

FEDERATION OF ONTARIO PUBLIC LIBRARIES
Q2 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2025 - 10:00 AM
[JOIN VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM](#)

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Doc 1

3. REGRETS

4. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 9, 2025 BOARD MEETING

Doc 2

THAT this Board approve as circulated the minutes of the FOPL Board Meeting of June 9, 2025.

6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

THAT this Board approve as circulated the FOPL Board Agenda for September 5, 2025.

PROPOSED MOTION TO MOVE IN CAMERA.

IN-CAMERA SESSION

EXIT IN-CAMERA SESSION

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

C. MOSKAU

Doc 3

THAT this Board receive the Treasurer's report as information.

8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

D. STEVENS

Doc 4

a. 2025 WORKPLAN

Doc 5

THAT this Board receive the Executive Director's report as information.

9. WORKING GROUPS AND COMMITTEES – REPORTS AND UPDATES

a. FRENCH TRANSLATION WORKING GROUP

C. MOSKAU

Doc 6

THAT this Board receive the Working Group's reports as information.

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. OLA ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT	D. STEVENS	DOC 7
b. STRATEGIC PLAN BRANDING PROJECT UPDATE	D. STEVENS	DOC 8
c. ADVOCACY CHAMPIONS AWARD UPDATE	D. STEVENS	DOC 9
d. LIBRARY DAY AT QUEEN'S PARK 2026	D. STEVENS	DOC 10
e. SOCIAL MEDIA KPI	D. STEVENS	DOC 11
f. ONTARIO PUBLIC LIBRARY WEEK	D. STEVENS	DOC 12
g. CFLA UPDATE	D. STEVENS	

11. NEXT MEETING:

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2025

10:00AM

VIRTUAL ONLY

12. ADJOURNMENT

WE, the public libraries of Ontario acknowledge that the lands now referred to as Ontario have been inhabited by many distinct Nations since time immemorial. The Original Peoples have been and continue to be the traditional custodians of this land. Ontarians, as well as Canadians, need to remember and reaffirm our accountability to these Indigenous Nations, and the lands, resources and waters which nourishes life. We are grateful to have the opportunity to work in the community, on this territory. FOPL acknowledges the lands and treaties upon which our public libraries across Ontario prosper.

Federation of Ontario Public Libraries

Meeting Date: Jun 9, 2025

Meeting Time: 10:00a.m.

Location: Virtual via Zoom

Secretary: Dina Stevens, Executive Director/Secretary of the Board

In Attendance: **Francophone Caucus:** Catherina Moskau

Large Urban Caucus: Wayne Greco, Sarah Douglas-Murray, Margie Singleton, Sarah Vaisler

Small & Medium Caucus: Beverley King, Jodie Delgado, Nadine Williams, Emma Kinsman

Northern Caucus: Rebecca Hunt

Rural Caucus: Jennifer La Chapelle, Susan McGibbon

Toronto Caucus: Vickery Bowles, Paul Ainslie, Lisa Radha Vohra

Guests: Jamie Hardie

Regrets: Feather Maracle, Kathleen Copegog, David Harvie, Jonathan Hoss

Absent: Kathy Fisher

FOPL Team: Dina Stevens, Executive Director, Diana Chiavaroli, Administrative Assistant

Prepared By: Diana Chiavaroli, Administrative Assistant

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

The Q2 Board Meeting was called to order at 10:07 a.m. by the Chair.

2. Land Acknowledgement

3. Regrets

As noted above.

4. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

None.

5. Approval of the Minutes of the December 13, 2024 Board Meeting

Moved by Wayne Greco and seconded by Margie Singleton, THAT this Board approve, as circulated, the minutes of the December 13, 2024 board meeting. CARRIED.

6. Approval of the Minutes of the 2025 Audit Approval Board Meeting

Moved by Jodie Delgado and seconded by Beverley King, THAT this Board approve, as circulated, the minutes of the FOPL 2025 Audit Approval Board Meeting. CARRIED.

7. Approval of the Minutes of the 2025 Post AGM Board Meeting

Moved by Jennifer LaChapelle and seconded by Vickery Bowles, THAT this Board approve, as circulated, the minutes of the FOPL 2025 Post AGM Board Meeting. CARRIED.

8. Approval of the Agenda.

Moved by Sarah Vaisler and seconded by Susan McGibbon, THAT this Board approve as circulated, the FOPL Board Agenda of June 9, 2025. CARRIED.

Jamie Hardy entered the meeting

13.a Strategic Plan Branding Project

13a. was bumped up as Jamie Hardie joined the meeting to give his presentation.

The branding process was recapped, and final designs were presented to the board. It was then reviewed what would be included in a full branding guide and package.

Jamie Hardy exited the meeting

13.b Full Rebrand Discussion

The board discussed and gave input on the final designs. The consensus was in favour of moving forward with the full branding guide and package.

Moved by Margie Singleton, seconded by Wayne Greco THAT the Board approve the additional funds of \$3500 for the full rebrand, with revisions based on board feedback. CARRIED.

Motion to move to In-Camera Session

Moved by Wayne Greco, seconded by Margie Singleton THAT this Board go into Closed Session at 11:06 a.m. CARRIED.

In- Camera Session

Exit In- Camera Session

Moved by Margie Singleton, seconded by Jodie Delgado, THAT the Board exit the Closed Session at 11:31 a.m. CARRIED.

Moved by Sarah Vaisler, seconded by Jennifer LaChapelle, THAT the Board confirm the actions of the Board of Directors of FOPL that took place in camera. CARRIED.

9. Treasurer's Report

Moved by Rebecca Hunt and seconded by Lisa Radha Vohra, THAT the Board receive the Treasurer's report as information. CARRIED.

10. Executive Director's Report

The ED reviewed updated advocacy measures and plans for initiatives for safety and security in public libraries.

Moved by Vickery Bowles and seconded by Catherina Moskau, THAT this Board receive the Executive Director's Report as information. CARRIED.

11. Working Group and Committees – Reports and Updates

a. French Translation Working Group

Moved by Catherina Moskau and seconded by Lisa Radha Vohra, THAT this Board receive the Working Group's Report as information. CARRIED.

12. Deferred Business

a. CELUPL Terms of Reference

The main updates to the CELUPL terms of reference were highlighted

Moved by Vickery Bowles and seconded by Beverley King THAT this Board adopts the updated CELUPL Terms of Reference. CARRIED.

13. New Business

c. Spring Caucus Meetings

The ED recapped discussions that were had at the Spring Caucus Meetings. General consensus being that the ODPL is the top priority. An increase to PLOG would be considered a gesture of goodwill. Safety and security in libraries was also noted as a top priority.

Moved by Emma Kinsman and seconded by Susan McGibbon THAT the Board receive the report as information. CARRIED.

d. Advocacy Champions Award

The ED proposed the idea of an annual award for an advocacy champion. This would be awarded by FOPL at the OLA Superconference and nominated by peers. An Awards Committee of FOPL Board members would be formed to decide on details of the award and to create a nominations package with clear requirements for nomination qualifications. A small budget allocation would be required, which would be included in the 2026 budget.

Moved by Beverley King and seconded by Sarah Vaisler THAT the Board approve the creation of an annual advocacy award to be presented at the OLA Superconference. CARRIED.

e. Board Recognition

The ED reviewed a proposal for board recognition awards and a framework for the timeline of these recognition pieces. The board discussed what the physical token should be.

