provincial conversations because they attract more public attention and media coverage

Large Urban and Toronto Caucuses:

- Concerns about ODPL as a priority:
 - Preference for increased PLOG funding over ODPL
 - Skepticism about ODPL's value or viability, particularly for urban libraries

- Perception that safety and security funding is a more urgent priority
- Funding and infrastructure pressures:
 - Calls for PLOG recalculation based on population growth
 - Concerns about capital costs and infrastructure funding
 - Recognition of libraries as essential municipal infrastructure requiring greater investment
- Intellectual freedom and censorship concerns:
 - Desire for stronger focus on Alberta Bill 28 and censorship issues
 - Interest in advocacy related to intellectual freedom
- Governance and decision-making transparency:
 - Desire for clearer consultation and feedback processes
 - Concern that member feedback is sought too late in decision-making
 - Questions about the role of caucus representatives and board communication
- Emerging issues and future priorities:
 - Interest in AI and its impacts on libraries
 - Some respondents indicated no major concerns with alignment at this time

Question 8: Political Strategy - What messaging resonates the most with your local MPPs or councils?

Small Medium Caucus

- **Return on investment (ROI)**
 - Cost savings and efficiency
 - Low taxes and responsible spending
 - Competition for limited municipal resources
 - Requests for increased provincial funding support
- **Strong interest in measurable impact:**
 - Use statistics, metrics, and evidence
 - Demonstrate community impact and positive outcomes
 - Showcase partnerships and shared service models
 - Highlight efficiencies and reduced duplication
- Community-focused messaging is effective:
 - Libraries as essential community infrastructure
 - Support for education, literacy, and access to services
 - Community wellbeing and support for vulnerable populations
 - Libraries as drivers of economic development and community growth
 - Messaging focused on benefits to local residents
 - Importance of libraries as community amenities that attract residents and support quality of life
 - Councils respond to messaging tied directly to local impacts
- Safety and security messaging is increasingly resonating:
 - Concerns around safety, homelessness, food insecurity, and mental health are becoming more important to councils
 - Cost and safety messaging seen as particularly effective with conservative elected officials

- Concerns around safety, homelessness, food insecurity, and mental health are becoming more important to councils
- Cost and safety messaging seen as particularly effective with conservative elected officials
- Importance of positive storytelling and promotion:
 - Celebrate successes and what libraries are already doing well
 - Increase awareness of the often unseen services libraries provide
 - Celebrate successes and what libraries are already doing well
 - Increase awareness of the often unseen services libraries provide
- Mixed views on ODPL and PLOG messaging:
 - Some members believe ODPL resonates more strongly because PLOG increases may be clawed back municipally
 - Others emphasized the importance of direct provincial operational funding support
 - Some members believe ODPL resonates more strongly because PLOG increases may be clawed back municipally
 - Others emphasized the importance of direct provincial operational funding support

Northern Caucus

- Financial impact and funding remain the strongest messages:
 - Return on investment and social return on investment (SROI)
 - Importance of demonstrating measurable community value
 - Strong support for increased PLOG funding
- Data and local impact resonate with councils:
 - Presenting library usage statistics and outcomes
 - Showing the importance of libraries within the community
 - Evidence-based advocacy strengthens municipal relationships
- Municipal funding pressures are a major concern:
 - Interest in how provincial funding models affect local municipalities
 - Concerns about fringe or non-resident populations using municipal services without corresponding funding support
 - Interest in how provincial funding models affect local municipalities
 - Concerns about fringe or non-resident populations using municipal services without corresponding funding support
- Need for greater awareness and visibility:
 - Some members noted limited awareness of FOPL among local councils
 - Desire for stronger recognition of library funding needs at the municipal level

Rural

- Value-for-money messaging resonates strongly:
 - Efficiency and responsible spending
 - Cost-sharing, partnerships, and eliminating duplication
 - Demonstrating strong return on investment
- Libraries' broad community impact is important:
 - Early literacy, accessibility, seniors' services
 - Programming, activities, and community supports

