

AGENDA 1.0

MARKHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

Notice of meeting to be held on Monday, March 27, 2023 7:00 p.m., Virtual Meeting

AGENDA

- 1.0 **Call to order/Approval of agenda**
- 1.1 Declaration of conflict of pecuniary interest
- 1.2 Delegation (none)
- 1.3 Chair's Remarks

- 2.0 **Approval of Minutes:**
- 2.1 Library Board Minutes January 23, 2023

- 2.2 **Consent Agenda:**
All items listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and are recommended for approval by the Chair. They may be enacted in one motion or any item may be discussed if a member so requests

- 2.3 Declaration of Due Diligence by the CEO

- 2.4 Communication and Correspondence:
 - 2.4.1 YorkRegion.com: Markham's Canadians of Indian origin start the new year with community initiated food drive
<https://www.yorkregion.com/community-story/10837036-markham-s-canadians-of-indian-origin-start-the-new-year-with-community-initiated-food-drive/>
 - 2.4.2 YorkRegion.com: Strike action looms at Markham Libraries
https://www.yorkregion.com/news-story/10839720-strike-action-looms-at-markham-libraries-after-union-rejects-city-s-offer/?s=n1?source=newsletter&utm_content=a02&utm_source=ml_nl&utm_medium=email&utm_email=BE2D3B68DB620D000F0E5035560358CA&utm_campaign=yrha_145176
 - 2.4.3 Sing Tao and Mingpao Newspapers: Translation attached
<https://www.singtao.ca/6160885/2023-01-31/news-%E8%90%AC%E9%8C%A6%E5%B8%82%E6%94%BF%E5%BA%9C%E5%9C%96%E6%9B%B8%E9%A4%A8%E5%B7%A5%E6%9C%83%E8%AB%87%E5%88%A4%E7%A0%B4%E8%A3%82/?variant=zh-hk>
http://www.mingpaocanada.com/realtimenews/tor/content_CANADA_NEW.cfm?aid=416843&m=0
 - 2.4.4 news.yahoo.com: Putting pen to paper can be therapeutic
<https://ca.news.yahoo.com/putting-pen-paper-therapeutic-203400674.html>
 - 2.4.5 MarkhamReview.com: Greater meaning to life through multi-generational connections
<https://markhamreview.com/greater-meaning-to-life-through-multi-generational-connections/>
 - 2.4.6 Markham Economist & Sun: Reader's Choice MPL #1
 - 2.4.7 Letter of Appreciation for MPL
 - 2.4.8 globeandmail.com: Ontario Libraries ask for province wide digital system to ensure equal access to materials
<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-ontario-libraries-ask-for-provincewide-digital-system-to-ensure-equal/>

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3.0 **CEO's Highlights, March 2023**

3.1 Markham Centre Update (D. Walker)

4.0 **Annual Policy Review**

(To be undertaken at the January meeting)

5.0 **Internal Monitoring Reports:**

(Compliance list of internal monitoring reports and discussion led by members)

5.1 Executive Limitation: EL-2d Financial Condition (P. Mantell/M. Sawh)

5.2 Executive Limitation: EL-2g Emergency Executive Succession (I. Awan /A. Cecchetto)

5.3 Executive Limitation: EL-2j Communication & Counsel to the Board (D. Whetham /D. Walker)

6.0 **Ends**

7.0 **Governance:**

7.1 OLS Update (M.McGrory)

7.2 Amendment to By-law 2.1

7.3 Urban Libraries Council Declaration of Democracy

<https://www.urbanlibraries.org/initiatives/declaration-of-democracy>

8.0 **Ownership Linkage:**

8.1 Input from Board Members

9.0 **Board Advocacy:**

9.1 Spring 2023 Library Programs (D. Macklin)

9.2 Working Group Presentation to Council (D. Walker)

10.0 **Education:**

10.1 MPL Board Update on Fine-Free Pilot (A. Cecchetto)

11.0 **Incidental Information**

12.0 **New Business**

13.0 **Board Evaluation:**

13.1 Questionnaire Results: The Board and the CEO

13.2 Questionnaire: Feedback to the Chair

14.0 **In Camera Agenda:**

To discuss a confidential personnel matter

15.0 **Adjournment**

**NEXT MEETING: Monday, April 24, 2023, 7:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting**

AGENDA 2.2

TO: Markham Public Library Board

FROM: Catherine Biss, CEO& Secretary-Treasurer

PREPARED BY: Susan Price, Board Secretary

DATE OF MEETING: March 27, 2023

SUBJECT: **CONSENT AGENDA**

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Consent Agenda comprising of Agenda 2.2 to 2.4.8 and the same are hereby approved as written and the CEO of the Library is hereby authorized and directed to take such action that may be necessary to give effect to the recommendations as therein contained:

