



Ajax Public Library Board

7.1 Board Meeting Minutes

Date: March 26, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Place: Multi-Purpose Room, Audley Branch

Library Board Present

Piyali Correya (Chair)

Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi (Vice-Chair)

Voytek Bialkowski

Sepelene Deonarine

Mallik Fernando

Rebecca Hayes

Deborah McDougall Jones,

Regional Councillor Sterling Lee

Regrets

Douglas Miller

Library Staff

Sarah Vaisler, Chief Librarian & Executive Officer and Secretary/Treasurer

Jason Tooral, Manager of Corporate Services

Kiley Percy, Interim Manager of Public Service

Claudine Sierkowska, Coordinator of Human Resources

Sai Mahendran, Executive Assistant

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement

We would like to begin this meeting by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is situated within the traditional and treaty territory of the Mississaugas. More specifically, the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation, signatories of the Gunshot Treaty of 1788 and the Williams Treaties of 1923. This land is, and will continue to be, home to the Indigenous Peoples. Let us acknowledge the mistakes and traumas of the past through authenticity and support truth and reconciliation. Let us engage and celebrate Indigenous communities by being leaders of action in acknowledging the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's recommendations towards truth and reconciliation. Let us keep these principles close, as we continue towards truth and reconciliation and as we move forward with kindness and respect as a community.

3. Approval of the Agenda

26-03/01 Moved by: Rebecca Hayes
Seconded by: Sepelene Deonarine

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board approves the agenda of the March 26, 2026, Board Meeting.

CARRIED

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None.

5. Closed Session (Commenced at 7:02 p.m.)

Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi joined at 7:02 p.m.

5.1 Potential Litigation

To discuss litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the board.

26-03/02 Moved by: Rebecca Hayes
Seconded by: Mallik Fernando

Motion that Ajax Public Library Board move into Closed Session.

CARRIED

26-03/03 Moved by: Rebecca Hayes
Seconded by: Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi

Motion that Ajax Public Library Board rise from Closed Session.

CARRIED

Open Meeting (7:27p.m.)

Ratify Decisions made in Closed Session

26-03/04 Moved by: Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi
Seconded by: Voytek Bialkowski

Motion that all decisions made in Closed Session be ratified.

CARRIED

6. Presentation:

6.1 Claudine Sierkowska, Coordinator of Human Resources – Service Area Update

Claudine Sierkowska provided the Ajax Public Library Board a service area update on Human Resources. She shared an overview of the portfolio, employee turnover statistics, and recruitment and onboarding. Ms. Sierkowska also presented the Library's Employee Satisfaction Survey conducted in November 2025 and outlined the next steps.

7. Consent Agenda

Rebecca Hayes praised Library staff's work on Staff Reports including the Chief Librarian's Report.

26-03/05

Moved by: Mallik Fernando

Seconded by: Deborah McDougall Jones

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board approves the Consent Agenda as presented.

CARRIED

8. Correspondence

8.1 2025 In Review – Annual Report Video

A video compilation of Ajax Public Library 2025 Year In Review was presented to the Board.

Deborah McDougall Jones joined at 7:36 p.m.

9. Other Business

9.1 TAC Update – Tanvi Lee, TAC Co-President

Tanvi Lee provided an TAC update on upcoming programs and community initiatives including a Civic Education program scheduled for September 2026, which will feature a mock election, education on political parties and the election process. Additionally, TAC will be holding a roundtable event with local candidates. TAC is planning for Asian Heritage Month, a partnership event with Durham Community Health Centre and supporting with decorations for Drag Queen Story Time.

Regional Councillor Sterling Lee joined at 7:57 p.m.

9.2 Council Update – Regional Councillor Sterling Lee

Regional Councillor Sterling Lee shared that due to a pipe burst in Council Chambers, Council meetings are currently being held in the River Plate Room. He also noted that Council approved a sponsorship and advertising asset inventory, and Achillies & Harwood was approved in relation to a supportive housing project. In addition, he shared updates related to the Provincial Budget, including measures aimed at reducing developer fees for housing.

9.3 Internal Monitoring Report – Executive Limitations 3.5 Emergency Executive Succession

26-03/06 Moved by: Deborah McDougall Jones
Seconded by: Sepelene Deonarine

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board receives the monitoring report EL 3.5 Emergency Executive Succession and agrees that it provides reasonable interpretation of the policy and evidence of compliance.

CARRIED

9.4 Board Report – Review of Constitution and By-Law

26-03/07 Moved by: Rebecca Hayes
Seconded by: Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board approves the revised Constitution and By-Law.

CARRIED

9.5 The Librarians Film Screening – Discussion

Board members who attended the Librarians Film Screening shared their reflections on The Librarians Film screening.

9.6 Library Board Recruitment Matrix – Working session with materials

Board members reviewed the Recruitment Matrix and provided recommendations. Decisions regarding returning and non-returning members will be finalized at the April meeting, with final approval of the Recruitment Matrix at the May Board meeting.

26-03/08 Moved by: Regional Councillor Sterling Lee
Seconded by: Rebecca Hayes

Motion that Library staff incorporate the Board's feedback and bring forward an updated draft of the Recruitment Matrix at the April Board meeting.

CARRIED

9.7 Committee Updates

None.

10. Announcements

None.