Moved by Jennifer LaChapelle and seconded by Sarah Douglas-Murray THAT the Board approve the regular awarding of Certificates of Recognition to FOPL Board members. CARRIED.

14. Next Meeting

Friday, September 5th, 2025

10:00AM

Hybrid - Location TBD

Special thanks were given to Vickery Bowles for her work with FOPL, as she is retiring.

15. Adjournment

Moved by Vickery Bowles and seconded by Lisa Radha Vohra THAT the meeting be adjourned. CARRIED.

The Board meeting was called to adjourn by the Chair at 12:00.

Paul Ainslie, Chair

Dina Stevens, Board Secretary

Treasurer's Report

Report To: The FOPL Board
Prepared by: Dina Stevens on behalf of Catherina Moskau
Prepared on: August 27, 2025

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the FOPL Board receive this report as information for the period ending August 15, 2025.

BACKGROUND

This report covers the period January 1, 2025 to August 15, 2025 to present finances to date within the current fiscal year. This reflects an unaudited representation of FOPL finances.

REPORT

Financial Reports (attached):

- Comparative Income Statement, known as "Budget vs. Actuals": Provides FOPL's operating revenue and expenditures from January 1, 2025 to August 15, 2025.
- Balance Sheet: Provides information on FOPL's full financial situation as of August 15, 2025 including accounts and investments.

Revenue to Note:

- N/A

Expenditures to Note:

- \$12,870.70 Hardie and Co.
- \$602.47 Anglo-Franco Communications

Total Assets at a glance, as of August 15, 2025:

- Total Cash (chequing account): \$ 136,097.49
- Total Savings: \$ 146,599.44
- Visa Holding Investment Account: \$ 10,074.01
- Total Receivable: \$ 10,125.00

FINANCIAL UPDATES

1. Only one membership is currently outstanding in Accounts Receivable. Admin is following up with that library.
2. Following the approval of the audit, as per standing board motion, 50% of 2024 net profit was transferred to the savings account in the amount of \$18,189.50.

Balance Sheet - As of Aug 15, 2025

Federation of Ontario Public Libraries

As of August 15, 2025

DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Assets	
Current Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalent	
1010 Scotia Chequing Account	\$136,097.49
1011 Cash Investment Account Scotia	\$10,000.53
1020 Scotia Savings Account	\$146,599.44
Undeposited Funds	
Total for Cash and Cash Equivalent	\$292,697.46
Accounts Receivable (A/R)	
Accounts Receivable	\$10,125.00
Total for Accounts Receivable (A/R)	\$10,125.00
1040 Payroll Clearing	
1110 Investments	
1200 Accounts Receivable - History	-\$487.50
1201 Accounts Receivable Adjustments	
1210 Interest Receivable	
1320 Prepaid Expenses - 1	\$2,157.83
Total for Current Assets	\$304,492.79
Non-current Assets	
Property, plant and equipment	
Total for Non-current Assets	0
Total for Assets	\$304,492.79
Liabilities and Equity	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable (A/P)	
Accounts Payable	\$179.67
Total for Accounts Payable (A/P)	\$179.67
Credit Card	
2021 Visa 9458	-\$3,229.52
Total for Credit Card	-\$3,229.52
2011 Accounts Payable Adjustments	
2015 Accrued Liabilities	\$6,999.74
2110 EI Payable	
2120 CPP Payable	
2130 Federal Income Tax Payable	
2140 Federal Tax 2016 Adjustment	
2210 Vacation Payable	
2320 GST Paid on Purchases	
2610 Deferred Revenue	
Total for Current Liabilities	\$3,949.89
Non-current Liabilities	
Total for Liabilities	\$3,949.89

Balance Sheet - As of Aug 15, 2025

Federation of Ontario Public Libraries

As of August 15, 2025

DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Equity	
3500 Opening Balance	
3550 Retained Earnings - Previous Year	-\$4,525.94
Retained Earnings	\$180,758.30
Profit for the year	\$124,310.54
Total for Equity	\$300,542.90
Total for Liabilities and Equity	\$304,492.79

Federation of Ontario Public Libraries

Budget vs. Actuals: Budget_FY25_P&L - FY25 P&L

January - December 2025

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Income				
4000 Revenue				
4010 Sponsorships		0.00	0.00	
4015 Gifts & Donations	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	
4020 Membership Fees	267,087.50	280,000.00	-12,912.50	95.39 %
4030 Grants		0.00	0.00	
4040 Sale of Material		0.00	0.00	
4050 Other Revenues	4,527.67	0.00	4,527.67	
4051 Special Peer Comparisons Fees		0.00	0.00	
4061 Library Training & Development Fees	150.00	0.00	150.00	
4070 Interest Income	1,233.93	3,200.00	-1,966.07	38.56 %
Total 4000 Revenue	274,499.10	283,200.00	-8,700.90	96.93 %
Total Income	\$274,499.10	\$283,200.00	\$ -8,700.90	96.93 %
GROSS PROFIT	\$274,499.10	\$283,200.00	\$ -8,700.90	96.93 %
Expenses				
5050 Office Consultants				
5055 Executive Director	76,253.53	113,366.00	-37,112.47	67.26 %
5060 Administrative Assistant	17,963.70	31,500.00	-13,536.30	57.03 %
5065 Marketing & Social Media	2,200.00	9,000.00	-6,800.00	24.44 %
Total 5050 Office Consultants	96,417.23	153,866.00	-57,448.77	62.66 %
5100 Administrative Expenses				
5110 Admin Meeting	15.82	200.00	-184.18	7.91 %
5115 Admin Travel	5,575.50	14,000.00	-8,424.50	39.83 %
5120 Admin Professional Development		0.00	0.00	
Total 5100 Administrative Expenses	5,591.32	14,200.00	-8,608.68	39.38 %
5155 Board Expenses				
5160 Board Travel	2,218.20	6,000.00	-3,781.80	36.97 %
5165 Board Meeting	642.29	2,500.00	-1,857.71	25.69 %
5170 Board Professional Development		0.00	0.00	
5175 Board Recruitment		0.00	0.00	
5180 Annual General Meeting		0.00	0.00	
5185 Legal		0.00	0.00	
5190 Board Appreciation	180.21	500.00	-319.79	36.04 %
Total 5155 Board Expenses	3,040.70	9,000.00	-5,959.30	33.79 %
5200 Committee Work				
5205 CELUPL		500.00	-500.00	
5210 Working Groups		0.00	0.00	
Total 5200 Committee Work		500.00	-500.00	
5250 Operational Expenses				
5255 General Office Supplies	190.70	250.00	-59.30	76.28 %
5260 Postage & Courier	629.82	1,200.00	-570.18	52.49 %
5265 Photocopying Supplies		0.00	0.00	
5270 Printing	624.82	2,000.00	-1,375.18	31.24 %
5275 Telephone	1,248.49	3,000.00	-1,751.51	41.62 %
5280 Telecommunication		0.00	0.00	
5285 Insurance (DS)	1,933.20	2,000.00	-66.80	96.66 %