- Community wellbeing and quality of life
- Rural community messaging is effective:
 - Importance of libraries as community hubs in rural areas
 - Recognition that rural communities rely heavily on library services
- Funding sustainability remains a major concern:
 - Long-term decline in the relative value of PLOG funding
 - Municipal and county councils focused on sustainable funding models
 - Safety and wellbeing strategies increasingly aligning with library advocacy
- Political engagement varies locally:
 - Some MPPs perceived as disengaged or difficult to influence
 - Councils more responsive to practical, financially grounded messaging

Large Urban and Toronto Caucuses

- Community impact and affordability messaging resonates:
 - Libraries supporting affordability through books, entertainment, passes, and shared resources
 - Digital literacy and programming valued by communities
 - Libraries recognized as important community assets
- Data and evidence-based messaging are effective:
 - Councils respond well to numbers, metrics, and measurable impacts
 - Interest in quantifying safety and security pressures where possible
- Recognition that libraries are addressing broader social needs:
 - Libraries increasingly supporting civic and social wellbeing
 - Libraries filling gaps in local social infrastructure
 - Acknowledgement that some issues extend beyond traditional library mandates
- Safety and security messaging is resonating:
 - Councils and municipalities are experiencing similar pressures
 - “Lighten the load” messaging seen as effective in some communities
 - Interest in increased provincial support to reduce downloading onto municipalities
- Solutions-focused advocacy is preferred:
 - Emphasis on practical solutions and positive outcomes
 - Balance between communicating challenges and sharing success stories
- Political and local context matters:
 - Opposition parties may be more receptive to messaging tied to social services and housing
 - Libraries seen as trusted, non-political champions for literacy, education, and community programming

Question 9: Political Strategy - Where are you getting traction or pushback?

Small Medium Caucus

- Funding and staffing pressures remain the largest challenge:
 - Rising staffing costs and budget pressures
 - Need for expansion funding and maintaining library assets
 - Population growth increasing service demands without matching funding
- Municipal understanding of library pressures varies:

- Some municipalities do not recognize safety and security as a library issue
- Libraries often viewed as a business unit rather than a community partner
- Shared-use facilities can complicate responsibility for safety concerns
- Strong emphasis on demonstrating value:
 - Usage statistics, ROI, and community impact resonate with councils
 - Increased visibility and strategic communication seen as important
 - Preparing strong briefing materials and advocacy information is effective
- Concerns about sustainability of service models:
 - Pushback on maintaining multiple small branches
 - Staffing shortages despite increasing community demand and library usage
- Importance of partnerships and collaboration:
 - Positive experiences with collaborative roundtables and partnerships
 - Libraries increasingly recognized as hubs for social service support
 - Partnerships helping strengthen local government relationships
- Governance and organizational issues:
 - Board recruitment and governance processes identified as ongoing challenges
- Some respondents reported positive municipal relationships:
 - Councils and local MPPs generally supportive of libraries
 - Main barriers identified as funding limitations and space constraints rather than political opposition

Northern Caucus

- Ongoing funding and budget pushback:
 - Municipal resistance to increasing library budgets
 - Concerns about inflation and rising operating costs not being reflected in funding
 - Questions about where library funding is being spent
 - Reliance on municipal funding remains a major pressure point
- Misunderstanding of library funding responsibilities:
 - Perception from some municipalities that schools should help fund libraries
 - Need for clearer understanding of library funding structures and mandates
- Positive traction through community impact:
 - Community engagement efforts resonate positively
 - Digital resources and services viewed as valuable by local stakeholders
 - Some libraries reporting improved conversations and relationships with councils
- Challenges around revenue generation expectations:
 - Pushback related to libraries' inability or limited ability to generate significant revenue independently

Rural Caucus

- Continued need to demonstrate library relevance:
 - Persistent perception that libraries are less necessary in the digital age
 - Importance of highlighting digital literacy, internet access, and public education roles
- Significant funding and infrastructure pressures:
 - Difficulty securing funding for facility upgrades and modern accessible spaces

