

**MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-THIRD MEETING OF
THE GREATER SUDBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD**

June 26, 2025
Hybrid Meeting

Commencement: 5:17p.m.
Adjournment: 6:26 p.m.

PRESENT

P. Arora, M. Bellmore, E. Benoit, K. Bowman, D. McIntosh, S. Lavallie, A. Thomson

REGRETS

M. Lamarche, T. Laughren

STAFF

Brian Harding, CEO and Chief Librarian
Mette Krüger, Manager of Libraries and Heritage Resources
Colleen Burns, Administrative Co-ordinator of Library Services

GUESTS

n/a

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 5:17 p.m.

**LAND
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Greater Sudbury Public Library serves a community located on the lands of the Anishnawbek Peoples and within the territory of the Robinson Huron Treaty of 1850. This is the traditional territory of Atikameksheng Anishnawbek, the Wahnapiatae First Nation and the Sagamok First Nation. Greater Sudbury Public Library gratefully acknowledges these Indigenous Nations for their guardianship of this land.

**DECLARATIONS OF
CONFLICT OF INTEREST
AND GENERAL NATURE
THEREOF**

None declared

AGENDA

The following motion was presented:

2025-131 P. Arora / K. Bowman

THAT the agenda of the TWENTY-THIRD meeting of the Greater Sudbury Public Library Board, June 26, 2025 be approved as amended

CARRIED

CONSENT AGENDA

The following motion was presented:

2025-132 A. Thomson / D. McIntosh

THAT the Consent Agenda be approved

CARRIED

CLOSED SESSION

n/a

PRESENTATIONS

8.1 New Central Library Update (Brian Harding)

B. Harding delivered a presentation updating the Board on the New Central Library project. He updated the Board about the Detailed Design progress, the New Central Library Technology Plan project, and the Opportunity Space that the City is offering to community groups. The Board discussed meeting rooms, the Construction Management team selected by the City, and square footage.

ITEMS FOR ACTION

9.1 Report – Strategic Plan Proposal

B. Harding presented his plan to develop a Strategic Plan. The Long-Term Plan looked at the next 10 years, and the Strategic Plan will focus on the priority work to be done in the next 3 years, drawn from the Strategic Priorities and Objectives identified in the Long-Term Plan. The Board will be invited to a Strategic Planning session in the summer to provide input on organizational priorities and the Vision, Mission and Values.

The following motion was presented:

2025-133 A. Thomson / K. Bowman

THAT the Strategic Plan Proposal be approved as presented.

CARRIED

9.2 Report – Service Fee Policy Amendment

B. Harding presented a written report to the Governance Committee regarding a minor change to the fees being charged for items. The Board discussed adding minor Policy changes to the Consent Agenda in the future, if that is proposed by the Governance Committee.

The following motion was presented:

2025-134 P. Arora / E. Benoit

THAT the Service Fee Policy be approved as presented.

CARRIED

REPORTS

10.1 Chair's Report (Michael Bellmore)

M. Bellmore provided a verbal report to the Board.

10.2 Governance Committee Chair's Report (Ashley Thomson)

A. Thomson provided a verbal report including a review of the Board Self-Assessment Questionnaire which was provided to the Board in

the meeting package. B. Harding thanked A. Thomson for his work on the assessment.

10.3 CEO's Report (Brian Harding)

B. Harding provided the Board with a written report. The Board discussed the partnership opportunities with the YMCA Employment Services and Newcomer Services. The Board also expressed curiosity about Library book kiosks.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

11.1 Report – Annual Survey of Public Libraries Submission

B. Harding provided a written report to the Board on GSPL's 2024 submission of statistics for the ASPL annual survey. In the auditor's report there was a recommendation that the Board acknowledge that this obligation has been fulfilled.

11.2 Report – Performance Benchmarking Update

B. Harding provided a written report about Municipal Benchmarking. There was a resolution at the Finance and Administration Committee to stop participating in the MBNCan process. The Canadian Urban Libraries Council (CULC) has started a library-specific benchmarking program called Counting Opinions. We submitted the Basic submission for this year and will assess the questions for the more comprehensive data set. The data reported in Counting Opinions will be used to support GSPL's Strategic Planning process.

11.3 Report – 2026-2027 Budget Process

B. Harding provided a written report about the Budget direction coming from Council. Service Partners, including the Library, have not yet received their budget direction. In lieu of that specific direction, Brian will present a version of the Library budget to the Finance and Audit Committee that reflects the 1.7% increase indicated for the City as a whole. The negotiated wage increase for 2026 is 3%.

11.4 Report – Summer Reading Club (Mette Kruger)

M. Krüger provided a written report and presentation highlighting the Summer Reading Club plans, including the promotional posters for the program in general and the reading incentive posters to be displayed at all branches. B. Harding commended Mette for her work rebuilding the program and generating positive feedback from the branches.

CORRESPONDENCE

none

OTHER BUSINESS

none

ADJOURNMENT

The following motion was presented:

2025-135 S. Lavallie / D. McIntosh

THAT this meeting does now adjourn. Time: 6:26 p.m.

CARRIED



Brian Harding, CEO



Michael Bellmore, Chair