



**Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library Board  
Minutes**

**June 29, 2023 6:00 p.m.  
Library Auditorium**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Rosemary Buchanan, Acting-Chair (Township of Georgian Bluffs)  
Richard Thomas, Chair (City of Owen Sound)  
David Adair (City of Owen Sound)  
Deborah Eaton (City of Owen Sound)  
Frank Emptage (Meaford Public Library)  
Marion Koepke (City of Owen Sound, Councillor)  
Nancy Shaw (City of Owen Sound)  
Elizabeth Thompson (Township of Chatsworth, Councillor)

**MEMBERS ABSENT/REGRETS:**

Ryan Thompson (Township of Georgian Bluffs, Councillor)

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Tim Nicholls Harrison, CEO  
Nadia Danyluk, Deputy Chief Librarian

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

None

**COMMENCEMENT: 6:52 P.M.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Rosemary Buchanan, Acting-Chair, at 6:52 p.m.

**2. ADDITIONAL ITEMS**

None

**3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE  
THEREOF**

None

**4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**34-23 Moved by David Adair THAT the minutes of the April 27, 2023  
meeting of the Library Board be approved as presented.**

**Carried.**

**5. DEPUTATIONS/QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

None

**6. CORRESPONDENCE**

Nicholls Harrison reported that there was no correspondence circulated in the package.

**7. REPORTS AND MATTERS TABLED**

**7.1 Board Chair’s Report**

No report.

**7.2 CEO’s Report**

CEO Tim Nicholls Harrison drew the Board’s attention to the CEO’s Report as distributed and provided additional information.

**“The library card is a passport to wonders and miracles, glimpses into other lives, religions, experiences, the hopes and dreams and strivings of ALL human beings, and it is this passport that opens our eyes and hearts to the world beyond our front doors, that is one of our best hopes against tyranny, xenophobia, hopelessness, despair, anarchy, and ignorance.”**

**– Libba Bray**

**7.2.1. Library Service Index:** Please see the attached performance report.

**7.2.2. Key Statistics:** Our total library membership has improved to 9852 which is approximately 29% more than the same time last year. In May, we had 16,239 library visits and circulated 23,828 materials. Patrons used an additional 1,868 materials within the library during the month. There were 4,580 uses of technology. Our online outreach totaled 25,330. The library provided information assistance 2,116 times. We are pleased to see that our service statistics continue to increase.

**7.2.3. Staff Anniversaries:** We extend congratulations to Maria Bertrand and Diana Zarzosa on their work anniversaries. We thank them for contributing their time, effort, skills and talents!

Maria Bertrand	Adult Learning Services	23 years
Diana Zarzosa	Adult Learning Services	4 years

**7.2.4. Summer Student Positions:** We are excited to announce that Grace Pellizzer and Laura Yeo have joined the library staff for the summer. They will be helping with programs both in the building and the community.

**7.2.5. Entrance to the TOM:** The completion of the TOM’s accessibility project has been temporarily delayed while they wait for some pieces to be manufactured. The project will extend further into the summer.

**7.2.6. Andrew Armitage Memorial Bench:** We thank the City of Owen Sound for their help with this project. The bench has been installed at the front of the library. The inscription on accompanying plaque reads:

Andrew Armitage  
2/13/1939 - 11/18/2021  
Chief Librarian 1974 - 2000

Bench donated in memory of our beloved friend, colleague, mentor, librarian, author, historian, book reviewer, canoeist, nature lover, prolific reader, and The Georgian Bay Explorer.

"What are you reading?"

**7.2.7. Book Vending Machine Project:** We have begun discussions with staff at Georgian Bluffs and Chatsworth about possible locations for our book vending machines. We will be working over the summer on the project details with the plan to launch community library stations in the fall. The stations will include a book vending machine that is accessed by using our library card, a book drop for materials to be returned and a screen displaying library programs and services.

**7.2.8. Borrow a Laptop:** Beginning in June, library members will be able to borrow a laptop for in-Library use. Our desktop computers will be retired and replaced with this new service.

**7.2.9. Owen Sound Camera Club Photography Show:** The Library is pleased to welcome the Owen Sound Camera Club for their photography show, *Just Birds!* As one of the oldest camera clubs in Ontario, they have been meeting to share their love of photography for 67 years! Stop by to experience the abundant talent this group has to offer. The exhibit runs until August.

**7.2.10. Owen Sound Mini Con 2023 – Saturday May 6th:** OSMiCon was a wonderful success this year. Please see the news article that was in the Owen Sound Sun Times, <https://www.owensoundsuntimes.com/news/local-news/mini-con-returns-to-the-library-in-owen-sound>. Special thanks to all the staff involved for their efforts and creativity! More photos from the event can be found on our Facebook and Instagram accounts.

**7.2.11. Pollinator Symposium:** On Saturday, June 10 the OPEN Team hosted a Pollinator Symposium at the Art Gallery which included talks by prominent local master gardeners as well as the Curator of the exhibition 'Undergrowth' - as featured in the spring edition of [Escarpment Magazine](#). Please see the related Sun Times newspaper article, <https://www.owensoundsuntimes.com/news/local-news/initiatives-aim-to-create-pathways-for-pollinators-in-owen-sound>.

**7.2.12. River District Blooms:** At the Pollinator Symposium, Both Pollinate Owen Sound and the River District Blooms projects were launched. The OPEN Team worked together to create one of the River District Blooms installations. More information is available at <https://owensoundriverdistrict.ca/en/river-district-live/river-district-news/show/toms-plant-portage-river-district-blooms>. While the current plants used, will be repurposed and replanted in the gardens the library, art gallery and museums, we are working with the City of Owen Sound to see if Tom's Plant Portage can be a more permanent installation.