- Concerns about long-term budget sustainability despite population growth and increased usage
- Councils wanting expanded services while expecting reduced budget requests
- Strong traction through data and value demonstration:
 - ROI and VOLT data helping demonstrate value for dollar
 - Showing statistics, outcomes, and usage data generating positive traction
 - Some skepticism from councils when impact data appears exceptionally strong
- Governance and legislative concerns:
 - Some councils lack understanding of the Public Libraries Act
 - Concerns about municipal attempts to weaken or dismantle library boards
- Challenges around social issues recognition:
 - Some municipalities minimizing or denying local homelessness and social challenges
- Positive support for library services, but less for infrastructure:
 - Municipal support often stronger for programs and services than for physical library spaces
 - Staffing approvals sometimes supported where service demand is clearly demonstrated

Large Urban and Toronto Caucuses:

- Mixed traction on provincial funding advocacy:
 - Increased PLOG funding resonates more than ODPL messaging
 - Some elected officials remain uninterested in library funding increases or library issues generally
 - Varying levels of engagement between local MPPs
- Challenges around understanding the library mandate:
 - Misunderstanding of the role and mandate of public libraries
 - Concerns about mission drift and sustainability of expanded responsibilities
 - Confusion around intellectual freedom issues and censorship conversations
- Safety and security discussions generating mixed reactions:
 - Community members increasingly raising concerns about safety
 - Some board members worried messaging could make libraries appear unsafe
 - Concern about impacts of safety conversations on staff perceptions and morale
- Strong traction around libraries as essential social infrastructure:
 - Messaging around community impact and essential services resonating positively
 - Campaigns generally well received politically and within communities
- Local coordination challenges:
 - Multi-tier municipal structures making coordination with social services more difficult
- Cost and funding remain the primary pushback themes:
 - Financial pressures continue to be the main source of resistance to library advocacy efforts

Question 10: Emerging Trends - What's changed the most in your library in the past year?

Small Medium Caucus

- Significant growth in library usage and demand:
 - Increased community engagement and visitation

- Growing demand for programs, outreach, makerspaces, and digital literacy services
- Increased use of digital resources and streaming services
- Greater demand for meeting and community space
- Changing community demographics and needs:
 - Increased usage by marginalized and vulnerable populations
 - Growing diversity within communities
 - New clientele with different expectations and service needs
 - Increase in difficult patron interactions
- Growing pressure on space and infrastructure:
 - Reduced space for collections, study areas, and programming
 - Increased need for expansion and capital funding
 - Population growth driving demand for larger and more flexible spaces
- Staffing and workforce challenges:
 - Staffing turnover and reduced staff resiliency
 - Increased expectations on staff without corresponding resources
 - Growing need for specialized staff skills and expertise
 - Labour and COLA pressures in unionized environments
- Financial and governance pressures:
 - Risk of reduced municipal funding
 - Concerns about Strong Mayor powers and municipal restructuring
 - Budget pressures despite increased service demand
 - Need for stronger local advocacy capacity
- Technology and AI emerging rapidly:
 - Increased focus on AI and emerging technologies
 - Growth in digital services and technology-based programming
- Mixed service trends:
 - Some libraries seeing declines in traditional circulation and program attendance despite overall increased usage and engagement

Northern Caucus

- Increased public support and community appreciation:
 - Stronger public advocacy for libraries
 - Increased donations, sponsorships, and local business support
- Expanding demand for non-traditional library services:
 - Increased interest in circulating tools, sewing machines, and other non-traditional items
 - Growing expectations for broader community-based services
- Growing technology support needs:
 - Increased demand for tech help, particularly from seniors
 - Continued growth in digital literacy support
- Staffing and recruitment challenges:
 - Difficulty recruiting qualified applicants
 - Ongoing staffing changes and workforce instability
- Increased impacts from affordability and cost-of-living pressures:

- More families relying on library services
- Increased use of library spaces and resources due to rising living costs
- Increase in transient and vulnerable populations using libraries