2.2 CONSENT AGENDA:

2.3 Declaration of Due Diligence by the CEO

2.4 Communication and Correspondence:

2.4.1 YorkRegion.com: Markham's Canadians of Indian origin start the new year with community initiated food drive

<https://www.yorkregion.com/community-story/10837036-markham-s-canadians-of-indian-origin-start-the-new-year-with-community-initiated-food-drive/>

2.4.2 YorkRegion.com: Strike action looms at Markham Libraries

https://www.yorkregion.com/news-story/10839720-strike-action-looms-at-markham-libraries-after-union-rejects-city-s-offer/?s=n1?source=newsletter&utm_content=a02&utm_source=ml_nl&utm_medium=email&utm_email=BE2D3B68DB620D000F0E5035560358CA&utm_campaign=yrha_145176

2.4.3 Sing Tao and Mingpao Newspapers: Translation attached

<https://www.singtao.ca/6160885/2023-01-31/news-%E8%90%AC%E9%8C%A6%E5%B8%82%E6%94%BF%E5%BA%9C%E5%9C%96%E6%9B%B8%E9%A4%A8%E5%B7%A5%E6%9C%83%E8%AB%87%E5%88%A4%E7%A0%B4%E8%A3%82/?variant=zh-hk>
http://www.mingpaocanada.com/realtimenews/tor/content_CANADA_NEW.cfm?aid=416843&m=0

2.4.4 news.yahoo.com: Putting pen to paper can be therapeutic

<https://ca.news.yahoo.com/putting-pen-paper-therapeutic-203400674.html>

2.4.5 MarkhamReview.com: Greater meaning to life through multi-generational connections

<https://markhamreview.com/greater-meaning-to-life-through-multi-generational-connections/>

2.4.6 Markham Economist & Sun: Reader's Choice MPL #1

2.4.7 Letter of Appreciation for MPL

2.4.8 globeandmail.com: Ontario Libraries ask for province wide digital system to ensure equal access to materials

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-ontario-libraries-ask-for-provincewide-digital-system-to-ensure-equal/>

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CBiss', with a large, sweeping initial 'C'.

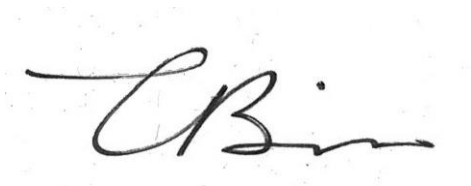
Catherine Biss
CEO & Secretary-Treasurer

MARKHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

DECLARATION OF DUE DILIGENCE BY THE CEO

I, Catherine Biss, Chief Executive Officer of the Markham Public Library Board (the "Board"), hereby declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, Markham Public Library is in compliance with the following from January 18,2023 to March 21,2023.

- 1) All wages owing have been paid to all employees of the Board;
- 2) All payroll remittances, consisting of income tax, CPP, EI premiums and Employers Health Tax relating to employee remuneration have been appropriately calculated and withheld, and promptly remitted;
- 3) All the Harmonized Sales Taxes owing have been appropriately calculated based on the Board's current operating procedures and promptly remitted on a quarterly basis;
- 4) All federal and provincial regulatory filings have been made;
- 5) The Board has been informed of any complaints of harassment, including sexual harassment, involving a staff person;
- 6) The Board has been informed of any contraventions of the Occupational Health and Safety Act;
- 7) Other than as previously disclosed to the Board, there are no actual, threatened or potential claims against the Board or its Directors.



Catherine Biss, CEO & Secretary-Treasurer

March 21, 2023
Date

AGENDA 2.4.3

Translate from Mingpao news

[The average annual salary is less than 30,000] Markham Public Library employees are planning to strike (2023/1/31)

[Ming Pao News] As the CUPE branch 905 union representing Markham Public Library employees rejected the labor contract offered by the Markham City Hall, the ongoing labor negotiations are likely to end the strike action.

During the epidemic, the Markham library system operated by the Markham City Government laid off 197 part-time employees. The labor and management sides originally planned to start negotiations in 2020 to reach a new contract, but it has been delayed due to the epidemic.

