

Board Member Information Night

Be Inspired. Make a Difference.

Sarah Douglas-Murray, CEO

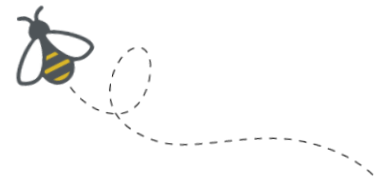




Land Acknowledgement

Milton Public Library operates on treaty lands and the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, Neutral, Huron-Wendat and Haudenosaunee people.

As we centre the truth and support reconciliation across Milton, our commitment to provide the highest quality service for all is inspired by First Peoples traditional knowledge, laws, and philosophies.



Agenda



01

About Milton Public Library

02

MPL Highlights & Community Impact

03

What does the Board Do?

04

Board Service & Expectations

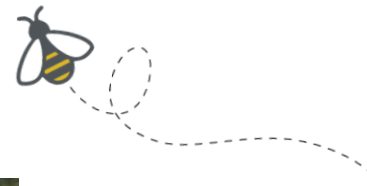
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Why Join & Next Steps

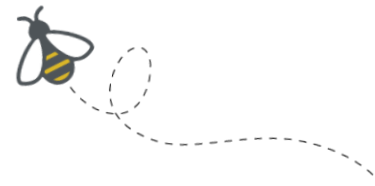
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Q&A

About Milton Public Library



Milton
Public
Library
Be Inspired



Milton Public Library

MPL Leadership Team

- Chris Dorscht, Director,
Customer Experience
- Kanta Kapoor, Director,
Support Services
- Sonia Li, Supervisor,
Finance and Administration

MPL Board 2023-2026

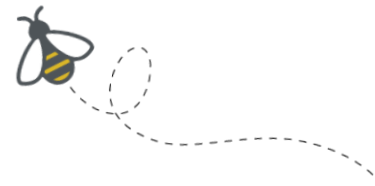
- Sana Malik, Board Chair
- Sybil Shen, Board Vice- Chair
- Ragy Sharkawy
- Karen Wolnik
- Councillor Colin Best
- Councillor Rick Malboeuf
- Councillor Sarah Marshall

Milton Public Library

Libraries are community hubs that:

- Support literacy and lifelong learning
- Provide free and equitable access to information
- Foster connection and belonging
- Reduce barriers to technology
- Support economic and workforce development
- Create opportunities for everyone





About Milton Public Library



Serves one of Canada's fastest-growing communities



Operates three branches:

- Main Library
- Beaty Branch
- Sherwood Branch



Offers physical and digital collections



MPL is a team of 63 staff, including 24 FT and 39 PT, creating a flexible and balanced workforce.



