



Board Meeting Minutes

Date and Time:	Tuesday, February 20, 2024
Location:	West Perth Public Library, 105 St. Andrew Street, Mitchell ON
Present:	Jesse Britton, Andrew Fournier, Kelly Reimer, Allison Schultz, Kim Wolf
Regrets:	Anne Melady, Annamarie Murray, Jacqueline Timmermans
Staff Present:	Rosemary Minnella

***West Perth Public Library is a welcoming space
where everyone can explore, connect, and learn***

1. Call to Order

Jesse Britton, Board Chairperson, calls the meeting to order at 6:35pm.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: Kim Wolf

Seconded by: Kelly Reimer

That the Agenda is approved as written.

Carried 05-2024

3. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

There are no declarations of conflicts of interest.

4. Consent Agenda

Approval of the Board Minutes of the meeting held on January 16, 2024, Monthly Financial Report for December 2023, the Monthly Statistics Report and the 2023 Annual Report.

Moved by: Allison Schultz

Seconded by: Kelly Reimer

That the Consent Agenda: Board minutes of January 16, 2024, the Monthly Financial Report, the Monthly Statistic Report and 2023 Annual Report are approved.

Carried 06-2024

5. Business Arising

5.1. Board Member Information on website

A brief biography of each Library Board member is on West Perth Public Library's ['Library Board'](#) webpage.

5.2. External Security Cameras

The Director of Community Services provided a quote of \$7740 for four external library security cameras on an EXACQ server, to be connected to the Municipality's security system.

The Board puts forth a motion to defer this to 2025 Budget discussions if the cameras and installation must be a library expense.

Moved by: Kim Wolf

Seconded by: Kelly Reimer

That the Board approves the purchase and installation of four external security cameras, to be connected to the Municipality's security system, only if it is not a 2024 library expense. If it is a library expense, the Board defers the purchase and installation to 2025 Budget discussions.

Carried 07-2024

6. New Business

6.1. 2024 Budget Update

Municipal Council is currently reviewing all departmental operating and capital submissions for its 2024 Budget. No concerns regarding West Perth Public Library's budget submission have been indicated.

6.2. Valuing Ontario Libraries Toolkit (VOLT)

VOLT is a provincial initiative of the Ontario Library Service to measure the social return on investment that each Ontario public library provides to its

community. The Library CEO inputs statistical, budgetary, operational and other information into a spreadsheet that determines a dollar value for each library action, then calculates the annual and hourly dollar value of economic benefit to the community.

After completing the toolkit, the Library's CEO presents her findings to the Board. According to the VOLT, West Perth Public Library contributed \$2 507 193.70 of economic value to the community in 2023, which is \$934.82 per hour of operation.

7. Policies/Plans

7.1. Code of Conduct

7.2. Collections

Board members review and update the policies above for clarity in accordance with related legislation and best practices.

Moved by: Kim Wolf

Seconded by: Allison Schultz

That updates to the West Perth Public Library's *Code of Conduct* and *Collections* policies are approved and posted on the Library's website.

Carried 08-2024

8. Board Education & Advocacy

8.1. Diversity and Inclusion

A brief video from previous TED Talks in Memphis, TN on Diversity and Inclusion—“*Reimagining the public library to reconnect the community*” (February 2020)—is shown for information and discussion.

8.2. Advocacy

West Perth Public Library looks for partnership and advocacy opportunities to address community needs and interests. Further to this, the Library seeks to bring provincial and federal services to West Perth for the convenience of all its residents. Recent collaborations include the following:

- *Celebrate Family* took place on February 17, 2024 during the Family Day long weekend. Community partners—including Perth Care 4 Kids, West Perth Youth Centre, Stratford Perth Pride, West Perth Recreation and Leisure Department, the Multicultural Association of Perth-Huron and

others—gathered at West Perth Town Hall for family-friendly games, activities and information sessions;

- West Perth Public Library will welcome volunteers for the *Community Volunteer Income Tax Program* to assist qualified residents with simple tax returns for free. Volunteers are trained through the Canada Revenue Agency, and will be available year-round for assistance.

West Perth Public Library is grateful to all volunteers and partner organizations who help to bring fun, educational, affordable programs and services for all ages into the community.

9. Other

No other agenda items are discussed.

10. Next Meeting

Tuesday, March 19, 2024. 6:30pm. West Perth Public Library.

11. Adjournment

Moved by: Allison Schultz

Seconded by: Kelly Reimer

That we do now adjourn: 7:48pm

Carried 09-2024

Jesse Britton, Chair