Li (Li), who has worked in the Markham Library for a long time and only agreed to reveal his name, said in an interview with the media, "The employer fired all part-time employees and refused to negotiate new contracts during the epidemic. When negotiations resumed after the epidemic, the union asked all employees to The hourly wage increase of \$1.50 will close the existing wage gap between full-time and part-time employees."

The City of Markham's response is to increase wages by 1.25% from April 1, 2021 and April 1, 2021. 1.25% salary, 1.75% salary increase from April 1, 2022, 2% salary increase from April 1, 2023.

Li continued that although the city government's annual salary increase covers all jobs, it is unfair to low-income employees. A full-time librarian earning \$85,082 a year equates to \$40.90 an hour, an increase of \$5444 over the year, or \$2.62 an hour. But in comparison, a library service assistant with an hourly salary of 29.68 yuan in 2020 will have a salary increase of 1.90 yuan per hour, while a library waiter's salary increase will only be 1.66 yuan per hour.

Lee emphasized that library waiters are among the lower-paid positions, and they are the part-time workers who do the most work. A part-time employee "does pretty much every job you can see," which includes customer service, reading room reservations, and running library projects, in addition to organizing bookshelves and handling returned and borrowed items. There are only a few full-time employees in each library, and most of the work is done by part-timers, but their wages are minimal.

Lee also said the \$875 bonus in the city contract for all employees doesn't make much sense because it's basically offset by taxes.

On January 16, members of the CUPE905 union voted overwhelmingly to reject the Markham City Hall contract. Union president Katherine Grejszczak said,

"The wages of Markham Library employees are lower than those in Vaughan and Richmond Hill. The average annual salary of our employees is less than 30,000 yuan, and 1/3 union members receive the minimum wage. The wages given by the city government can't even keep up. The increase in inflation has made library workers unable to pay their living expenses."

The CUPE905 union has issued a report on January 24 that does not require a library committee, which means that library employees may legally leave work as early as February 10.

Li finally said that even if the service of the strike library is interrupted, the website system of the Markham Library will still be able to operate.

Markham Yuren Village Public Library. (Mingpao photo)



Congratulations!

Markham Public Library

was voted the

#1

Family Activities in Markham

by the readers of the Markham Economist & Sun & Yorkregion.com in our annual
"Readers' Choice Awards 2022"

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on being voted #1 in our annual Readers' Choice Awards. Our readers have chosen you for their number one choice which says a lot about you and your position in the community. You have much to be proud of.

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Letter of Appreciation for MPL

A customer by the name Rian would like to relay their message of gratitude for all the wonderful support they have received from library staff and to show their appreciation for the library services, resources & collections:

“Dear Library, I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to express my gratitude for all the wonderful resources and services you provide to the community. As an avid reader, I am constantly amazed by the vast collection of books, magazines, and other materials available at the library. It is truly a treasure trove of knowledge and information. Whether I am looking for the latest bestseller or a rare out-of-print book, I know I can always find it at the library. In addition to the impressive collection, I am also grateful for the helpful and knowledgeable staff who are always available to answer questions and offer guidance. Their dedication and commitment to providing excellent service is truly admirable. I also appreciate the many programs and events that the library offers, such as book clubs, author talks, and educational workshops. These opportunities not only enrich my own personal learning and growth, but also contribute to the cultural and intellectual vitality of the community as a whole. Overall, I just wanted to take a moment to express my gratitude and appreciation for all that you do. The library is truly a vital resource for the community, and I feel fortunate to have access to such a wonderful institution. Thank you for all that you do. Sincerely, Rian”

Frieda Meyer (she/her), Branch Manager
Aaniin Branch, Markham Public Library
5665 14th, Markham ON, L3S 3K5
905 513 7977 ext 4477
fmeyer@markham.library.on.ca
imagine create learn grow

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TO: Markham Public Library Board
FROM: Catherine Biss, CEO & Secretary-Treasurer
PREPARED BY: Michelle Sawh, Director, Administration
DATE OF MEETING: March 27, 2023
**SUBJECT: INTERNAL MONITORING REPORT: Executive Limitation EL-2d,
Financial Condition**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides the Board with an update on the year to date financial condition of the Library.

This is a report on Actual and Budgeted Operating Budget expenditures for the twelve-month period ending December 31, 2022. This is the final of three financial reports to the Board covering fiscal year 2022 (Jan – Dec). All expenditures were in full compliance with Board policy.

The Library ended the period in a favourable position with a year-to-date net surplus of **\$967,416** based on Library Income and Expenditures that were below budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the report entitled “Internal Monitoring Report: Executive Limitation EL-2d, Financial Condition” be received.