Federation of Ontario Public Libraries

Budget vs. Actuals: Budget_FY25_P&L - FY25 P&L

January - December 2025

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
5290 FOPL Memberships	3,150.00	3,700.00	-550.00	85.14 %
5295 Subscriptions		0.00	0.00	
Total 5250 Operational Expenses	7,777.03	12,150.00	-4,372.97	64.01 %
5300 Furniture and Equipment				
5310 Furniture		0.00	0.00	
5315 Equipment	395.49	500.00	-104.51	79.10 %
5320 Information Technology Hardware		1,000.00	-1,000.00	
5325 Information Technology Software	204.52	1,200.00	-995.48	17.04 %
Total 5300 Furniture and Equipment	600.01	2,700.00	-2,099.99	22.22 %
5500 Finance				
5510 Bank Charges & Interest	147.10	600.00	-452.90	24.52 %
5515 Credit Card Charges	75.00	100.00	-25.00	75.00 %
5520 Audit		8,200.00	-8,200.00	
5525 Services & Consultants		500.00	-500.00	
Total 5500 Finance	222.10	9,400.00	-9,177.90	2.36 %
5600 Marketing and Promotions				
5610 Conferences & Exhibitions	10,825.40	15,000.00	-4,174.60	72.17 %
5615 Advertising & Promotions	4,909.84	250.00	4,659.84	1,963.94 %
5620 Special Events		0.00	0.00	
5625 Publications & Printing	57.00	500.00	-443.00	11.40 %
5635 Presentation Supplies	789.05	500.00	289.05	157.81 %
5640 Indigenous Language Translation		3,000.00	-3,000.00	
5641 French Language Translation	602.47	1,000.00	-397.53	60.25 %
5645 Website	386.51	2,000.00	-1,613.49	19.33 %
Total 5600 Marketing and Promotions	17,570.27	22,250.00	-4,679.73	78.97 %
5700 Programs and Projects				
5710 Contract Services	19,650.70	18,000.00	1,650.70	109.17 %
5715 Research & Development		600.00	-600.00	
5720 Statistician Fees		0.00	0.00	
5725 Library Member Training		0.00	0.00	
5730 Working Groups - 1		5,000.00	-5,000.00	
5735 Legal Opinions		0.00	0.00	
5740 Public Relations Services	25,232.88	50,000.00	-24,767.12	50.47 %
5990 Write-off		0.00	0.00	
Total 5700 Programs and Projects	44,883.58	73,600.00	-28,716.42	60.98 %
5950 UNKNOWN EXPENSE		0.00	0.00	
Total Expenses	\$176,102.24	\$297,666.00	\$ -121,563.76	59.16 %
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$98,396.86	\$ -14,466.00	\$112,862.86	-680.19 %
Other Expenses				
5000 Payroll Expenses				
5010 Part-Time Permanent Salaries		0.00	0.00	
5020 Contract & Temporary Staff		0.00	0.00	
5025 EI Expense		0.00	0.00	
5030 CPP Expense		0.00	0.00	
Total 5000 Payroll Expenses		0.00	0.00	

Federation of Ontario Public Libraries

Budget vs. Actuals: Budget_FY25_P&L - FY25 P&L

January - December 2025

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Total Other Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
NET OTHER INCOME	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
NET INCOME	\$98,396.86	\$ -14,466.00	\$112,862.86	-680.19 %

Executive Director's Report

Report to: The FOPL Board
Prepared by: Dina Stevens, Executive Director
Prepared on: August 28, 2025

Recommendation

THAT the FOPL board receive this report as information.

Report

Conference Engagement & Tradeshow Activity

AMO Conference (August 2025)

- FOPL had a successful presence at the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference in Ottawa. Our booth—in partnership with the Ontario Library Service (OLS) and its Executive Director Mellissa D’Onofrio-Jones—served as a vibrant touchpoint for municipal leaders from across Ontario who were eager to share why libraries matter in their communities. Conversations ranged from intellectual freedom and book banning to local issues and digital inclusivity.
- I participated in a panel discussion that positioned public libraries as critical social infrastructure, emphasizing collaborative opportunities between libraries and municipalities to advance community goals. Titled “Libraries as Critical Social Infrastructure”, the presentation showcased how municipal and library collaboration enhances service delivery and community resilience. A copy of the presentation, along with my other panelists presentations, is available on the [AMO website](#).

AMCTO Conference (June 2025)

- At the AMCTO tradeshow (held earlier this summer), FOPL engaged with municipal clerks, treasurers, CAOs and directors. We also partnered with the Ontario Library Service for this conference.
- These conferences continue to be invaluable platforms for relationship-building, raising our profile, and promoting sector-wide priorities.



Advocacy & Government Relations

Development Charges Act – Regulatory Consultation

- FOPL submitted formal comments to the Ontario government regarding proposed amendments to the Development Charges Act, underscoring the need for continued eligibility of public libraries for development charge funding—a key infrastructure funding mechanism.

Connectivity Grant – Meeting with ADM Katherine Kelly Gatten

- I met with Assistant Deputy Minister Katherine Kelly Gatten to discuss the modest increase in funding through the Connectivity Grant. While we acknowledge the additional dollars, I emphasized that the current levels remain insufficient to support equitable broadband access across Ontario's public libraries, especially in underserved communities.

Member Services & Research Initiatives

Sentolib Partnership

- FOPL has partnered with Sentolib (Sentobib) to bring a proven, cost-effective audience research tool to Ontario's library systems.
- This tool offers a fully facilitated, low-effort user research solution—enabling libraries to survey library users (and optionally non-users), benchmark results internationally, and receive tailored reports and dashboards. It's already used by over 1,150 libraries across Europe.

Strong-Mayor Powers Panel

- FOPL organized and hosted a panel for members focused on the implications of the **Strong-Mayor Powers** on library governance and municipal relations. Panelists included:
 - **Margie Singleton**, FOPL Board Member
 - **Sarah Vaisler**, FOPL Board Member
 - **Michael Ciccone**, FOPL Member

The session provided pragmatic guidance on navigating new power dynamics in municipal government, helping library leaders understand the evolving landscape and strategize for advocacy and decision-making.



Sector Collaboration & Strategic Alliances

OLS & OLA Engagement

- Ongoing collaboration continues with the Ontario Library Service (OLS) and the Ontario Library Association (OLA). Recent coordination includes aligning key sector messaging, exploring joint programming and training, and coordinating advocacy activities to strengthen collective impact.

CULC & Parks and Recreation Ontario Partnerships

- I met with representatives from the Canadian Urban Libraries Council (CULC) and Parks and Recreation Ontario to explore partnerships for our upcoming Safety and Security Lobbying Day at Queen's Park. These collaborations will enhance our advocacy footprint and signal cross-sector alignment on safety concerns in public spaces.

As always, I'm happy to discuss any of the above. Please feel free to reach out to me.

Kind Regards,

Dina Stevens, MLIS
Executive Director

Strategic Objectives and Initiatives for 2025 - 2029

Advocacy & Influence

Positively influence legislation and government initiatives impacting Ontario Public Libraries.

1. Build relationships with provincially elected officials and staff to influence government policy and practices.
2. Inspire and mobilize the library community by working together to achieve our collective provincial goals.
3. Support First Nations libraries with national and provincial advocacy.
4. Collaborate with other library associations, organizations, and agencies to lobby for public libraries in provincial political arena such as Library Day at Queen's Park.
5. Support members' libraries efforts in municipal government advocacy.
6. Engage in proactive advocacy that includes educating and reaching out to municipal stakeholders to promote the value of public libraries.
7. Remain agile to enable timely response to emerging issues and opportunities.
8. Act as a conduit for government to supply information to Public Libraries.