Delivers programs and services for all ages



Provides welcoming spaces for learning, connecting and discovery



Milton
Public
Library
Be Inspired



Milton
Public
Library
Be Inspired

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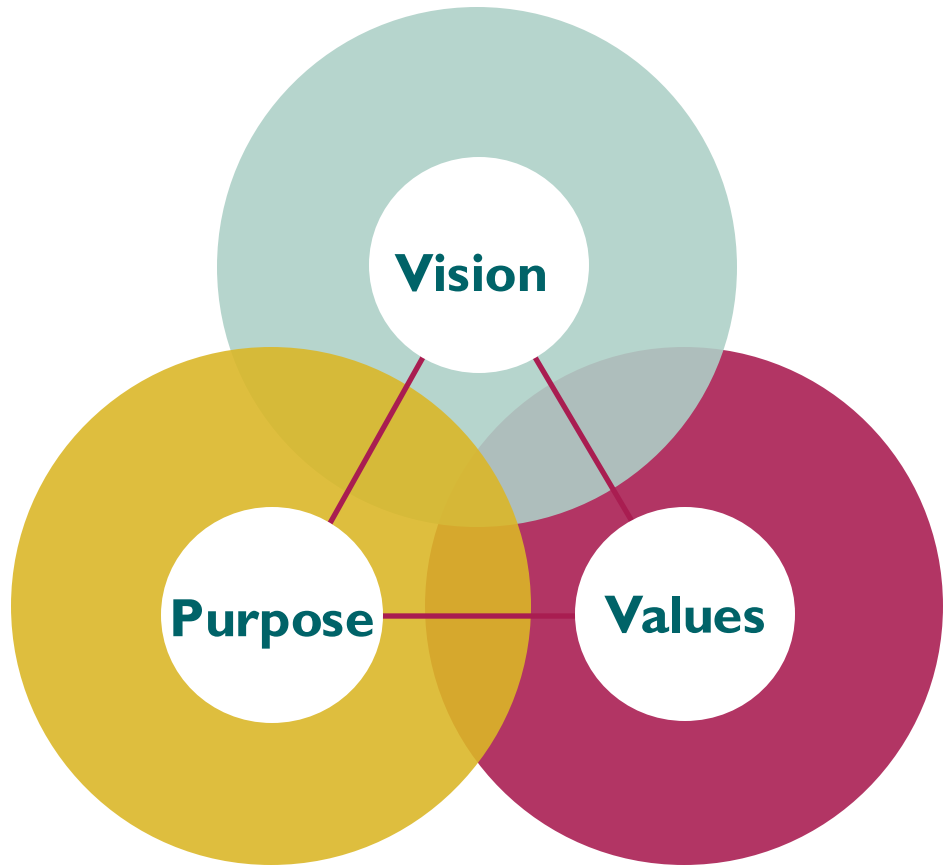
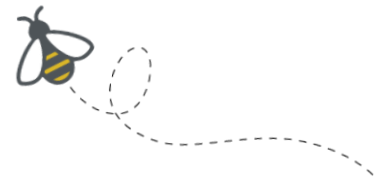
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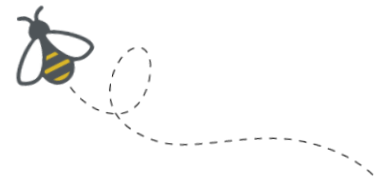
Vision, Purpose, Values

Vision:

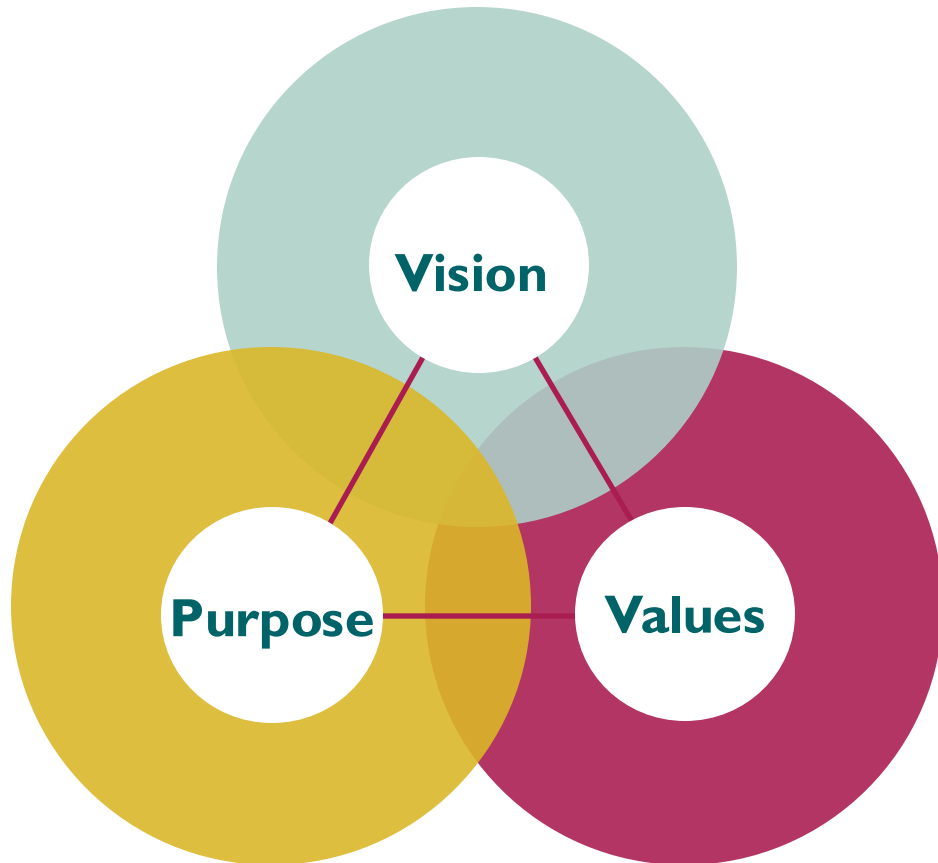
To Inspire through discovery, collaboration, creation and innovation.