POLICY TYPE: EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS
POLICY TITLE: FINANCIAL CONDITION (EL-2d)
[Report on actual expenditures compared with budget]

GLOBAL POLICY LIMITATION:

With respect to the actual, ongoing financial condition and activities of the organization, the CEO shall not cause or allow the development of fiscal jeopardy or a material deviation of actual expenditures from Board priorities established in Ends policies.

CEO RESPONSIBILITY:

Consistent with statutory obligations and prudent financial management, funds will be allocated and expended in a manner that is consistent with Board priorities established in the Board Ends policies.

ASSERTION OF COMPLIANCE

Per the Report below, I assert that I am in compliance with this Global Policy Executive Limitation.



Catherine Biss
CEO & Secretary-Treasurer

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1. **POLICY LIMITATION:** *The CEO may not expend more funds than have been received in the fiscal year to date unless the debt guidelines (below) are met.*

CEO RESPONSIBILITY:

The CEO shall not operate in a deficit situation at any time during the fiscal year that cannot be repaid within 60 days.

EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE:

- The CEO is in compliance. As of December 31, 2022, the Library had a net budgetary surplus of **\$967,416** based on an unfavourable variance in Library Income of **\$476,822** and a favourable variance in Expenditures of **\$1,444,238**. See Appendix "A" (Statement of Revenue and Expenditures – Twelve Months Ended 12/31/2022).
 - **Library Income** – The 2022 YTD Actual was \$670,298 against a Budget of \$1,147,120 creating an unfavourable variance of \$476,822.
 - **Expenditures** – The 2022 YTD Actual was \$13,374,690 against a Budget of \$14,818,928 creating a favourable variance of \$1,444,238.
 - All figures in this Report are based on the Financial Statement dated December 31, 2022, received from the City of Markham's Financial Services Department on January 26, 2023.
2. **POLICY LIMITATION:** *The CEO may not indent the organization in an amount greater than can be repaid by certain, otherwise unencumbered revenues within 60 days, or hold the controllable expenditures to avoid overspending funds.*

CEO RESPONSIBILITY:

The CEO shall not enter any commitment that cannot be fully paid from unencumbered revenues or monitor the expenditures to ensure commitments are covered, without jeopardizing the Library's financial stability.

EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE:

- There are no commitments beyond those identified in the current Operating Budget.
3. **POLICY LIMITATION:** *The CEO may not allow payroll and debts to be handled in an untimely manner.*

CEO RESPONSIBILITY:

The CEO shall ensure the timeliness of all payroll and accounts payable activities.

EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE:

- The Library's payroll and accounts payable activities are undertaken by the City's Financial Services Department. The Library authorizes and submits payroll and payables information, and Finance then carries out the actual transactions. When the Library receives invoices, they are processed and submitted to the Accounts Payable Department in a timely fashion. The actual timing of payments to vendors and suppliers is determined by Accounts Payable through its internal processes.

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4. **POLICY LIMITATION:** *The CEO may not withhold, nor otherwise delay, from the Board the results and recommendations of the auditors and the Administrative response thereto.*

CEO RESPONSIBILITY:

The Library's financial statements will be evaluated by an independent auditor on an annual basis, who will then express an opinion based on the audit, and present it to the Board.

EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE:

The "Financial Statements of the Markham Public Library Board, December 31, 2021" were presented to the Board in its meeting of May 30, 2022. The *Independent Auditor's Report* indicated that "in our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the [Markham Public Library Board] as at December 31, 2021, and its results of operations, its changes in net financial assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards."

The minutes of the May 30, 2022 Library Board meeting records the following resolution:

Staff introduced and welcomed Ms. Christina Gao, Manager, KPMG, Ms. Maria Khoushnood, Partner, Audit, KPMG who conducted the Markham Public Library Board annual audit.

Ms. Khoushnood stated that she would give a high level review and all that remained to complete the audit was approval from the Board. It was a clean audit, there were no issues noted, no audit misstatements and no control deficiencies. Ms. Koushnood asked if there were any questions, there were none. She also expressed appreciation on the efficiencies of MPL Management staff.

Staff thanked the auditors for attending.

Moved by Mrs. Pearl Mantell
Seconded by Mr. Jay Xie

Resolved that the report entitled "Financial Statements of the Markham Public Library Board, December 31, 2021" be received; and,

That the Board approve the Financial Statements of the Markham Public Library Board December 31, 2021; and,

That the Board Chair be authorized to sign the approved 2021 Financial Statements on behalf of the Board; and,

That the Board authorize Staff to issue the final audited Financial Statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021;

AND that Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Carried.