Rural Caucus

- Rising incivility and public tension:
 - Increased hostility related to issues such as drag queen story times and book challenges
 - Vocal opposition groups becoming more visible
 - Growing staff challenges related to public behaviour and entitlement
- Continued growth in digital resource demand:
 - Electronic resources and eBooks increasing in popularity
 - Frustration from patrons over wait times and limited digital collection budgets
- Increased demand for inclusive and community-based services:
 - Growing need for newcomer services
 - More residents relying on library spaces due to affordability pressures
 - Libraries increasingly functioning as community hubs
- Strong growth in programs and community use:
 - Increased attendance and participation in programming
 - Expansion of services and greater recognition of libraries' community role
- Some stabilization after post-pandemic growth:
 - A couple libraries reporting usage levels beginning to level off after significant growth between 2022–2024

Large Urban and Toronto Caucuses

- Increased safety and security concerns:
 - More complaints from patrons feeling unsafe
 - Significant rise in drug-related incidents and police involvement
 - Increased security occurrences becoming a major operational issue
- Growing focus on capital and infrastructure pressures:
 - Ageing facilities requiring major renovations
 - Expansion projects and capital planning increasing
 - Ongoing uncertainty around development charge (DC) changes and funding predictability
- Intellectual freedom and censorship concerns intensifying:
 - Alberta legislation influencing the national conversation
 - Growing concern about differing approaches to intellectual freedom across Canada
 - Increased attention to censorship and public discourse issues
- Financial pressures continue to grow:
 - Tight budgets alongside increasing service and infrastructure demands
 - Continued fiscal uncertainty despite progress on capital needs
- AI and technology emerging rapidly:
 - AI becoming a significant topic of discussion and concern
 - Increased technology use and expansion of digital tools and services
- Libraries increasingly connected to social service issues:
 - Greater interaction with social services and community support needs

- Libraries continuing to respond to broader societal pressures and community challenges

Question 11 – Emerging Trends: What’s keeping you up at night?

Small Medium Caucus

- Funding / budgets / growth pressures (7)
- Elections / political climate / governance changes (5)
- Staffing / HR / pay increase pressures (4)
- Safety, theft, and staff mental health (3)
- Censorship / defending libraries and intellectual freedom (3)
- Managing new priorities and emerging community needs (2)
- AI and technology concerns (2)
- Training and staff preparedness (1)
- IT support issues (1)
- Space and facility expansion needs (1)
- Municipal overstepping / council relations (1)
- Maintaining free and accessible programming (1)
- Fear of stagnation due to limited resources (1)

Rural Caucus

- Funding / budget pressures / future sustainability (6)
- Capital infrastructure and accessibility needs (1)
- Governance and board role clarity (1)
- Lack of provincial understanding of small/rural libraries (1)
- Food insecurity and broader community pressures (1)
- Incivility and disrespect toward staff/libraries (2)

Northern Caucus

- Staffing and training capacity (2)
- AI and rapidly changing technology demands (1)
- Balancing digital and physical collection budgets (1)
- Staff safety concerns (1)
- Funding for additional staffing (1)

Large Urban Caucus

- Alberta legislation / intellectual freedom / censorship concerns (7)
- Funding / fiscal sustainability / budget pressures (4)
- Staffing, training, and organizational capacity (4)
- Safety and security / worsening social issues (3)
- Strong mayor powers / governance changes / amalgamation concerns (3)
- AI, technology, and digital literacy challenges (3)
- Space and infrastructure pressures due to growth (2)
- Declining use and labour unrest (1)
- Public awareness of library value (1)
- Missed opportunities due to lack of coordination (1)

IN CONVERSATION FEEDBACK

The Executive Director exited the meeting to allow the opportunity for frank discussions amongst the caucus members. Notes were provided by caucus representatives.

