

**EXCEPTS FROM THE NOVEMBER 27, 2006  
TOWN OF MARKHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Board Recruitment – M. Tidball**

Moved by: Ms Durst

Seconded by: Mrs. Pickering

**RESOLVED THAT:** The following document be forwarded to the Town in an effort to aid their selection of Board Members to the Markham Public Library Board.

The Board of Markham Public Libraries recognizes that the Town of Markham Council has the sole authority to appoint Library Board Trustees. The following recommendations are being provided to assist Town Council in their task.

The mission of the Markham Public Libraries is to “inform, inspire, empower and link all members of the Markham community by:

- Contributing to an informed and literate community pursuing lifelong learning and quality leisure time.
- Providing resources that support innovation in a changing world.
- Providing access to records of Markham’s past.
- Supporting the development of strong sustainable communities.
- Upholding those Library values that are fundamental to a democratic society:
  - Free, universal and equitable access to information
  - Intellectual freedom
  - Open exchange of ideas”

The Markham Public Library Board has reviewed its size and has found the present 12 to 14 members, including 3 Council members, to be flexible and highly effective;

The Board has adopted the Policy Governance model of governance which requires a substantial commitment of time and diverse skills including policy development, finance, organizational effectiveness, strategic planning, marketing, advocacy, fundraising, human resource management, public relations, knowledge of the law, computer and information management and understanding of educational issues, and a passionate commitment to public libraries;

The Board recommends the following:

- Board size remain at 12 to 14 members
- Council membership remain at 3 members
- Board members should show a clear interest in public libraries and in public service
- Board members be required to commit time for board meetings, outreach initiatives, and Board education
- Board membership should reflect the demographic including gender, linguistic, cultural, economic, geographic, ethnic, religious and social fabric of the community
- Board members will provide a mixture of professional and other skills related to the work of the library board or issues dealt with by the board
- Reasonable efforts will be made to ensure that candidates selected have one or more of the following competencies/skills; independence of judgement, policy development, facilitator / consensus building, public issue campaigning, commitment to group decision-making and listening to others, ability to

**effectively engage in dialogue, previous board experience, public consultation/involvement, public relations experience, visionary, conceptual thinker, technology background, financial background, knowledge of fundraising, understanding budget development and the budget process**

- **Present members of the Board be given an opportunity to reapply**
- **The interview process includes the CEO and the Board Chair or Board designate to offer assistance to the Councilors.**
- **The Board have input into the advertising for Board members**
- **An Orientation program will be supported by the Board.**

Carried.