5. **POLICY LIMITATION:** *The CEO may not acquire, lease, rent, encumber or dispose of real property.*

CEO RESPONSIBILITY:

For the purpose of acquiring, leasing, renting or encumbering, this means new property not currently

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under Board ownership, lease, or rental. Real property is interpreted to mean real estate, space and facilities. Disposal would mean the sale of real property.

EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE:

- The Library Board does not own real property, nor does it currently lease or rent any spaces. It is responsible for all services, programs and related activities provided to the public within library buildings located on municipal properties. The real property is owned by the City of Markham.
- The Library pays to the City “Occupancy Costs” for branches located within community centres, which constitutes a funding transfer to the Recreation Services Department. This transfer effectively pays for support provided to the Library by Recreation for building-related services including cleaning, utility usage, telecommunications (e.g. telephone, cable TV, etc.), and basic building maintenance and repairs.
- MPL has eight branch locations, including three stand-alone buildings (Markham Village / Thornhill Village / Unionville) and five community centre branches (Aaniin / Angus Glen / Cornell / Milliken Mills / Thornhill Community).

6. **POLICY LIMITATION:** *The CEO may not fail to aggressively pursue receivables, fines and fees, after a reasonable grace period.*

CEO RESPONSIBILITY:

The CEO shall ensure receivables, fines, and fees are recovered through the most current methods.

EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE:

- The Library recovers receivables, fines and fees on an ongoing basis. Fines and fees are incurred after customers have borrowed physical collection items and then kept them beyond the authorized loan period, or have lost and failed to return borrowed items. These receivables are usually paid by the customers voluntarily in order to keep their records in good standing. (MPL also provides customers with several options to assist them in keeping track of due dates, including pre-due notices, thereby enabling them to avoid the assessment of overdue fines.)
 - MPL has an agreement with Unique Management Services (UMS), a specialized collection agency that pursues suspended customer accounts with amounts owing of greater than \$40.00 in fines, fees and lost material values, and where the customer has failed to respond to multiple MPL contact attempts over a minimum of 45 days. UMS is an international company providing service to thousands of library system clients utilizing a “gentle nudge” approach which helps to maintain customer goodwill.
- The table below is a summary of 2022 (Jan – Dec) information related to MPL’s UMS transactions.

	Description	Amount
A	# of customer accounts submitted to collection agency	613
B	Fines/fees received from customers following UMS contacts	\$21,301
C	Returned items following UMS contact (value)	\$33,088
D	Subtotal – Fines/fees plus returned items (B + C)	\$54,389
E	Fees paid to UMS by MPL	\$7,846
F	Net benefit to MPL (D – E)	\$46,543

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G	Net benefit ratio (Benefit per \$1 investment in service) (F/E)	5.93
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- While the relationship with UMS has been successful financially, the primary benefit is a higher return rate for overdue materials, making them available to other customers and ensuring that the Library can better achieve its service mandate within the community. The arrangement ensures that resources purchased through taxpayer-based funding remain public assets and that community access to them is maintained.

7. POLICY LIMITATION: *The CEO may not allow tax payments or other government-ordered payments or filings to be overdue or inaccurately filed.*

CEO RESPONSIBILITY:

The CEO shall ensure that the Library submits all tax payments, filings, and other government-required payments in an accurate manner and in compliance with mandated timelines.

EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE:

The CEO is in compliance. The Library met the deadline of June 30, 2022 in filing its annual Charity return 2021 with the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA).

The Library also met the deadline of January 31, 2023 in filing its Q4 2022 (Oct - Dec) Public Service Bodies Rebate Claim with the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). This submission is required for rebate of the federal portion of the HST. All other government filings and requests were satisfied within the required timelines throughout 2022.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Appendix “A” – Statement of Revenue and Expenditures – Twelve Months Ending 12/31/2022.
- Appendix “B” – Variance Report

AGENDA 5.3

TO: Markham Public Library Board
FROM: Catherine Biss, CEO & Secretary-Treasurer
PREPARED BY: Deborah Walker, Director, Strategy & Planning
DATE OF MEETING: March 27, 2023
SUBJECT: **INTERNAL MONITORING REPORT: Executive Limitation EL-2j,
Communication & Counsel to the Board
(October 2022 to February 2023)**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides the Board with a triannual affirmation that the Board is informed and supported in its work.