Purpose:

MPL empowers the community to:
Read, Learn, Innovate, Connect

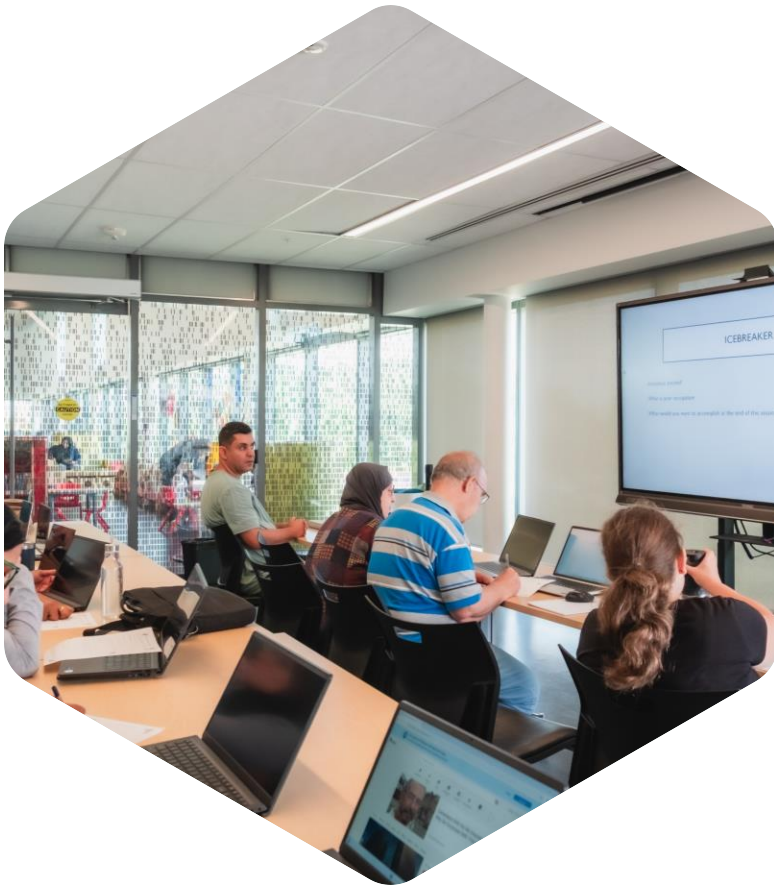


Vision, Purpose, Values

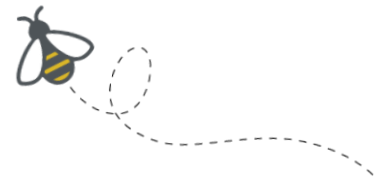


Values

- **Intellectual Freedom:**
Supporting the principles of free thought, belief, and expression.
- **Inclusivity:**
Empowering Milton's diverse community.
- **Accessibility:**
Providing free and equitable access.
- **Exceptional Public Service:**
Ensuring responsive customer service.
- **Lifelong Learning:**
Promoting literacy, discovery, and creativity.
- **Accountability:**
Prioritizing transparency and fiscal responsibility in decision-making.



