Minutes

Federation of Ontario Public Libraries

Meeting Date: Sep 5, 2025
Meeting Time: 10:00a.m.
Location: Hybrid
Secretary: Dina Stevens, Executive Director/Secretary of the Board

In Attendance: ***First Nations Caucus:*** Feather Maracle
***Francophone Caucus*:** Catherina Moskau
***Large Urban Caucus*:** Wayne Greco, Sarah Douglas-Murray, Margie Singleton, Kathy Fisher, Sarah Vaisler
***Small & Medium Caucus*:** Beverley King, Jodie Delgado, Emma Kinsman
***Rural Caucus*:** Susan McGibbon
***Toronto Caucus*:** Paul Ainslie, Lisa Radha Vohra
Former Library Leaders: David Harvie

Regrets: Nadine Williams, Rebecca Hunt, Jennifer La Chapelle, Moe Hosseini-Ara, Jonathan Hoss
Absent: Kathleen Copegog

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

Prepared By: Diana Chiavaroli, Administrative Assistant

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1. Call to Order & Roll Call

The Q3 Board Meeting was called to order at 10:08 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 June 9, 2025 Board Meeting

It was requested that a short summary of the topic be added to In Camera sections to refer to what was discussed.

Moved by Catherina Moskau and seconded by Margie Singleton, THAT this Board approve, as amended, the minutes of the June 9, 2025 board meeting. CARRIED.

6. Approval of the Agenda.

Moved by Sarah Douglas-Murray and seconded by David Harvie, THAT this Board approve as circulated, the FOPL Board Agenda of September 5, 2025. CARRIED.

Motion to move to In-Camera Session for a Confidential Matter

Moved by Kathy Fisher, seconded by Beverley King THAT this Board go into Closed Session at 10:13 a.m. CARRIED.

In- Camera Session

The Executive Director shared embargoed information from the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Gaming that has not yet been released to the public.

Exit In- Camera Session

Moved by David Harvie, seconded by Susan McGibbon, THAT the Board exit the Closed Session at 10:23 a.m. CARRIED.

7. Treasurer's Report

A question was raised regarding the level of savings that is appropriate in FOPL's restricted fund. A request was made for the ED to investigate the appropriate amount of funds to be held as savings, to be brough to the next regular meeting of the board. The ED noted that savings are there to fund major projects, as indicated in the ED workplan, such as the upcoming website redevelopment. It was noted by a few board members that reserve funding is beneficial.

Moved by Wayne Greco and seconded by Jodie Delgado, THAT the ED investigate an appropriate level of savings and how to make that happen, and report back to the board at the Q4 December meeting. CARRIED.

A request was made that the names of the bank accounts on Quickbooks reports be made to match the names used on the Treasurer's Reports.

It was noted that the balance sheet asset totals do not match the Treasurer's Report figures. An explanation was provided by the ED that the Treasurer's Report figures are updated to the date of the board meeting whereas the figures in Quickbooks reflect a delay in input. In the future, both reports will use the same figures.

Moved by Catherina Moskau and seconded by Beverley King, THAT the Board receive the Treasurer's report as information. CARRIED.

8. Executive Director's Report

The ED highlighted the presentation done at the AMO conference and the Strong Mayors Panel discussion. It was explained that advocacy priorities are shifting to safety and security for the upcoming legislative session and a potential Queen's Park lobbying day in the spring.
An update was given on SentoLib and how several libraries are engaging and providing data. This data will be provided to FOPL. Alternates to SentoLib were discussed as well as the reasons why SentoLib was partnered with.
There were discussions on the distinction between FOPL and OLS and OLA, as well as the benefits of sharing booths with either at conferences.

Moved by David Harvie and seconded by Sarah Vaisler, THAT this Board receive the Executive Director's Report as information. CARRIED.

a. Working Plan

Data dashboard updates were discussed, as well as the issues with relying on volunteers. ED noted a paid position will be looked into the ensure data is kept up to date.

Moved by Beverley King and seconded by Catherina Moskau, THAT this Board receive the Executive Director's Working Plan as information. CARRIED.

9. Working Group and Committees – Reports and Updates

a. French Translation Working Group

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

10. New Business

a. OLA assistance and support

Update were given on OLA's financial situation and how it impacts FOPL through partnerships and shared advocacy fees. Discussions were had regarding how to handle the situation and the increase in fees for FOPL. An MOU with the OLA will be brought forward to the next regular meeting of the board.

11:32 Feather Maracle left the meeting stating a conflict of interest

Moved by Sarah Vaisler and seconded by Wayne Greco THAT the Board support the proposal to take on 75% of the Council Public Affairs contract fees, pending a MOU. CARRIED.

11:43 Feather Maracle returned to the meeting

b. Strategic Plan branding project update

A few adjustments were suggested to the final products. It was suggested to look into the ability for libraries to put their own logo on the files as well – at their own expense.

Moved by Catherina Moskau and seconded by Jodie Delgado THAT the Board accept the update as information. CARRIED.

c. Advocacy Champions Award update

Updates were provided on the eligibility and submission criteria for the award, as well as some possible award options. It was suggested that the award be promoted at the 2025 OLA booth for a 2026 presentation of the first award.

Moved by Jodie Delgado and seconded by Sarah Vaisler THAT the Board accept the update as information. CARRIED.

d. Library Day at Queen's Park 2026

Updates were provided on Library Advocacy Day. A meeting will be taking place in October to determine the messaging that will be used. The focus will be on Safety and Security. Further updates will be given at the Q4 December board meeting.

Moved by David Harvie and seconded by Kathy Fisher THAT the Board accept the update as information. CARRIED.

e. Social Media KPI

Updates were provided on how FOPL's social media has been performing.

Moved by Sarah Vaisler and seconded by Lisa Radha Vohra THAT the Board accept the update as information. CARRIED.

f. Ontario Public Library Week

Information was provided on FOPL's involvement in Ontario Public Library Week. Suggestions were made to reach out to First Nation PL's to invite them to each event, and moving forward, to include a FNPL as a site on future tours. Clarification was provided that all libraries were encouraged to have their own events – the listed libraries are the ones selected for FOPL to attend. Surrounding libraries are also invited to attend these events.

Moved by Margie Singleton and seconded by Beverley King THAT the Board accept the update as information. CARRIED.

e. CFLA Update

A verbal update on CFLA was provided. A suggestion was made that any organization FOPL is a part of be aligned with FOPL's views or at least have transparency if otherwise. It was requested a presentation from the ED of CFLA be given at the next FOPL board meeting to decide if membership should continue. The ED will investigate this.

Moved by Wayne Greco and seconded by Emma Kinsman THAT the Board accept the update as information. CARRIED.

11. Next Meeting

It was suggested that the next meeting be hybrid rather than virtual only. The majority agreed. A poll will be sent out to determine the location.

Friday, December 12th, 2025
10:00AM
Hybrid
Woodbridge Library, Vaughan Public Libraries

12. Adjournment

The Board meeting was called to adjourn by the Chair at 1:40pm.

Paul Ainslie, Chair

Dina Stevens, Board Secretary