



Winnipeg Public Library Board

General Meeting

Minutes

DATE/TIME Tuesday, June 3, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.
LOCATION Teams and West Kildonan Library (365 Jefferson Avenue)
CHAIR Lisa Laker

	Present	Regret	Absent		Present	Regret	Absent
Lisa Laker	☒	☐	☐	Councillor Dobson	☐	☐	☒
Nunziata Masi	☒	☐	☐	Councillor Wyatt	☐	☐	☒
Stephen Kennedy	☒	☐	☐	Abimbola Bello	☒	☐	☐
Jude Obidiagha	☒	☐	☐	Andrew McGillivray	☐	☒	☐
Kristen Hardy	☒	☐	☐	Jon Lamb	☒	☐	☐
Ramy Penner	☒	☐	☐	Melanie Ferris	☒	☐	☐
Karin Borland	☒	☐	☐	Ranbir Dhillon	☐	☒	☐
Trevor Surgenor	☐	☒	☐	<i>Vacant</i>			

Guests: Nora Decter, Cindy Elliott, Judy Parker, Samantha Ott

1. **Call to Order** – Lisa Laker

Meeting called to order at 6:04 p.m.

2. **Acknowledgment of Indigenous Territory and Homeland** – Lisa Laker

Winnipeg is located on Treaty One Territory, the home and traditional lands of the Anishinaabe (Ojibwe), Ininew (Cree), and Dakota peoples, and in the National Homeland of the Red River Métis. Our drinking water comes from Shoal Lake 40 First Nation, on Treaty Three Territory.

3. **Agenda** – Lisa Laker

See Appendix A for motion

4. **Minutes** – Lisa Laker

Tabled to next meet

5. **Round Table Introductions**

The Winnipeg Public Library Board would like to welcome Nora Decter, Writer-in-Residence 2024/2025 and Arryn Seburn, Branch Head Librarian for West Kildonan Library

6. **Presentation – Arryn Seburn**

See appendix C for highlights

7. **Presentation – Nora Decter**

See appendix C for highlights

8. **Manager's Report** – Karin Borland

See appendix B for report

9. **Chair's Report** – Lisa Laker

Summary
<p>9.1 Writer-in-Residence Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• See appendix A for motion <p>9.2 Electronic Expenditure Approvals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Memo circulated prior to meeting• \$1,470 was approved after April 1 meeting <p>9.3 Annual Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thanks given to Nunziata Masi for presenting the annual report and audited financial statements at the April 15, 2025 Standing Policy Committee on Community Services <p>9.4 Grant Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grant agreement has been fully executed• Assistant and City Finance working to release annual payment

10. **Treasurer's Report** – Stephen Kennedy

Summary
<p>10.1 2024 Year-End Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• See appendix A for motion <p>10.2 Q1 Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• See appendix A for motion <p>10.3 Upcoming Expenditures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Q2 will have conference and LAC expenditures• Q3 is where most expenses will come out (e.g. Writer-in-Residence and project expenditures)• Q4 will be similar to Q3• All receipts for reimbursement must be submitted to assistant no later than December 1, 2025• Last day for assistant to use Corporate Card for expenditures will be November 15

11. Strat Plan Committee Update

Summary

- Committee has met and narrowing down issues/challenges for the Library Board and LACs
- A draft code of conduct form was circulated; will be circulated annually
- If form is approved a cover email explaining form will need to be created prior to circulation
- See appendix A for motion

12. Conference Reports

Verbal reports received for the following:

- Ramy Penner – Ontario Library Association Conference
- Abimbola Bello – Manitoba Library Association Conference and AGM
- Jude Obidagha - Manitoba Library Association Conference

The Winnipeg Public Library Board thanks the delegates for attending conferences on the Board's behalf.

13. Library Advisory Committee Updates

Summary

Assiniboia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Met on May 21• Dee and Judy have been re-elected by acclamation as the LAC's Officers
City Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thanks given to the Library Board for funding to celebrate Cornish Library and to support a gift basket for the Corydon BBQ on June 25
EKT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cindy and Carly have been re-elected by acclamation as the LAC's Officers• Shared that LAC's request for funding has been approved in the amount of \$500• Visited Henderson Library and LAC loved the additional seating and redesign of spaces• Trivia night at Munroe Library has gone forward• Suggestion received from community to bring back the Youth Advisory Council (YACs)• LAC had their first drop-in event at Henderson Library; report will be received once drop-ins are complete• Confirmed if Library Board will be coordinate a tribute for the late Councillor Schreyer that the LAC would contribute \$50<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <i>Post meeting update: to date (August 1) family has not contacted the Library Board if will proceed with tribute gift</i>
LSWK	No update
Riel	No update