MPL Highlights & Community Impact



2025 Highlights

64,068 Members

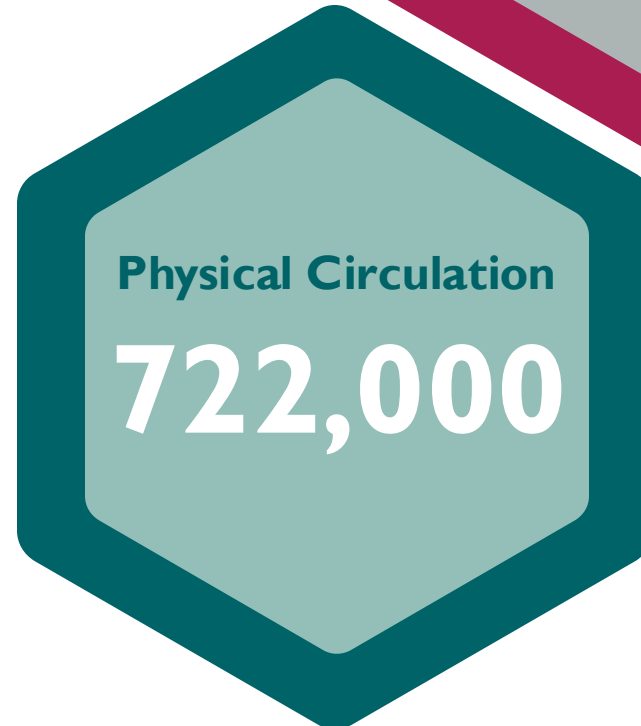
4,000+ New Members joined the Library

170 Years

of library service in Milton

75 Community Partners

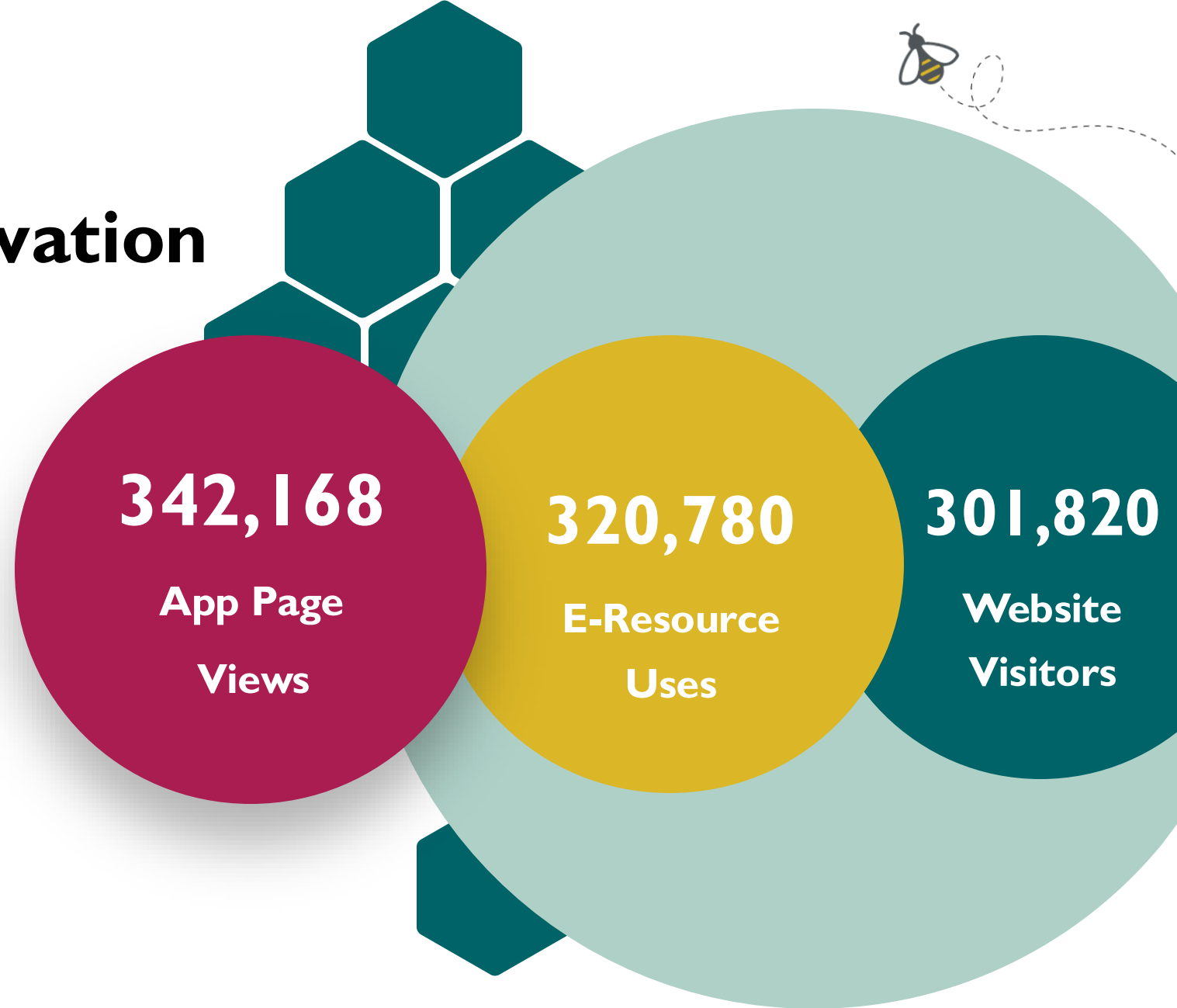
supported programs and services



Digital Access & Innovation

Expanded Library of Things offerings included:

- Parks and Museum Passes
- Technology
- Instruments
- Learning Kits
- Tools and equipment



COMMUNITY IMPACT

Diwali Food Drive

Collected over 300 kg of non-perishable food to support Food for Life.