Objective	Method	Timeline	Result
Inspire and mobilize the library community by working together to achieve our collective provincial goals.	Participate in 2025 Standing Committee of Finance and Economic Affairs and Minister of Finance budget consultations. Coordinate meetings with Library CEOs and MPPs across the province to discuss and garner support for our priorities. Post-elections MPP engagement	Q1	FOPL deputation to the Minister of Finance on November 22, 2024 for the 2025 budget cycle. Additional 11 deputations across the province by member library CEOs to both the MOF and the Standing Committee for the 2025 budget cycle. Various members sent congratulations emails, letters and meeting request post election.
Collaborate with other library associations, organizations, and agencies to lobby for public libraries in provincial political arena such as Library Day at Queen's Park.	Submit Official 2025 Budget Request for Ontario's Public Libraries.	Q1	Official 2025 Pre-Budget Submission to the Ministry of Finance and the Standing Committee submitted January 16, 2025.

	Provincial elections engagement Partner with the OLA for a coordinated Ontario Public Library Week advocacy effort		Sent out a survey to all parties regarding public library support. Share results with members. Recorded a podcast re: election engagement for members. Created the elections toolkit. Scheduled to appear and promote several OPLW events around the province
Remain agile to enable timely response to emerging issues and opportunities.	Respond to emerging advocacy issues and new trends with provincial, municipal and member engagement strategies.	Ongoing	Letter to AMO re: Strong Mayors Powers and potential collaboration. Strong Mayors Powers panel discussion for members June 25. Consultation submitted to Federal MOF re: proposed 25% tariffs on books, periodicals and other related library materials. Consultation submitted to the provincial regulatory registry re: Development Charges Act
Build relationships with provincial elected officials and civil servants to influence government policy and practices.	Engage with cabinet members, Ministry staff, and other officials.	Ongoing	Congratulation letters post-election and meeting requests to Minister Cho (MTCG), Minister Lecce (Energy), Minister Dunlop (Education). Meeting with Bonnie Crombie to discuss public libraries priorities. Meeting with Ministry of Energy Staff to introduce the public libraries portfolio and

			advocacy work inherited from Min of Infrastructure. Meeting with MTCG Staff Deborah Cope and Lorraine Dooley. Meeting with DM Nancy Kennedy, Minister Cho Chief of Staff Creed Atkinson and Chief Policy Advisor Rebecca Langstaff.
Support members' libraries efforts in municipal government advocacy.	Available to member libraries to provide advocacy specific board orientation and training. One-on-one meetings with Library Members to provide advocacy direction.	Ongoing	Consultation with Delaware Nation CEO. Board presentation to SDG Library June 15.
Engage in proactive advocacy that includes educating and reaching out to municipal stakeholders to promote the value of public libraries.	Create targeted campaigns on trending library issues.		Intellectual freedom awareness campaign for municipal conferences starting Q2. Participate in research and information sharing on Safety and Security for public libraries.
Support First Nations libraries with national and provincial advocacy.	Understand unique FNPL issues and incorporate their needs into provincial asks and engagement.	Q2	Attended FNPL Spring Gathering, May 20-23 2025.

Marketing Public Library Value and Impact

Coordinate and assist in the implementation of strategic marketing for Ontario Public Libraries.

1. Increase member engagement by being recognized as the trusted voice for Ontario's public libraries.
2. Develop and provide research to inform marketing initiatives that also provides valuable resources for members.
3. Develop province-wide social media marketing campaign tools that promotes the value of public libraries.
4. Pursue partnerships beyond traditional library partners to bring opportunities to members and broaden the scope of public libraries.
5. Collaborate with other provincial organizations such as OLBA and OLS to create consistent promotional messaging for use by Public Libraries.
6. Communicate the unique role that FOPL plays in the library community and the value we bring to the sector.

Objective	Method	Timeline	Result
Communicate the unique role that FOPL plays in the library community and the value we bring to the sector.	Attend municipal conferences and other large scale municipal events.	Q1/Q2/Q3	Tradeshow booths Rural Ontario Municipal Associations Conference (Jan – 230), Ontario Small Urban Municipalities Conference (May - 155), Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario Conference (June - 150). Registered to attend Association of Municipalities Ontario Conference (August – 400+).
	Value impact analysis of our social media channels, linkedin and website blog.	Q3	Analysis presented at the Q3 board meeting.
Increase member engagement by being recognized as the trusted voice for Ontario's public libraries.	Rebrand the look and feel of FOPL to reflect strategic changes in operations and advocacy.	Q1/Q2	Strategic plan branding project with Hardie and Co. – possible full rebrand.
	Perform a communications review which includes website redevelopment that strengthens member engagement and adds value to membership.	Q4	
	Advocacy Champion Award	Q3	Committee has met and created award criteria, nomination forms and scoring rubric.

Develop and provide research to inform marketing initiatives that also provides valuable resources for members.	Provide the Data Dashboard to member libraries so they may better market their own successes and impacts. Investigate a FOPL initiated study on the economic impact of PLS.	Ongoing Q3	Research and Development WG currently migrating dashboard to Power BI and integrating new ASPL data.
Collaborate with other provincial organizations such as OLBA and OLS to create consistent promotional messaging for use by Public Libraries.	Share tradeshow booths with OLS. Quarterly meetings with OLA and OLS leaders. Bring municipal stakeholder campaigns to OBLA and partner with OLA to provide information sessions to OLBA members.	Ongoing Ongoing Q4	AMCTO and AMO shared booths with OLS. Ongoing quarterly.
Pursue partnerships beyond traditional library partners to bring opportunities to members and broaden the scope of public libraries.	Investigate a partnership with SentoLib for Ontario libraries to participate in global library data collection.	Q3	Initiated preliminary investigation – info session for members coming in June/July.

Training & Development

Provide Ontario's Public Libraries with professional training and development.

1. Coordinate training opportunities such as seminars, workshops, symposia, and webinars.
2. Collaborate in creation of library board trustee training tools.
3. Increase board engagement through education and communication.
4. Share expertise at professional conferences and events across the province.
5. Provide information sessions for members on topics related to advocacy and advancing libraries.
6. Build consensus in the Ontario Public Library community.
7. Increase awareness of grant and subsidy opportunities.
8. Provide collaboration and learning opportunities for libraries on Truth and Reconciliation and Intellectual Freedom.

Objective	Method	Timeline	Result
Coordinate training opportunities such as seminars, workshops, symposia, and webinars.	Continue to offer annual FOPL Info Series in the fall.	Q3	
Collaborate in creation of library board trustee training tools. Increase board engagement through education and communication.	Initiate a board engagement campaign to reach out directly to public library boards. Collaborate with OLS to offer advocacy workshops. Reach out to OLBA to bring intellectual freedom campaign directly to boards.	Q4 Q2 Q4	"Crafting Your Ask" w/ OLS – 42 attendees
Share expertise at professional conferences and events across the province.	OLA SuperConference Jan 2025 FNPL Spring Gathering May 2025 Library as Place Conference Jun 2025 IFLA MetLib Oct 2025	Ongoing	OLA SuperConference – booth in the tradeshow, attended multiple meetings. Spring Gathering – attended and connected with several FNPL library leaders. Library as Place Conference – attended and connected with several PLs.
Provide information sessions for members on topics related to advocacy and advancing libraries.	Develop the Annual Advocacy Forum, a one day, hands on workshop for library leaders.	Q4	

Organizational Resilience

Increase organizational resiliency.