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Small Medium Caucus

Overall the mood was in favour of everything FOPL is doing. Discussion was limited to only a few. One noted there is a lack of communication between service providers and the library – such as telling clients the library can give out bus tickets, but not informing the library of this. It was also mentioned that municipalities, particularly recreation facilities, don't align with library mandates for public service. That instead of de-escalation or considering mental health, they just boot people out of the facility. There was uncertainty about how to advocate appropriately for safety and security since not all libraries are experiencing it yet. There was discussion on how to raise the issue with MPPs without fear-mongering especially in areas where they aren't experiencing unmanageable concerns. Different options were discussed including approaching it from an awareness priced, providing local content (where it's an issue or non-issue) while informing them of the concerns experienced in other public libraries. In Owen Sound one mayor utilized Strong Mayor powers to override the library agreement, whereas the other two mayors did not. Lots of concern about Strong Mayor powers, and how they will work after the election. There was a specific request for or a legal opinion on library board authority under the Public Libraries Act, specifically how board responsibility for the library budget is affected when Strong Mayor Powers are used. CEOs were worried about the ripple effect on libraries with regards to long-term budgeting, and if the Mayor could veto the Board's ability to sign off on Collective Agreements etc.

Large Urban and Toronto Caucuses

In the future, it would be appreciated if Slido questions were provided ahead of time, with the opportunity to answer ahead of time as well. There needs to be a formalized feedback loop with the caucus and the Board. The caucus would please like visibility between caucuses as well to understand shared priorities and local priorities. Continue to focus on security and please add proactive IF preparations. Please ensure all security messaging is respectful and aware of what is already happening, strong mayors, conversation amalgamation, health networks, school boards and regional chairs. Library messaging needs to reinforce we are welcoming, effective, efficient, trusted and capable of managing the services we provide in the community. Local control of Libraries is paramount, without autonomy we are limited in how libraries support their communities. Advocacy needs to be the focus with funding as a second priority. Regarding intellectual freedom, please connect with CAPL to learn more about the work they did to prepare for IF advocacy. Public survey about PL trust with polling firm proactive. Please be prepared for crisis communications and public relations, who will support this work with FOPL and what additional resources are needed? Please create a shared agreement on IF advocacy (service to the diversity of the community without discrimination, opposition to censorship, user's rights to privacy.) Please ensure all messaging is aligned with and work when appropriate is done in collaboration with CULC and CFLA. A CFLA statement to support CAPL is coming soon. FOPL should prepare a statement of support for CAPL too please

Northern Caucus

Not a lot of further conversations were had. Most of the discussion was on different priorities of ODPL vs PLOG.

Francophone Caucus

Brief conversation was had with only a couple of notes. The info-graphics have 2020 numbers and should be updated. There has been new talk about development charges being reduced to encourage more building of homes.

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT the FOPL board receives this report as information.

ED Recommendations:

- Investigate a legal option or white paper concerning strong mayors powers. Further information sessions and learning opportunities for members navigating Strong Mayors powers.
- Possible economic value study of Ontario Libraries that highlights return on investment and affordability proposition of libraries.
- In depth Rural and Northern Caucus consultation to assess how FOPL can be more responsive and inclusive to these member libraries' unique needs.

Board Motion:

a. Caucus Meetings Feedback

The ED reviewed how the caucus meetings were conducted differently this year and summarized the feedback and recommendations. A few suggestions were made for caucus meetings moving forward based on this year's trial using Slido and providing more opportunity for anonymous feedback. ED to investigate a standard set of questions for feedback for members to answer year over year. It was noted that the First Nations Caucus meeting will occur at the Spring Gathering next week. The full report will be distributed to the membership and recommendations by the ED in the report will be investigated.

1:00 Feather Maracle left the meeting

Moved by Sarah Vaisler and seconded by Sarah Douglas-Murray THAT the Board receive the report as information. CARRIED.

Quote



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 Attn: Jaye Bannon, 613-395-2837
jaye@stirlinglibrary.com

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RE: Lifepak CR2 Full Auto AED with CR Plus Trade-In

Qty	Cat #	Description	Unit Price	Ext Price
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1	99512-000732	Lifepak CR2 AED Ful Auto WiFi Bi	\$ 2,489.00	\$ 2,489.00
1	PNIC	TRADE-IN Lifepak CR Plus AED	-\$ 350.00	-\$ 350.00
1	AMBU	Ambu Kit Scissors Razor Mask Gloves Etc	\$ 49.00	Included N/C

Sub Total \$ 2,139.00
 HST \$ 278.07
Total \$ 2,417.07

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