Fill-a-Crib Campaign

Thanks to the generous donations of the community, MCRC was able to reach their goal of filling over 100 cribs.



Menstrual Equity Campaign

Collected 172 units of menstrual products in partnership with Help A Girl Out.



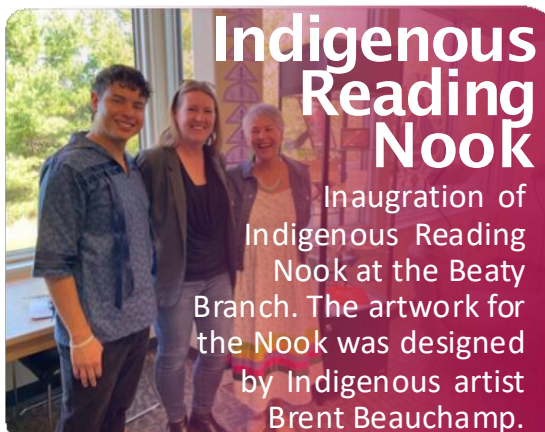
Supporting Early Literacy

Partnered with Milton District Hospital to launch a Special Care Nursery Early Literacy Library!



Indigenous Reading Nook

Inauguration of Indigenous Reading Nook at the Beaty Branch. The artwork for the Nook was designed by Indigenous artist Brent Beauchamp.



TeaFest

Over 2,000 attendees enjoyed teas from around the world from over 30 vendors.



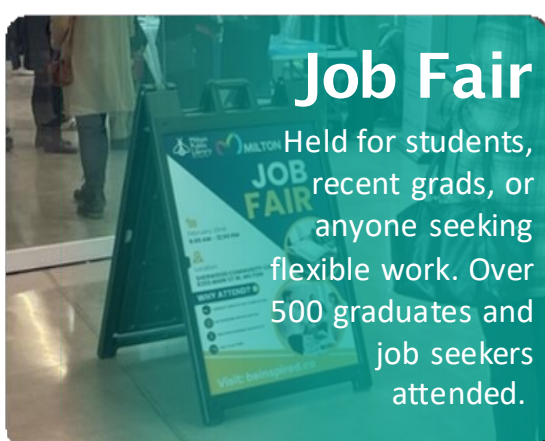
Indigenous Veterans Day

The event brought together local dignitaries, veterans, students and members of the community.



Job Fair

Held for students, recent grads, or anyone seeking flexible work. Over 500 graduates and job seekers attended.



Summer Reading Club for all Ages

Engaged 14,000+ participants through outreach, reading challenges, programs, events, and community-wide engagement.



Milton Public Library thanks our supporters and partners

FUNDING & SUPPORT

Milton Public Library gratefully acknowledges the support of:

The Town of Milton
The Government of Ontario
The Government of Canada

IMPACT OF FUNDING

New Horizons for Seniors Program

Expanded programs supporting connection and well-being for older adults.

Canada Post Community Foundation

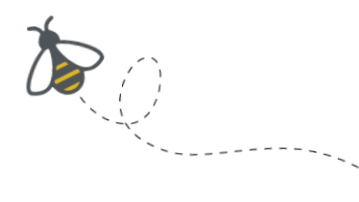
Enhanced sensory-friendly programming for children and families.

TD Friends of the Environment Foundation

Supported environmental initiatives including pollinator kits and outdoor learning.

MPL worked with 75 community partners to deliver programs that supported Milton residents.





Community Learning & Engagement

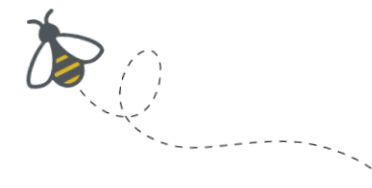
89% *of participants rated programs at the highest level*

14,000+ *Summer Reading Participants*

500+ *Job seekers attended MPL's Job Fair*

Programs Support:

- Early literacy
- Students
- Job seekers
- Seniors
- Families
- Newcomers



Community Impact Through Collections

IN 2025

\$11.6M

*In community savings through borrowing
(* Physical materials only)*

85,133

Items used in-library

71,713

Holds filled

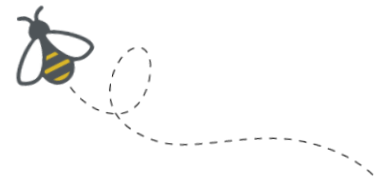
3,501

Technology devices loaned

1,767

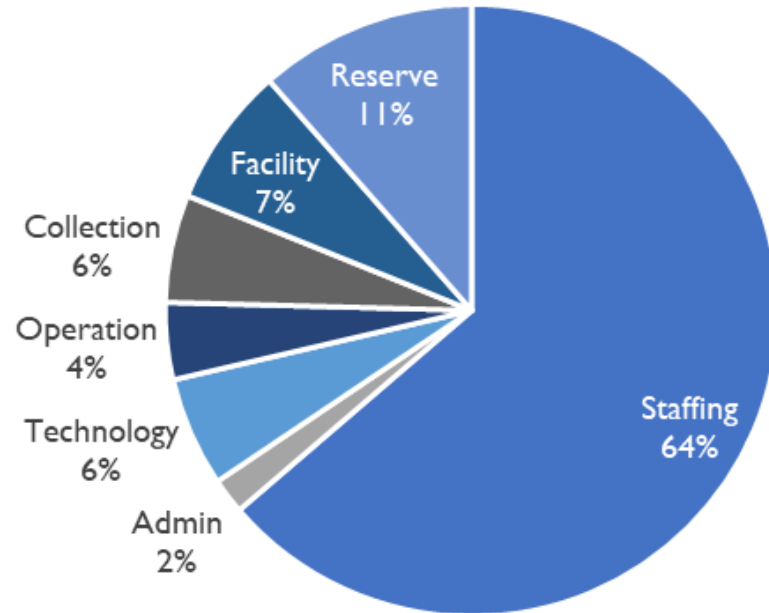
Interlibrary loan requests filled

Board-approved policies help ensure equitable, inclusive, and intellectual freedom-based access to materials.

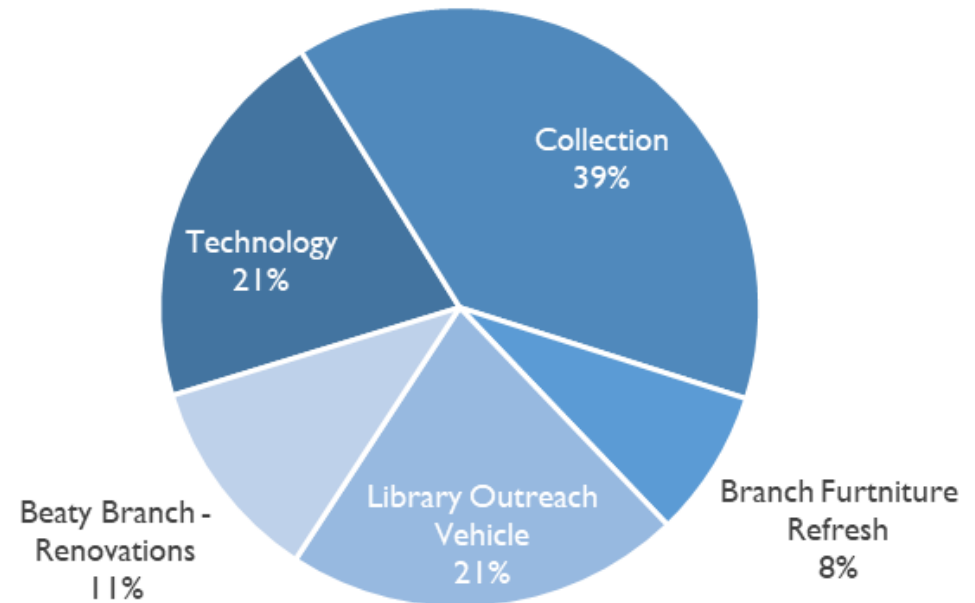


MPL Financial Overview

2026 Operating Budget
Total \$6.7M Approved

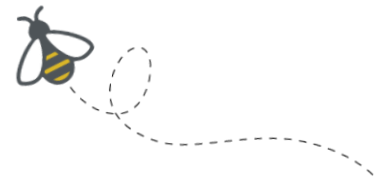


2026 Capital Budget
Total \$1.3M Approved





What Does the Library Board Do?



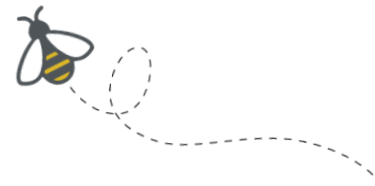
What is the Library Board?

A Municipal Board Established Under Ontario's Public Libraries Act.