14. New Business

- Library Board has confirmed to extend Assistant until February 28, 2026

15. Adjournment

The meeting be adjourned at 8:00 pm

1st Lisa Laker

2nd Nunziata Masi

NEXT MEETING
Tuesday, August 5, 2025 Teams

Appendix A: Motions | June 3, 2025

MOTION	1 st	2 nd	DISPOSITION
That the Winnipeg Public Library Board approve the agenda as distributed	Lisa Laker	Stephen Kennedy	Carried
That the Winnipeg Public Library Board receive the Writer-in-Residence 2024/2025 final report as information	Lisa Laker	Ramy Penner	Carried
That the Winnipeg Public Library Board approve the 2024 year-end report as distributed	Stephen Kennedy	Kristen Hardy	Carried
That the Winnipeg Public Library Board approve the Q1 report as distributed	Stephen Kenendy	Ramy Penner	Carried
That the Winnipeg Public Library Board approve the draft form of the Code of Ethics and circulate to all Board and LAC members	Lisa Laker	Jude Obidiagha	Carried

Appendix B: Manager's Report | June 3, 2025

1. Thanks and Acknowledgments

Winnipeg Public Library would like to thank the following:

- **Winnipeg Public Library Board** for the flowers to celebrate St. John's and Cornish Library branches 110th anniversaries
- **City Centre Library Advisory Committee** for sponsoring the decorations, refreshments, and prize draw for Cornish Library to be used either at Doors Open or for the anniversary
- **Lord Selkirk-West Kildonan Library Advisory Committee** for sponsoring decorations and refreshments for St. John's Library to be used either at Doors Open or for the anniversary
- **Tanus McNeill** for helping on May 10 Science Rendezvous at the University of Manitoba.
- **Celia Rodd and Tanus McNeill** for helping on May 24 for the Doors Open event at Cornish Library
- **Kristen Hardy** for helping on May 31 at WPL's Pride information table for a second year in a row.

- **Dean Scaletta**, former Library Board member, and his wife Rachel Scaletta for their generous monetary donation to be used to purchase additional giveaway books for Outreach library staff at community events.
- **Nikica Subek Simon**, former Library Board members sends greetings to current Library Board and is delighted that the Library Board continues to support the World Storytelling and World Languages programming.

2. Follow-up to Questions Received

Question: Can the Writer-in-Residence (WIR) Selection Committee include Library Advisory Committee members?

Answer: The WiR Selection Committee consists of two WPL staff, the outgoing WiR, and representative of the direct donating organizations (Friends of WPL and Library Board). The selection committee is unable to expand due to the tight turnaround to schedule a meeting and select the next WiR.

Question: What are the different organizations WPL has or is partnering with?

Answer: WPL's program partners may change from year to year. To be a partner means that they work with WPL in planning and delivering the program in a branch. This would not include Outreach programming or individuals, such as performers or presenters, that WPL may work with to plan or deliver a program. Some partners would include:

- Prairie Comics Festival
- Winnipeg Comedy Festival
- Winnipeg International Writers Festival
- University of Winnipeg (lecture series)
- Virtuosi Concerts
- CRA, Service Canada, Service Manitoba, WRHA (all for clinics and information sessions)
- Community Legal Education Association
- Winnipeg Folk Festival
- Green Action Centre
- North End Connect
- Queer Book Fair
- Folklorama
- Fort Whyte Alive
- Prairie Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre
- Manitoba Chamber Orchestra
- Scientists in Schools
- WISE Kid-netic Energy, UofM
- Sunshine House
- Winnipeg Goldeyes

Question: Are there some statistics WPL can share about book giveaways?

Answer: WPL has given away 310 this year and another 300 are packed for the upcoming Newcomer Fair. In 2024, approximately 1,080 were given away. Examples of where books are distributed: Newcomer Fair, Summer KIK off (Kids in Kare), Indigenous Peoples Day, Adolescent

Parent Interagency Network event, women's shelters, and various branch events. Branches can submit a request and Outreach staff can send giveaway books. The target audience for giveaway books is low income families and marginalized people. The giveaway books are used to help build relationships and to promote the library and literacy in communities.

3. Facilities

North West Library

- On May 22, 2025 Council approved the award report for the North West Library
- The new library branch will be in the Garden City shopping centre
- Visit the City Clerk's website to view report and disposition [City Clerk's Decision Making Information System](#)

Millennium Library

- No update on lobby redesign; will provide updates when available

Cornish Library and St. John's Library

- Cornish Library and St. John's Library are Winnipeg Public Library's two Carnegie library branches
- On May 24, 2025 the library Branches participated in the Doors Open event. St. John's Library had 30 visitors and Cornish Library had 90 visitors.
- On June 2, 2025 St. John's Library will be celebrating its 110th anniversary
- On June 15, 2025 Cornish Library will be celebrating its 110th anniversary
- For more information on the library branches please visit their web pages
 - St. John's Library [St. John's Library | City of Winnipeg](#)
 - Cornish Library [Cornish Library | City of Winnipeg](#)