**7.2.13. TD Summer Reading Club:** All youth (birth to grade 12) can register in Youth Services beginning Saturday, June 24 or any time through the summer. When they register, they will receive their own tracking notebook and they can

make a special Summer Reading button. They can track the books they read and show us what they've read when they next visit the Library. Then roll the big dice to play our giant board game for the chance to win an end of summer prize!

**7.2.14. Summer Reading Bingo:** Library patrons can grab a Summer Reading Bingo card and complete all the challenges by the end of summer. Each BINGO (one row, column or diagonal line) earns a ballot for the monthly draw. A full card enters the participant into the bonus draw at the end of summer!

**7.2.15. StoryWalk:** We have launched this year's StoryWalk program at Queen's Park, across from the library. June will showcase "Amik" by Sharon King. In July and August enjoy "Treasure" by Mireille Messier. And In September read "Keeshig and the Ojibwe Pterodactyls" by Keeshig Spade and Celeste Pedri-Spade. Both "Amik" and "Keeshig and the Ojibwe Pterodactyls" were created in partnership with Kegedonce Press. The Kegedonce Press StoryWalks can be borrowed by other organizations.

**7.2.16. Art Walk:** On Saturday June 24 from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm, the Library will be a stop on the 2023 ArtWalk, organized by the Ginger Press. See if you can find the "Art Star" as part of the community-wide scavenger hunt. Throughout the day visit Youth Services to add a little bit of colour to our TD Summer Reading Club mural that will decorate the department all summer long. From 10:00 am - 12:00 pm there will also be a drop-in, come-and-go still life sketching circle for all ages on the Main Level. The Art Walk map is located at [https://www.osngupl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/OwenSounder\\_June\\_Artwalkv2.pdf](https://www.osngupl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/OwenSounder_June_Artwalkv2.pdf)

**7.2.17. Drag Story Time:** On Saturday, July 8, Join us for a fun and fabulous 2S-LGBTQQIAP+ positive story time event. We'll read stories, sing songs and do some crafts. Our two amazing performers have lots of experience with children and definitely know how to put on a show (Preschool to 10 years) with a grownup. Registration is required. We are pleased that Grey Bruce Pride asked us to partner with them on this program, which has been paid for with funds raised by them and the local chapter of the Junior Optimists. There is a F.A.Q. with more information about this program at <https://www.osngupl.ca/drag-story-time/>. Please scroll down.

**7.2.18. Learning with LEGO® with Christine Hempel:** Come out and learn about problem solving with LEGO®. Christine is an urban designer, teacher, researcher and illustrator with a passion for building engaging, ecologically-responsible, and beautiful communities. This all-ages fun and innovative program is for young children and adults too. Look for additional information in July. Registration encouraged.

**7.2.19. Outreach – Rogers Grey County Live:** I had to the opportunity to chat with Mary Jane Murray and Rhonda Brown about library services and programs. The video is available at <https://youtu.be/CgdZsuvRpD8?t=1770>

**7.2.20. Outreach – River District Live:** I had to the opportunity to chat with Viveca Gravel, Community Development Coordinator about library services and

programs. The video is available at <https://owensoundriverdistrict.ca/en/river-district-live/river-district-news/show/s2-ep10-owen-sound-north-grey-union-public-library-tim-harrison>

**7.2.21. Upcoming Programs:** Please check out <https://www.osngupl.ca/news-programs/library-news/> for the current newsletter. Our youth services summer program flyer is included, but here's the link <https://www.osngupl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/2023-Summer-Programs-Flyer.pdf>

**7.2.22. Final Comments:**

"I've always enjoyed my experience at the Public Library here - excellent customer service, great variety of materials - thank you for being such a great source of information and a beautiful serene place to sit and read." – a patron comment – June 19, 2023

What an amazing Spring. Stop by, check us out. We are busy. Our library service index numbers continue to improve as we shake off the pandemic and return to providing more services and programs in the building and in our community. As always, this is achieved by the extraordinary staff at the library. They take on so many challenging projects and always deliver exemplary customer service. It is going to be a super summer!

**35-23 Moved by Marion Koepke THAT the Library Board approve the CEO's Report as presented. Carried.**

**7.3 Financial Committee Report**

**7.3.1 Statements and Accounts:**

**36-23 Moved by Elizabeth Thompson THAT Library accounts totaling \$85,953.43 for April and May be approved for payment and further, THAT the Adult Learning Centre's accounts totaling \$133,723.31 for April and May be approved for payment and further, THAT the Library's and Adult Learning Centre's Financial Statements to May 31, 2023 be received as information. Carried.**

**7.3.2 Adult Learning Centre Audit:**

**37-23 Moved by Elizabeth Thompson THAT the Library Board accepts the Adult Learning Centre's audited Financial Information for the year ended March 31, 2023 as prepared by BDO Canada LLP. Carried.**

**38-23 Moved by Elizabeth Thompson THAT the Library Board authorize the transfer from the Adult Learning Centre's Contingency Fund to cover the deficit from the 2022-2023 Audited Financial Information. Carried.**

Richard Thomas left the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

**7.4 Personnel Committee Report**

No report.

**7.5 Property/Building Committee Report**

No report.

**7.6 Library Foundation Committee Report**

No report.

**7.7 Policies and Bylaws Committee Report**

No report.

**7.8 Ontario Library Service Board Assembly Report**

No report.

**7.9 Poet Laureate/Words Aloud Committee Report**

No report.

**8. OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**9. STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

None

**10. RESOLUTION TO MOVE IN CAMERA – STRUCK**

**11. DECLARATION TO MOVE TO THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING - STRUCK**

**12. NEXT MEETING: Regular Board meeting to be held Thursday September 28, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Library Board Room.**

**13. ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was declared adjourned at 7:37 p.m.



Chair



Secretary