1. Seek alternate sources of funding to ensure fiscal stability.
2. Actively engage members in working groups and advocacy campaigns.
3. More effectively and more frequently communicate with individual members and FOPL caucuses.
4. Increase involvement and contribution of FOPL Working Groups.
5. Overcome challenges of diversity and geography.
6. Develop a succession plan for Executive Director and Administrative Assistant.

Objective	Method	Timeline	Result
Seek alternate sources of funding to ensure fiscal stability.	Integrate donations on the website.	Q2	Account created – currently working with tech company to get button integrated onto current website.
	Investigate “FOPL Merch” for sale through a made to order process.	Q3	Still investigating – waiting for new branding.
Actively engage members in working groups and advocacy campaigns.	Ensure meetings are scheduled and workplans are created for all ongoing working groups.	Ongoing	All WGs currently meeting and have workplans in place – Marketing and Comm currently dormant.
More effectively and more frequently communicate with individual members and FOPL caucuses.	Investigate website redevelopment project.	Q3	Spring caucus meetings completed. Attended OLA SuperConference. Will attend Library as Place and IFLA MetLib 2025.
	Spring caucus meetings.	Q2	
	Attend library related conferences and events.	Ongoing	
Overcome challenges of diversity and geography.	Offer hybrid options for all meetings and a fully virtual AGM.	Ongoing	Ongoing throughout the year.

Working Group Report

Report To: The FOPL Board
Report Name: Translation Working Group
Prepared by: Catherina Rouse, Working Group Chair
Working Group: Gwen Boyd, Ontario Library Service (OLS)
France Séguin, Township of Russell Public Library
Isabelle Camiré, Township of Russell Public Library
Catherina Moskau, Clarence Rockland Public Library
Dina Stevens, ED Ex-Officio
Meeting Date(s): N/A
Location: N/A

Recommendation

1. THAT the FOPL Board receive this report as information.

Background

FOPL endeavors to provide equitable access to all its services, documents, and research. As such, a need was identified to provide a translation service for items identified and requested by our members on an ad hoc basis.

Activities of the Working Group

A few translations and reviews of professionally completed translations have been done over the past few months as requested.

Next Steps

The working group will continue to translate documents upon request.

OLA Assistance and Support

Report To: The FOPL Board
Prepared by: Dina Stevens
Prepared on: August 27, 2025

BACKGROUND

The Ontario Library Association has been a partner and supporter in FOPL's advocacy work since the Federation first came to be over 30 years ago. OLA has formally requested our support as they navigate an operational deficit and restabilize their organization.

We currently share our government relations firm with OLA and pay 50% of the fees equally. OLA has asked us to temporarily pay 75% of these shared fees for the upcoming contract with CPA from September 2025 to August 2026.

50% of the shared contract = \$37,849.32

75% of the shared contract = \$56,773.98

This would mean an additional estimated **\$18,924.66** to our budget. This amount is likely less as the OLA receives HST reimbursement that would translate to us.

A letter from Michelle Arbuckle, OLA Executive Director, is attached.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the FOPL board approve the temporary increase in shared Counsel Public Affairs fees from 50% to 75% of the 2025/26 contract, adding an additional 19k to the budget.



Monday August 25, 2025

Dear FOPL Board Members,

I'm writing on behalf of the Ontario Library Association regarding our shared work with the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries on government relations. Over the years, our 50/50 partnership in covering the annual cost of our government relations firm has been an important and effective way to ensure both organizations can maintain a strong and consistent voice with decision-makers.

As we look ahead to FY2026, OLA is facing a deficit budget. In order to sustain our shared advocacy efforts without interruption, we are asking the FOPL board to consider increasing its share of the government relations firm cost for the coming fiscal year. Specifically, we are proposing that FOPL cover 75% of the bill for FY2026, with the understanding that we would return to our usual 50/50 arrangement in FY2027.

We believe this temporary adjustment will allow both organizations to maintain the momentum and presence we have built together, while giving OLA the necessary flexibility to navigate its current financial constraints.

We deeply value our partnership and the collaborative work we have done together in the best interests of our shared communities. I look forward to discussing this proposal further and answering any questions you might have.

With appreciation,

Michelle Arbuckle
Executive Director
Ontario Library Association



Libraries are for Everyone

Discover how Ontario's public libraries support people from all walks of life.

For a budding entrepreneur, the public library offers tools to prototype new products, build a brand, design marketing materials, and research the Ontario market—helping turn ideas into reality.

For a mature student with a family at home, the library is a quiet sanctuary for uninterrupted study after a long day. With thousands of books available, it's also the perfect resource for story time with children.

For a newcomer to Ontario, libraries offer a welcoming hand—connecting people to vital resources, including Wi-Fi, computers, job search tools, and opportunities to engage with local culture and community.

For younger Ontarians, libraries are inspiring spaces to explore science, technology, arts, and culture through after-school programs tailored to spark creativity and curiosity.

For an unhoused person, the library provides a safe, welcoming environment to stay warm in winter or cool in summer—with access to essential services and supportive resources.

Ontario Public Library Annual Usage

Libraries across Ontario are vibrant community hubs, delivering high-impact services **each year**:

- **251 million** virtual visits
- **134 million** physical items borrowed
- **120 million** in-person visits
- **52 million** digital items borrowed
- **19 million** Wi-Fi sessions
- **18 million** database sessions
- **4.3 million** computer sessions
- **6.1 million** questions answer

Library Collections Include:

- **28 million** print books
- **23 million** e-books
- **7.2 million** e-audiobooks
- **3.6 million** CDs & DVDs

PLUS SO MUCH MORE!

- Snowshoes & fishing tackle
- Tools & kitchen appliances
- Sheet music & musical instruments
- Home Wi-Fi access & laptop lending
- Seed libraries & story walks
- Cricut machines & 3D printers
- Board games & video games