The Board:

- 01** Acts as the governing body of the Library
- 02** Represents the public interest
- 03** Oversees stewardship of public resources
- 04** Ensures library services meet community needs
- 05** Advocates for the importance of public library service

Board members serve as volunteers and bring diverse skills, experiences and perspectives.

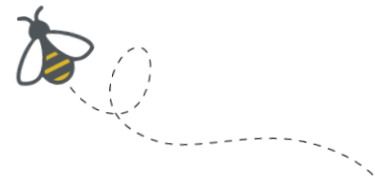


Public Libraries Act Overview

The Public Libraries Act is provincial legislation that governs public libraries in Ontario.

The Act Establishes:

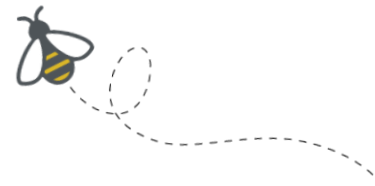
- 01 The creation of Library Boards
- 02 Board powers and responsibilities
- 03 Governance requirements
- 04 Public accountability obligations
- 05 Access to library services



Responsibilities Under the Public Libraries Act

The Board must:

- 01 Ensure comprehensive and efficient service
- 02 Establish policies
- 03 Prepare and oversee budgets
- 04 Manage library assets responsibly
- 03 Employ a CEO/Chief Librarian
- 05 Promote awareness of library services
- 06 Report to the municipality and public

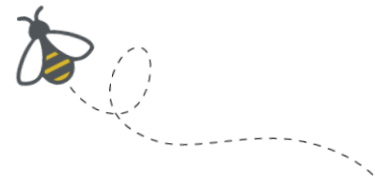


Board Eligibility

Under the Ontario Public Libraries Act, a person is qualified to be appointed to a public library board if they:

- 01** Are at least 18 years of age
- 02** Are a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada
- 03** Are a resident of the municipality or eligible service area served by the Board
- 04** Are not employed by the Milton Public Library or the Town of Milton

Once appointed Board members serve for the Term of Council



What Does the Board Do?

Strategic Leadership

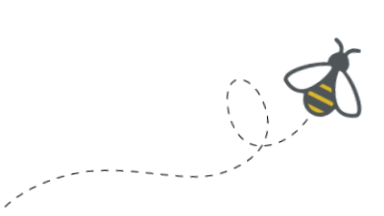
The Board:

- Sets strategic direction, policies and priorities
- Monitors organizational performance
- Provides financial oversight and accountability
- Hires, supports and evaluates the CEO
- Advocates for strong library services
- Ensures responsiveness to community needs

Community Impact

Board members help:

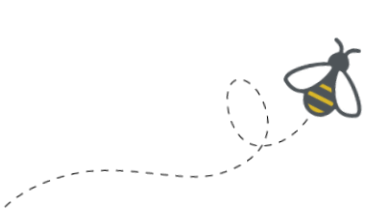
- Shape future library services
- Support literacy and learning
- Promote equitable access
- Strengthen community connection



Board Responsibilities:

- Sets strategic direction
- Establishes policies
- Approves budgets
- Monitors organizational performance
- Hires and evaluates the CEO
- Advocates for library services
- Represents the community interest

