



*behind every  
library*



Federation  
of Ontario Public  
**LIBRARIES**

# One Voice

Strategic Plan 2025-2029

## FOPL Strategic Plan 2025–2029

# ONE VOICE FOR ONTARIO'S PUBLIC LIBRARIES

*At the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries (FOPL), we unite public libraries across the province with a shared vision: to be one strong, strategic voice advocating for the future of Ontario's public libraries. Our purpose is to support and*

*elevate libraries so they can thrive—empowering the communities they serve. Through collaboration, research, and advocacy, FOPL drives forward a public library sector built on sustainability, intellectual freedom, and truth and reconciliation.*

## STRATEGIC PILLARS & PRIORITIES

### Advocacy & Influence

## SHAPING POLICY. STRENGTHENING VOICE.

*FOPL champions the role of public libraries at every level of government. We build and maintain strong relationships with elected officials and decision-makers to ensure libraries are heard, valued, and supported.*

### Key Actions:

- Engage with provincial leaders to influence policy and investment in public libraries.
- Mobilize the library community around shared goals.
- Advocate for First Nations libraries through national and provincial channels.
- Support local libraries in municipal advocacy and outreach.
- Respond swiftly to emerging policy issues and opportunities.

### Initiatives:

- Educate new municipal councils and library boards about the value of libraries.
- Collaborate with partners like the Ontario Library Association (OLA) to present a unified voice.
- Leverage professional government relations expertise and member feedback.

## Marketing Public Library Value & Impact

### TELLING THE LIBRARY STORY. TOGETHER.

*We help libraries share their stories and successes by coordinating impactful, province-wide marketing campaigns and offering powerful data and tools to amplify their local impact.*

#### Key Actions:

- Position FOPL as the trusted voice for Ontario's libraries.
- Create research-based marketing strategies that strengthen advocacy and promotion.
- Develop shareable social media campaigns and tools for members.
- Build partnerships beyond the traditional library network to expand reach.
- Communicate FOPL's unique role within the library ecosystem.

#### Initiatives:

- Attend municipal conferences to advocate for libraries at the local level.
- Launch bold communications that promote Intellectual Freedom and Truth and Reconciliation.
- Offer the Data Dashboard to help libraries showcase their outcomes.
- Redesign FOPL's website and digital presence to engage members.
- Refresh our visual identity to align with this new strategic direction.

## Training & Development

### EMPOWERING PEOPLE. BUILDING CAPACITY.

*We support the growth and resilience of Ontario's library staff, trustees, and boards through targeted professional development, shared learning opportunities, and collaborative training.*

#### Key Actions:

- Provide training for library boards, trustees, and municipal partners.
- Increase board and member engagement through education.
- Offer expertise and sessions at Facilitate knowledge sharing on advocacy, grants, reconciliation, and intellectual freedom.

#### Initiatives:

- Deliver annual training sessions and advocacy workshops.
- Partner with OLS, OLA, and CFLA to create inclusive, relevant training content.
- Launch campaigns to engage and educate library boards.
- Support libraries navigating intellectual freedom challenges in partnership with the Centre for Free Expression.

## Organizational Resilience

### BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE. TOGETHER.

*FOPL is committed to becoming a stronger, more inclusive, and future-ready organization. By engaging our members, diversifying leadership, and strengthening operations, we'll ensure a lasting impact..*

#### Key Actions:

- Diversify funding to ensure long-term sustainability.
- Enhance member engagement through communication and collaboration.
- Support active, inclusive working groups to lead key initiatives.
- Prepare for leadership succession and operational continuity.

#### Initiatives:

- Encourage library school students to access FOPL resources and get involved.
- Foster leadership through the Former Library Leader Caucus.
- Represent Ontario in national discussions on reconciliation and intellectual freedom.
- Expand access with hybrid meetings and province-wide events.
- Launch campaigns to recruit new members and deepen diversity in FOPL governance

## LOOKING AHEAD

*FOPL's 2025–2029 Strategic Plan represents a bold, collaborative roadmap to elevate Ontario's public libraries. Together, we are building a strong, inclusive, and resilient library system—one voice, one vision.*

*For more information, visit [fopl.ca](https://fopl.ca)*