Accessibility Disruption

- The City of Winnipeg has launched a website that lists all disruptions within the City of Winnipeg that affect accessibility
- St. James-Assiniboia Library elevator is out-of-service
- Louis Riel Library accessibility washrooms are out-of-service
- For more information please visit [Accessibility disruption notices | City of Winnipeg](#)

4. July and August 2025 Hours

- Canada Day, July 1 – all locations closed
- Terry Fox Day, August 4 – all locations closed

5. Recruitment

Winnipeg Public Library continues to fill vacancies. Current opportunities can be found on the city of Winnipeg's website <https://legacy.winnipeg.ca/hr/default.stm>

6. Youth Services Update

- The Spring Early Literacy Session ran from April 7 to May 18 and included 420 programs with a total of 7,491 attendees.
- June is Pride month. Both the [Rainbow Reads for Children](#) and the [Rainbow Reads for Teens](#) booklists are now available on the library's website. Select titles will be featured in Pride displays throughout the month of June.
- The Teen Summer Challenge and TD Summer Reading Club are back this year. The Teen Summer Challenge will run from June-August. Teens (ages 13-17) can pick up their challenge card at any library branch beginning in June. The TD Summer Reading Club Kickoff with James Culleton is on Saturday, June 21 at 2:00pm at Millennium Library. TD Summer Reading Club will run June 9-August 30. On June 9, children 0-12 can receive their free bilingual reading kit at any library branch.
- Registration for July programs for children, teens, and families will open on June 9. WPL has 198 programs scheduled during the month of July. Programming highlights include Learn to Drum with Elder Barbara Nepinak; Hoop Dancing with Brian Clyne; story times with authors Marika Schalla and Martha Troian; and performances by Manitoba Underground Opera, Manitoba Chamber Orchestra, James Culleton, Ryan Price, and Music with Mandy. There will also be drop-in family programming at every branch. Thank you to the Friends of the Winnipeg Public Library for their support of WPL summer programming.
- World Storytelling will return this summer as Around the World in Three Stories, featuring live storytellers from the community. World Languages Storytime will include programs in Ukrainian, Filipino, Cree, Punjabi, and Spanish. Thank you to the Winnipeg Public Library Board for its support of these programs.
- July 27 is Library Day at the Ball Park. Come and visit staff during the Goldeyes game!

7. Adult Programming and Outreach Update

Programming for adults continues through the summer, and community outreach events increase significantly with street festivals and fairs.

- Maker-in-Residence Raymond Lyttle ends his term in mid-June. A new Maker will start in July for a four-month term, followed by a third maker from September to December. The new maker will be announced in late June.
- A Writer-in-Residence selection meeting will be held in June with an announcement in September, with a term start of October 1, 2025.
- Programs for adults continuing through the summer include ideaMILL crafting and making, computer workshops, film showings, adult game nights, book clubs, group bike rides touring library branches, and writing workshops.
- Outreach across the branches includes various street festivals and fairs, the ongoing Mobile Library program for low-income communities, Willow Place, Newcomer Fair, Red River College, Indigenous Peoples Day at Tommy Prince Place, and Manitoba Housing seniors' residences.
- Come to Adult Story Time! Our adult story time at Little Brown Jug will be on June 4 at 7 pm. Come early to ensure you get a seat.

Please check the [online Programs & Events calendar](#) for schedule details.
Feel free to share [Programs & Events Posters](#) with your contacts.

8. Manitoba Library Association – Prison Libraries Committee

The [Manitoba Library Association's Prison Libraries Committee](#) is hosting a Book and Bake sale on **Saturday, June 14 from 10 am to 3 pm**. All proceeds go to the Prison Libraries Committee and [Bar None Prison Visiting Rideshare](#)



Appendix C: Presentation Highlights | June 3, 2025

Branch Head Librarian

- Arryn has been working for Winnipeg Public Library since 2002 in a wide variety of roles including Digital Learning and Virtual Services Librarian and ideaMILL Librarian
- Arryn has been Branch Head Librarian of West Kildonan Library since 2021
- West Kildonan Library was opened on April 1, 1967 and received heritage status in January 2023
- The diverse library staff bring great ideas and perspectives when it comes to library programming and displays
- Last year over 1,000 TD Summer Reading Club kits were distributed and staff are looking forward again to distributing kits

Writer-in-Residence

- Verbal report received as information
- Approximately had 91 consultations with inspiring writers
- Consultations were conducted in-person, over the phone, or virtually
- There submissions were diverse
- The program helps to foster connecting writing community

- Was able to lead workshops for adults and teenagers
- Held a monthly writing circle where writers were able to exchange works and provide peer feedback
- Enjoyed having an office at Millennium Library because it gave the writer an opportunity to learn what Winnipeg Public Library has to offer; and promote areas/library branches for writers to work in