SCAN TO READ MORE

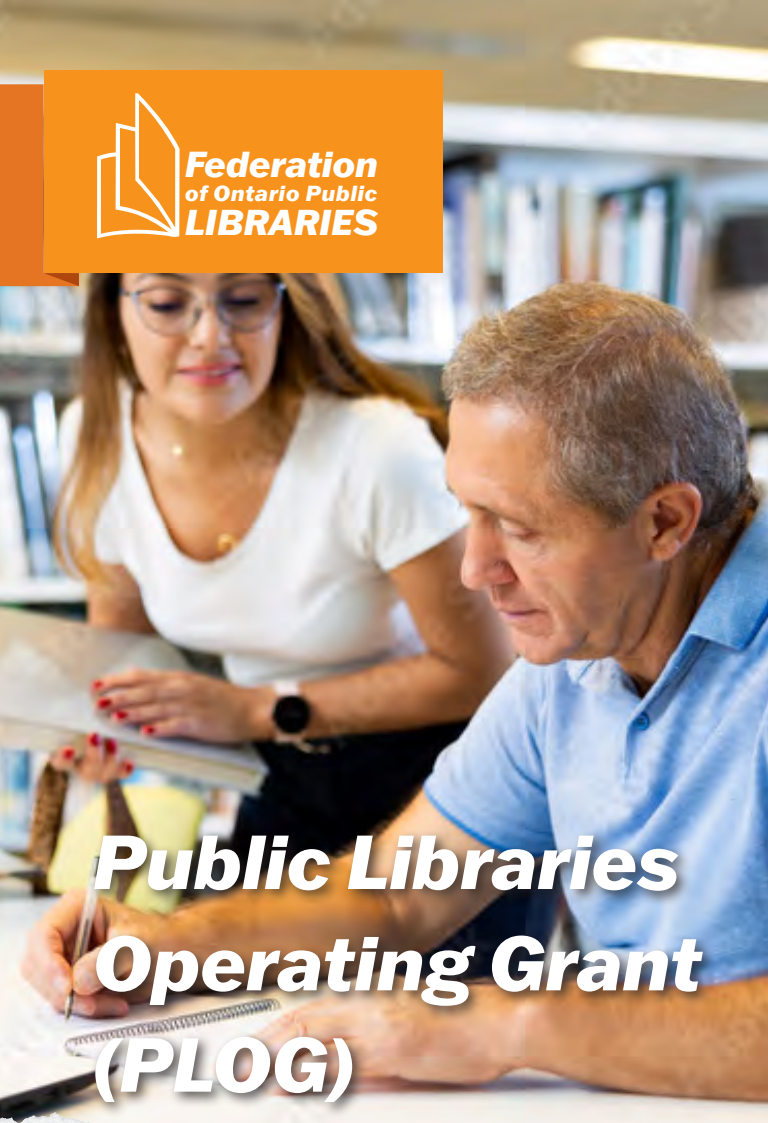


fopl.ca



Together. Strong.

**Federation
of Ontario Public
LIBRARIES**

A photograph of a man and a woman in a library setting. The woman, on the left, has long brown hair and wears glasses and a white shirt. The man, on the right, has short grey hair and wears a light blue polo shirt. They are both looking down at a book or document. The background shows bookshelves filled with books.

Public Libraries Operating Grant (PLOG)

PUBLIC LIBRARY FUNDING

Ontario's public libraries are essential community infrastructure—but their core operating support hasn't increased in over 25 years.

With rising costs and growing demand, libraries urgently need stable, sustainable funding to continue delivering frontline services that drive local resilience, digital equity, and economic opportunity.

Investing in Ontario Public Libraries

Public libraries in Ontario are at the heart of their communities, delivering vital services: job training, digital inclusion, newcomer support, early literacy, and mental health resources. Yet the provincial Public Libraries Operating Grant (PLOG) has remained frozen for over 25 years.

Inflation has eroded more than 60% of its real value, threatening the stability of library services—especially in small, rural, and northern communities where provincial support plays an outsized role.

Meanwhile, libraries are being asked to do more with less. They're on the frontlines of today's most urgent challenges: supporting vulnerable populations, bridging the digital divide, addressing isolation and mental health, and helping people adapt to a rapidly changing economy.

While municipalities provide over 90% of library funding, they cannot meet growing demand alone. A modest investment of \$25 million annually would restore the value of PLOG and enable libraries to expand their reach and impact across Ontario.

This renewed support would allow libraries to:

- Expand digital and workforce training programs
- Deliver resources for seniors, youth, and newcomers
- Strengthen early literacy and student success
- Provide equitable services across all communities

It's time to reinvest in Ontario's public libraries—essential infrastructure for an inclusive, future-ready province.

SCAN TO READ MORE



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LIBRARIES**



**Federation
of Ontario Public
LIBRARIES**



Bridging the Digital Divide

ONTARIO DIGITAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

A province-wide Ontario Digital Public Library would ensure every resident—regardless of geography or income—has free access to high-quality digital resources through their local library.

From live tutoring to job training and language learning, this smart investment supports digital equity, lifelong learning, and stronger, more connected communities.

Building the Foundation for the Ontario Digital Public Library

The Ontario Digital Public Library (ODPL) is a bold, cost-effective solution to bridge the digital divide. With an annual provincial investment of \$10–\$20 million, ODPL would provide equitable, province-wide access to premium digital resources through every local public library.

This includes live online tutoring, job skill development, language learning, tools for seniors and people with disabilities, and trusted health and research databases—**available 24/7**, anywhere in Ontario.

Today, access to these resources varies dramatically. Small and rural libraries often cannot afford costly digital tools, leaving their communities underserved. For example, Ontarians in towns under 5,000 often have access to fewer than one-third of the resources available in larger urban libraries, despite having higher per capita usage.

By centralizing licensing and leveraging provincial purchasing power, ODPL can **reduce costs by up to 40%**, ensuring consistent, high-quality access across the province.

This initiative builds on recent provincial investments in library connectivity and aligns with successful models in Alberta and Saskatchewan.

The Ontario Digital Public Library is not just a library service—it's a smart public infrastructure investment that empowers individuals, supports economic growth, and builds a more inclusive, connected Ontario.

SCAN TO READ MORE



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of Ontario Public
LIBRARIES**



Advocacy Award for Public Libraries

Purpose

The Advocacy Award recognizes an individual, group, or organization that has demonstrated outstanding support for public libraries through advocacy efforts that have had a meaningful and lasting impact.

Eligibility

Who Can Be Nominated:

- Individuals (e.g., library patrons, elected officials, educators, students, community leaders)
- Groups or Organizations (e.g., Friends of the Library, non-profits, community associations, businesses)
- Library Staff or Board Members, provided their advocacy extends beyond the expectations of their paid or official roles

Scope and Focus:

- Advocacy efforts must support public libraries
- Activities may be local, regional, provincial, or national in scope

Eligible Activities May Include:

- Public awareness campaigns
- Legislative or policy support for libraries
- Community organizing or coalition building
- Innovative media or outreach efforts
- Fundraising tied directly to advocacy
- Defense of library values during times of challenge (e.g., censorship, budget cuts, closures)



Timeframe:

- Actions must have taken place within the past two years, though long-standing or sustained efforts may be considered with supporting evidence

Nomination Requirements:

- Nominations must be submitted by someone other than the nominee (self-nominations not accepted unless specified)
- Nominations should include:
 - A completed nomination form
 - A brief narrative outlining the advocacy work
 - Supporting materials (e.g., letters of support, media coverage, outcome data)

Ineligibility:

- Current members of the award selection committee are not eligible during their term
- Activities conducted solely as part of a political campaign for personal election purposes are not eligible unless library advocacy was a distinct and measurable result

Award Criteria

Nominations will be evaluated based on the following:

1. Demonstrated Impact
 - Clear evidence of positive outcomes for public libraries
 - Measurable or visible results (e.g., funding gains, policy wins, increased public engagement)
2. Leadership in Advocacy
 - Demonstrated ability to inspire, mobilize, or influence others
 - Championing of library issues in public, political, or media spheres
3. Creativity and Innovation
 - Unique or original strategies that effectively promoted library values or goals
 - Use of creative tools, platforms, or messaging



4. Community Engagement

- Advocacy that reflects and responds to community needs
- Inclusion of diverse voices and perspectives in the effort

5. Alignment with Public Library Values

- Advocacy rooted in principles of intellectual freedom, access, equity, education, and community service

6. Collaboration

- Partnerships formed with library staff, boards, stakeholders, or other organizations
- Efforts that strengthened broader networks of library support

7. Commitment and Dedication

- Sustained effort or willingness to advocate even under pressure
- Long-term vision and persistence in support of libraries

8. Influence and Reach

- The breadth and depth of influence, whether local or national
- Recognition by the public, media, or professional community



Advocacy Award Nomination Form

Award Overview

The Federation of Public Libraries Advocacy Award recognizes an individual, group, or organization whose advocacy has significantly advanced the mission, visibility, and value of public libraries. This award celebrates leadership, innovation, and meaningful impact in the promotion and defense of public libraries.

