

**Meeting of the Brantford Public Library Board
Thursday, May 21, 2026
Main Library Board Room/Videoconference
4:32 pm – 5:16 pm**

Vision Statement
The Brantford Public Library listens and adapts;
To offer engaging services that foster development for our whole community.

MINUTES

Members Present: M. McGeein (Chair), M. Reniers (Vice-Chair), R. Aramburo, Councillor M. Samwell, L. Morris, A. Fiszau, D. Aguilar, A. Milos (exit 4:49pm).

Virtually: R. Breen (exited 5:10pm), Councillor G. Caputo, K. Symons.

Regrets: J. Heath.

Staff Present: K. Nielsen, E. Dudszus, C. Stornelli, B. Eckhart.

Recording Secretary: M. Male.

1. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

18-26

MOVED BY: D. Aguilar
SECONDED BY: A. Fiszau

That the agenda for the May 21, 2026 Board Meeting be approved as amended removing item 10 c. 2026 First Quarter Library Use Statistics.

Carried.

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

4. PRESENTATIONS

a. Delegation: Safety concerns and staff responsibilities;
A. Milos

A. Milos delivered a presentation to recommend the Library implement a membership check system like the one recently introduced by Hamilton Public Library, to address safety/security incidents in the Library at Main.

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of April 16, 2026

19-26

- a. April 16, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes

MOVED BY: M. Reniers
 SECONDED BY: D. Aguilar

That the minutes of the April 16, 2026 Board Meeting be approved.

Carried.

6. APPROVAL OF THE IN CAMERA MINUTES of April 16, 2026

20-26

- a. April 16, 2026 Board In Camera Meeting Minutes

MOVED BY: Councillor M. Samwell
 SECONDED BY: A. Fiszau

That the minutes of the April 16, 2026 Board In Camera Meeting be approved.

Carried.

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

9. RESOLUTION REPORTS

- a. Endorsement of CULC Position on Alberta Bill 28

21-26

MOVED BY: L. Morris
 SECONDED BY: Councillor M. Samwell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Brantford Public Library Board endorse the position of the Canadian Urban Libraries Council in opposing changes to Alberta's *Libraries Act* in Bill 28, the *Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026*;

AND THAT the Library Board reaffirm its commitment to intellectual freedom, customer privacy, equitable access to

information, and the principles of local governance of public libraries, consistent with the *Public Libraries Act* of Ontario;

AND THAT the Library Board direct the CEO/Chief Librarian to communicate this resolution to the Canadian Urban Libraries Council and the Coalition of Alberta Public Libraries.

Carried.

b. Fall Sunday service Hours

22-26

MOVED BY: A. Fiszauf
SECONDED BY: Councillor G. Caputo

WHEREAS the Library Board approved the relocation of Sunday service hours from the Main Branch to the Shellard Lane Branch, upon its opening;

WHEREAS the relocation will result in some cost savings that can be used to modestly expand Sunday operations;

AND WHEREAS the opening of the Shellard Lane Branch will be a demanding endeavor, with complex, system-wide implications for staff schedules, workflows, and training requirements;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Brantford Public Library Board approves expanding Sunday service hours to run annually from the first Sunday of October to the last Sunday of April (with a 2-week break around Christmas), from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm each open Sunday;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Sunday services be temporarily cancelled between October and December 2026, in order to focus resources on the opening of the Shellard Lane Branch and the transition period that will follow.

Carried.

c. Temporary additional security guard

23-26

MOVED BY: D. Aguilar
SECONDED BY: A. Fiszauf

Carried.

An Interim report will go to the Board in the Fall, with a comparison of our results and the results of Hamilton's pilot project.

- d. Shellard Lane Branch furniture and shelving procurement approval

24-26

MOVED BY: Councillor G. Caputo
SECONDED BY: Councillor M. Samwell

WHEREAS the Brantford Public Library Purchasing Policy and the City of Brantford Purchasing Policies provide for the Library to participate in group purchasing agreements;

AND WHEREAS utilizing the OECM group purchasing agreement for furniture results in efficiencies and savings to procure quality goods and services;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Library Board approves a non-standard purchasing process for the procurement of furniture for the new Shellard Lane Branch;

AND THAT the Library Board authorizes management to sign the required agreements and contracts to procure furniture for the Shellard Lane Branch from Schoolhouse Inc. within an amount available through the approved funding.

Carried.

10. INFORMATION REPORTS

- a. CEO Report – April 2026

Recent and upcoming activities and decisions were highlighted in the report, including the ongoing development of the Shellard Lane Branch.

- b. March 2026 Financial Statements

Financial Statements for March 2026 were received.

- c. 2025 Draft Annual Report

The Draft Annual Report was provided to the Board. No changes were recommended, so it will be published as presented.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Review Committee

No meeting.

b. Planning and Policy Committee

No meeting.

c. Governance Committee

No meeting.

d. Ontario Library Service (OLS)

No meeting.

12. CITY COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Councillor M. Samwell provided information about: a Community Watch meeting in July at City Hall, and Downtown Ambassadors doing additional clean up.

Councillor G. Caputo provided information about: Downtown infrastructure updates and the recent Brantford Youth Excellence Awards.

13. LIBRARY BOARD TRAINING SUGGESTIONS

None

14. NOTICE OF DISCUSSION

- a.** Discussion re: safety concerns delegation – The Board will have the opportunity to discuss tonight’s presentation at the August Board meeting, which will give staff time to gather information about the outcomes of Hamilton Public Library’s pilot.

15. OTHER BUSINESS

None

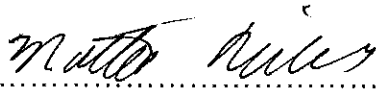
16. UPCOMING DATES

- a. Planning and Policy Committee meeting – May 26, 2026 at 4:30pm.
- b. Library Board meeting – June 18, 2026 at 4:30pm.

17. ADJOURNMENT

The Board Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

Read and approved.....June 18.....2026.


.....
Vice-Chair