

MONITORING REPORT

Subject: Board Policy A.29, Library Facilities

Prepared by: Danielle McDonald, Chief Executive Officer

Prepared for: Ottawa Public Library Board

Meeting of: December 10, 2012

Date of preparation: November 28, 2012

Executive Limitations Policy A.29, Library Facilities was approved by the Board January 21, 2008 and last revised on February 8, 2010. It states:

Library facilities serve as an essential service delivery channel. The Library's facilities' strategy aims to maintain, renovate, renew and build new facilities. As such, the Chief Executive Officer shall:

1. *Provide a safe, clean, and welcoming environment in all branches to the maximum extent possible within available funds.*

The Ottawa Public Library undertook a major renovation at the Hazeldean Branch in 2012. The new revitalized branch has been successful with its users and has improved lighting and layout which has created a more welcoming environment. Vernon had new millwork installed for this branch's information and borrower services' counter and associated staff storage and work areas which improved the overall interior of this small branch. Also during 2012 minor improvements were undertaken at Blackburn Hamlet, Richmond, Osgoode, Metcalfe and Manotick to make these branches more welcoming to all users. December 2012 will also see Nepean Centrepoin'te's carpet replaced on the second floor as the final phase of a three year recarpeting project for the whole branch.

I report compliance.

2. *Comply with the Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001 and the City of Ottawa Accessibility Standards.*

OPL continues to work with the City by providing input and feedback into various reports related to the Accessibility of Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), 2005. All new facilities built by OPL incorporate accessibility requirements in the design and builds. During 2012 the Richmond, Manotick, Osgoode, and Manotick branches had shelving layout improvements to ensure the full collection was accessible to all users. Vernon's new public service desk was designed to properly address the accessibility needs of its users. OPL also incorporated accessibility standards into the Hazeldean Branch renovation in 2012 which included an improved floor layout and an accessible service counter.

The City of Ottawa has recently approved Accessibility Design Standards which will be used in all future library renovations and new building construction. These clearly delineate how OPL will move forward in meeting AODA facility accessibility requirements in the coming years.

I report compliance.

3. *Plan and propose facilities that are accessible by walking or cycling.*

The new Laurier Street bike lanes have provided much better opportunity for cyclists to reach the Main Branch on an accessible route. The new West District Library is being planned with consideration for access by walking or cycling. All new OPL facilities are planned with these key considerations in mind.

I report compliance.

4. *Plan and propose facilities that can be reached within a reasonable time by public transportation.*

The future West District Library, which will be located on the existing Beaverbrook Library site, is also accessible via local transit, with a future transit station being planned for nearby.

I report compliance.

5. Plan and propose facilities that provide at least the minimum allowable parking spaces according to municipal standards.

The future West District Library will be relocating existing parking spaces and creating new ones as per municipal standards and approved by the City's Planning Branch. No renovations or constructions were undertaken in 2012 which addressed parking issues. OPL facilities are planned so that consideration is given to the proximity of local transportation and the adherence to municipal parking requirements.

I report compliance.

I hereby present my monitoring report on executive limitation policy A.29, Library Facilities.

I certify that the information contained in this report is true.

Signed:

Danielle McDonald
Chief Executive Officer

Date: _____