Section 1: Nominee Information

Nominee Name / Group / Organization:

If a Group or Organization, Name of Primary Contact:

Address:

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Affiliation (if applicable):

- ☐ Library staff
- ☐ Library board member
- ☐ Community member
- ☐ Organization
- ☐ Other: _____



Section 2: Nominator Information

Your Name:

Your Organization (if applicable):

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Relationship to Nominee:



Section 3: Advocacy Description

1. Please describe the advocacy efforts of the nominee. (Include what was done, when, and how it supported public libraries.) Suggested: 300–500 words

2. What impact did these efforts have? (E.g., policy change, increased funding, public awareness, community support)

3. How did the nominee demonstrate leadership, creativity, or innovation in their advocacy?

4. Describe how the advocacy aligned with core public library values. (E.g., intellectual freedom, access, equity, lifelong learning)

5. Was the advocacy collaborative in nature? If so, please describe the partnerships involved.



Section 4: Supporting Documentation

Please attach any relevant materials to support your nomination, including:

- Letters of support (up to 3)
- News articles, social media posts, campaign materials
- Outcome data, testimonials, or public statements

Section 5: Declaration

I confirm that the information provided in this nomination is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that self-nominations are not permitted.

Signature: _____ Date: _____



Submission Instructions

Please submit this completed form and supporting materials by:

 [Insert Deadline Here]

 [Insert Submission Email]

 Or mail to:

Federation of Public Libraries

P.O. Box 3285

Meaford Stn Main, ON

N4L 1A5

For questions or assistance, contact: [Insert Contact Name/Email]

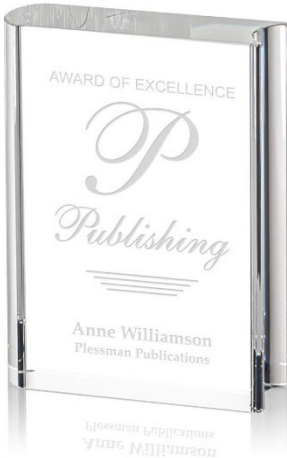
Advocacy Award – Award Options

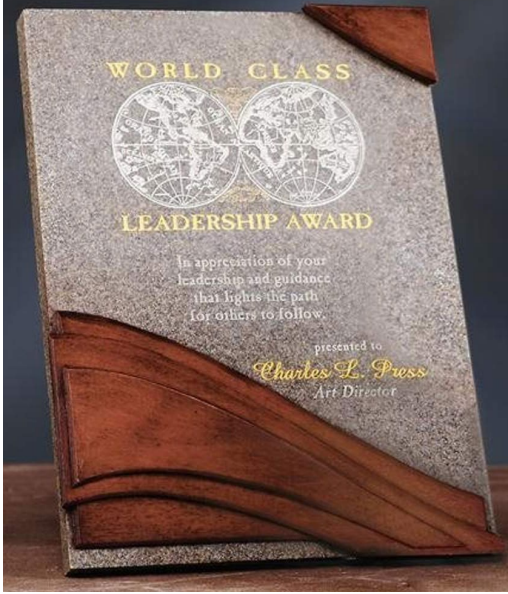
Report To: The FOPL Board
Prepared by: Diana Chiavaroli
Prepared on: August 25, 2025

BACKGROUND

At the Q2 June 9, 2025 FOPL Board meeting, a motion was passed to create an annual advocacy award to be presented at the OLA Superconference. Options for the physical representation of this award as presented below. Efforts were made to source the award within Canada, however the majority of awards are pre-made in the US and then etched or engraved by a Canadian company. Canadian companies were also contacted who can craft unique awards, however none have replied at this time.

OPTIONS

Award Image	Base Price	Company	Notes
	\$183.72	Able Recognition	Canadian company based out of BC with 35 years experience. The crystal book is a catalog item used by several award companies. Material: Optical Crystal Size: 4.5" by 6" Customization: Deep etch. No colour

	\$204.56	Able Recognition	Same company as above. Material: Stonecast with Moonstone and Woodgrain Finish Size: 8" by 10.5" Customization: Deep Etch and One Colour
	\$314.47	Able Recognition	Same company as above. Material: Optical Crystal Size: 2.375" by 8" Customization: Deep Etch. No colour

	\$77.52	Any Event Gift - Etsy	Small business owner out of Ukraine. Highly rated with 1k+ reviews. Material: Solid Oak with Acrylic Overlay Size: 10.2" by 6.2" by 1.5" Customization: Logo and Text
	\$110.79	Any Event Gift - Etsy	Same company as above. Material: Solid Oak with Acrylic Overlay Size: 7.8" by 5.1" by 1.5" Customization: Logo and text, 1 colour

Social Media KPI and Recommendation

Report To: The FOPL Board
Prepared by: Dina Stevens
Prepared on: August 27, 2025

BACKGROUND

In fall of 2021, the Marketing Working Group revitalized FOPL's social media channels as a way to boost member engagement and distribute information. We currently post on four social media platforms and I have been monitoring engagement. The "Digital Marketer" position was created to support these strategic goals.

SOCIAL MEDIA PERFORMANCE

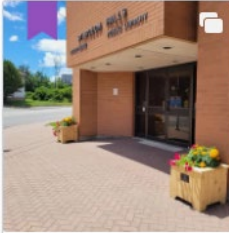
Here are the **overall 2025 stats** on our social platforms.

Platform	New Followers	Total Followers	Posts	Views	Interactions (comments, likes and shares)
Instagram	N/A	297	33	1,959	119
Facebook	29	117	32	12,750	412
Twitter	N/A	1,136	30	1,953	57
LinkedIn	20	352	24	9,724	314

Here is some additional info on our posts:

Top Posts on Facebook

 Top posts by views



Bookmarked: West Nipissing Public...

Thu Jan 9, 6:55am

👁 7.1K ❤ 98

🗨 5 ➦ 7



Board of Directors

Welcome, Emma Kinsman

Please welcome Emma Kinsman, FOPL's ne...

Wed Apr 30, 6:35am

👁 2.5K ❤ 128

🗨 51 ➦ 4



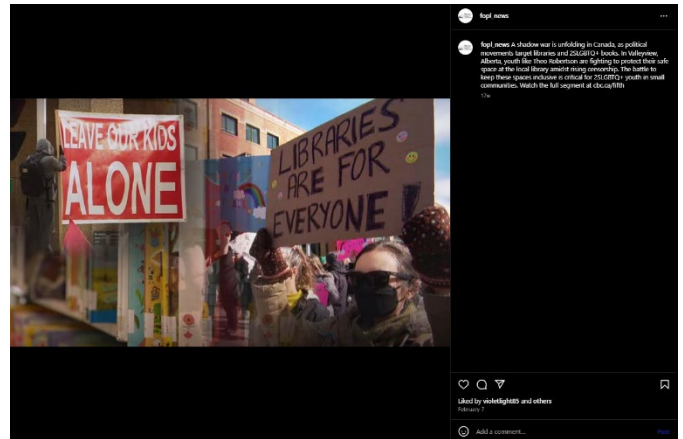
Bookmarked: Temiskaming Shores...