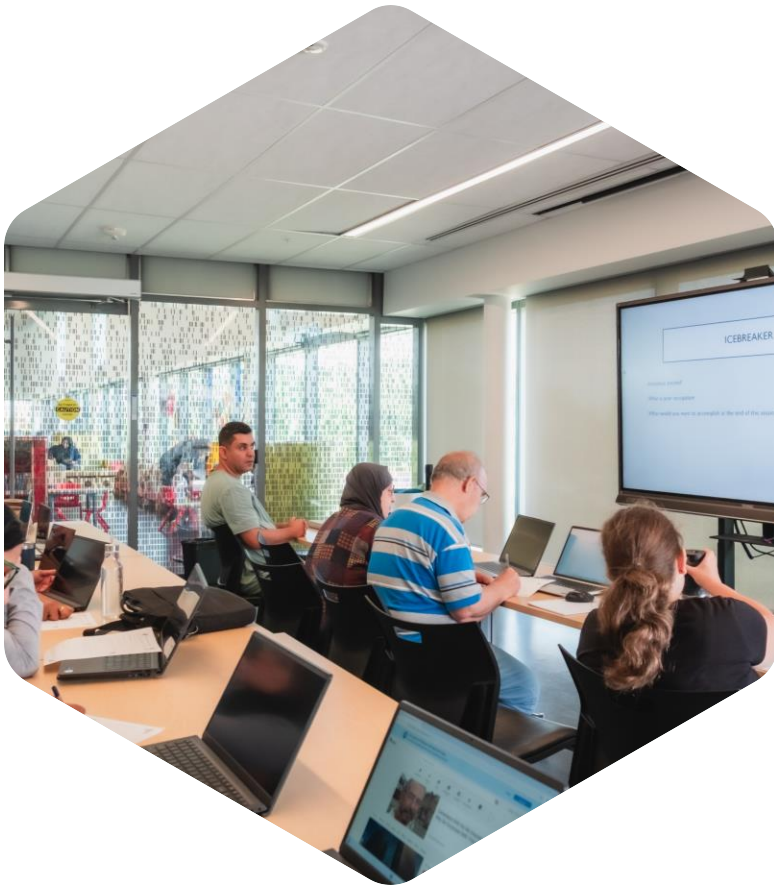
**Governance
vs.
Operations**



Board Members Help:

- Champion the value and impact of public libraries
- Share MPL's successes within the community
- Build awareness of library services and community benefits
- Support municipal investment in library services and infrastructure
- Act as ambassadors for MPL

Board Advocacy

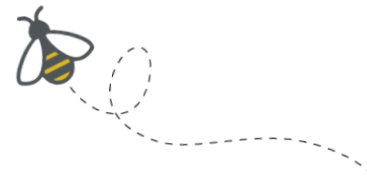


Board Service & Expectations



We Are Looking For People Who:

- 01 Care about Milton
- 02 Think strategically
- 03 Bring diverse experiences
- 04 Work collaboratively
- 05 Respect different perspectives
- 06 Demonstrate integrity
- 07 Commit to community service
- 08 Are comfortable acting as community ambassadors
- 09 Can effectively advocate for public value and community outcomes

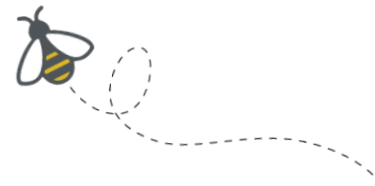


Board Service Commitment



Time Commitment

Approximately: 6-10 hours per month



01

Monthly Board Meetings

04

Budget Discussions

02

**Participation in Library
Sector Training and Events**

- OLA Superconference and Board Bootcamp
- FOPL
- OLS Board Assemblies

05

**Library Events and Advocacy
Activities**

03

Strategic Planning Sessions

06

**Orientation and Governance
Training**



Why Join & Next Steps

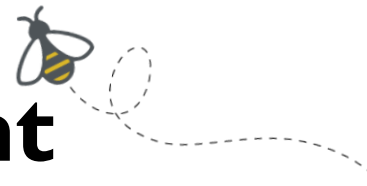




Why Join?

Board services provides opportunities to:

- Shape the future of library services
- Support a growing community
- Contribute professional expertise
- Develop governance experience
- Work with engaged community leaders
- Leave a lasting legacy



Recruitment Process & Timelines

Applications Open

Oct 1
2026

Oct 29
2026

Applications Close

Council Appointments

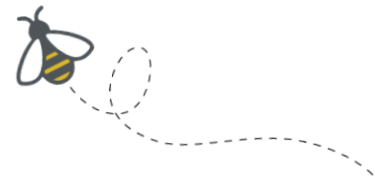
Dec
2026

Jan 9
2027

Orientation and Training

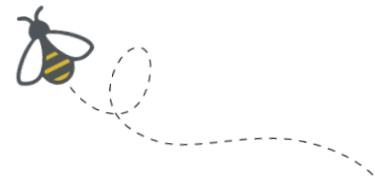
Inaugural Board Meeting

Jan 20
2027



Application

- Why are you interested in volunteering for the Milton Public Library Board?
- Please describe any volunteer, governance, board, committee, advisory, or community leadership experience you have had in the last five (5) years.
- The MPL Board has identified that experience with policy development, strategic planning, financial literacy or advocacy and government relations are important for future Board members. Please briefly describe any of your related skills and experience.
- What additional skills or experience do you have that may be relevant to this appointment?
- Please attach a current resume outlining your professional, volunteer, governance, and community experience.



Thank you & Questions

Be Inspired. Make a Difference.



Email:

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Phone

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Website

beinspired.ca

**Our Annual
Patron Survey is
now open, and this
is your chance to
help shape your
library!**