Fri Jan 24, 10:15am

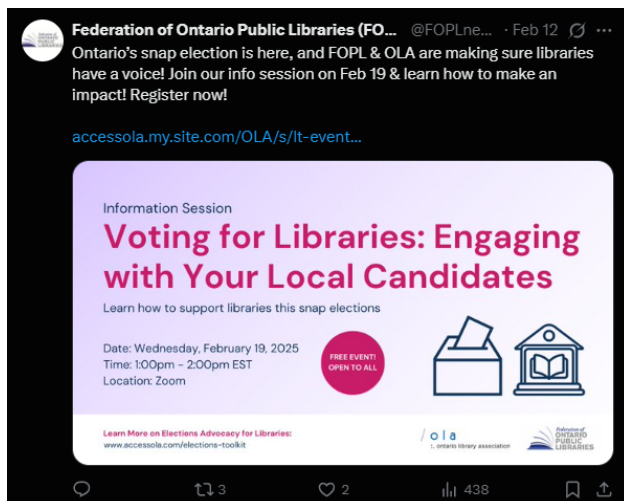
👁 1.2K ❤ 48

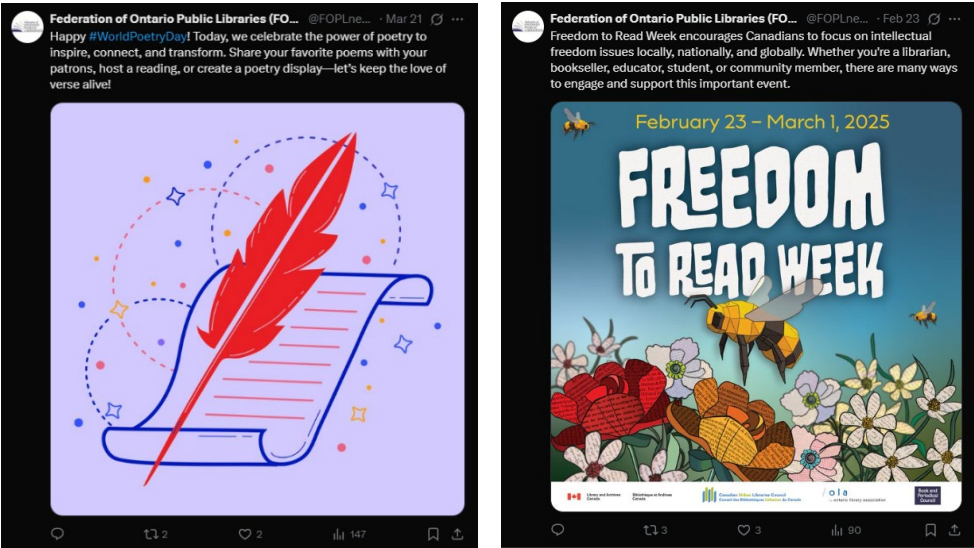
🗨 1 ➦ 3

Top Posts on Instagram



Top Posts on Twitter





Top Posts on LinkedIn

Top performing posts
Based on impressions gained from January 1, 2025 - June 8, 2025

Dina Stevens posted this • 1mo  Please welcome Sarah Douglas-Murray, FOPL's new Large Urban Caucus Trustee! Sarah is the CEO & Chief Librarian at Milton Public Library! With 25+ years in municipal leadership, she's driving innovation a ...show more 99 9 comments	3,427 Impressions View analytics
Dina Stevens posted this • 2mo  Libraries are essential to strong, resilient communities! As the federal election approaches, now is the time to advocate for sustainable library funding. Connect with local candidates and spread the word ...show more 36	793 Impressions View analytics
Dina Stevens posted this • 5mo 2024 was a pivotal year for Canadian libraries, as they faced growing challenges in intellectual freedom, censorship, and community engagement. From boc ...show more  Our Libraries in the News: Insights and Implications for 2025 Centre f... cfe.torontomu.ca 12	726 Impressions View analytics



Those that follow us are engaging primarily with our posts that share information such as Freedom to Read Week and posts that share news articles. We have the fewest followers on Instagram and Facebook. Our LinkedIn followers are primarily library CEOs, board members and people connected to the library world. This aligns with our top performing content – engagement is primarily on professional networks with library professionals.

RESULT

After 3 years of promotion and data collection, what we are spending to maintain these social media channels is not worth the investment in budget. We will discontinue posting on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook, but retain LinkedIn and the website blog. LinkedIn and the website blog duties can be absorbed by the administrative staff. As a result, the contract with our Digital Marketer will be terminated, reclaiming \$9000 in allocated budget annually.

Recommended Motion

THAT the FOPL board receives this report as information.



Ontario Public Library Week

Report To: The FOPL Board
Prepared by: Dina Stevens
Prepared on: August 28, 2025

BACKGROUND

Ontario Public Library Week is an annual province-wide celebration that highlights the vital role public libraries play in communities across Ontario. This year, OPLW will be during the third week of October.

FOPL AND OLA PARTNERSHIP

Ontario Public Library Week (OPLW) has long been a celebration of the impact libraries make in communities across the province. This year, the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries (FOPL) and the Ontario Library Association (OLA) have partnered to take OPLW one step further—using it as a powerful opportunity for advocacy and engagement with both provincial and municipal stakeholders.

Traditionally, OPLW has been a time to highlight the role libraries play in supporting literacy, digital inclusion, community connection, and lifelong learning. In 2025, we are building on that tradition by encouraging every public library to host an OPLW event and extend invitations to their local leaders—mayors, council members, library boards, Friends of the Library, local MPPs, and other community champions. These celebrations will showcase libraries' essential contributions and reinforce the importance of sustained public investment.

To amplify this message, FOPL's Executive Director, Dina Stevens, and OLA's Executive Director, Michelle Arbuckle, have coordinated a series of targeted regional events across Ontario. These stops will include opportunities to engage directly with municipal and provincial stakeholders, invite media coverage, and shine a spotlight on the role of public libraries in community vitality.

2025 OPLW Advocacy Tour Schedule

- **Monday, October 20:** Kingston Public Library
- **Tuesday, October 21:** Midland & Barrie Public Library
- **Wednesday, October 22:** Walkerton Public Library (Bruce County Public Library)
- **Thursday, October 23:** Niagara Public Library
- **Friday, October 24:** North York Central Library (Toronto Public Library) – with Minister Cho
- **Saturday, October 25:** Guelph Public Library



The week will conclude with a high-profile event at North York Central Library, featuring Minister Cho, to underscore provincial-level support for libraries.

This coordinated effort is part of a broader advocacy strategy leading up to planned lobbying days at Queen's Park in the spring. By aligning celebration with advocacy, we will strengthen the message that Ontario's public libraries are essential community infrastructure—deserving of recognition, investment, and long-term sustainability.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

THAT the FOPL board receives this report as information.