This is a report on communication and counsel to the Board for the period from October 2022 to February 2023. All communication and counsel requirements are in full compliance with Board policy.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the report entitled “Internal Monitoring Report: Executive Limitation EL-2j, Communication & Counsel to the Board (October 2022 to February 2023)” be received.

POLICY TYPE: EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS

POLICY TITLE: COMMUNICATION AND COUNSEL TO THE BOARD (EL-2j)
[Report on the CEO’s communications to the Board, ensuring that it is properly informed and equipped to make appropriate decisions.]

GLOBAL POLICY LIMITATION:

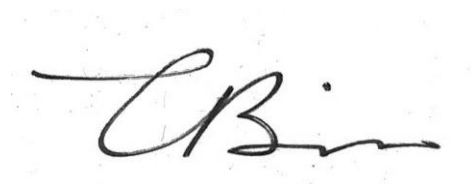
The CEO shall not permit the Board to be uninformed or unsupported in its work.

CEO RESPONSIBILITY:

The CEO will ensure the Board is informed and supported in its work.

ASSERTION OF COMPLIANCE

As per the Report below, I assert that I am in compliance with this Global Policy Executive Limitation.



Catherine Biss
CEO & Secretary-Treasurer

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- 1. POLICY LIMITATION:** *The CEO shall not neglect to submit monitoring data required by the Board (see policy on Monitoring Executive Performance) in a timely, accurate and understandable fashion, directly addressing provisions of the Board policies being monitored and including the CEO's interpretations consistent with the "Delegation to the CEO" policy, as well as relevant data.*

CEO RESPONSIBILITY and EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE:

- On a regular schedule, the Library provides appropriate internal monitoring reports, in which the CEO discloses compliance information to the Board.
- All such reports include a statement of interpretation indicating the CEO's "reasonable interpretations" of the Board Ends and Executive Limitations Policies within the meaning of the "Delegation to the CEO" policy.
- Relevant data is included in monitoring reports to demonstrate accomplishment of the interpretation (regarding Ends) or compliance with the interpretation (regarding Executive Limitations).
- Monitoring data is also provided to the Board through the regular cycle of Strategic Plan Updates, Ends Reports, Executive Limitation Reports, and Board Statistical Reports.
- Annually, the auditor presents the previous year's financial report.

- 2. POLICY LIMITATION:** *The CEO shall not let the Board be unaware of significant changes in provincial or municipal policies, anticipated adverse media coverage, material external and internal changes (including purchases of over \$350,000), particularly changes in the assumptions upon which any Board policy has previously been established.*

CEO RESPONSIBILITY:

- The monthly CEO reports identify significant changes in provincial or municipal policies, anticipated adverse media coverage, and material external and internal changes.
- Material external and internal changes reported include:
 - Milliken Mills Library Reopening.
 - MPL Trail Project.
 - New Collection – Dementia Care Kits.
 - Bill 23 More Homes Built Faster.
 - City Response to Bill 23.
 - Mayor's Inaugural Address.
 - Municipal Priorities.
 - Bill 23 – Ontario's More Homes Built Faster Act – Impact on Municipalities.
 - Community Services - Acting Commissioner Role.
- Regarding purchases of over \$350,000, the following purchase took place during the reporting period.
 - The amount of \$436,463 for Bibliotheca self-service equipment was incurred in 2022. The funding source was the IT lifecycle budget administered by the City's Information Technology Services department.
- When an event relevant to the Board's mandate arises outside the normal cycle of Board reports, staff use email communication to ensure Board awareness.
- Adverse media coverage during the reporting period is reported in the regular CEO reports. When a potentially urgent incident of adverse media coverage arises between Board meetings, staff use email to ensure the Board Chair and Vice-Chair are promptly informed.
 - An article regarding the closure of the Milliken Library during construction was published in the Economist & Sun on October 3, 2022.
 - An article entitled "Strike action looms at Markham libraries after union rejects city's offer" was published in the Economist & Sun on January 30, 2023.

- 3. POLICY LIMITATION:** *The CEO shall not allow the Board to be unaware that, in the CEO's opinion, the Board is not in compliance with its own policies on Governance Process and Board-CEO Linkage,*

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particularly in the case of Board behaviour that is detrimental to the work relationship between the Board and the CEO.

CEO RESPONSIBILITY and EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE:

- There has been no non-compliance to report on.

4. **POLICY LIMITATION:** *The CEO shall not present information in unnecessarily complex or lengthy form or in a form that fails to differentiate among information of three types: monitoring, decision-preparation, or other.*

CEO RESPONSIBILITY and EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE:

- Staff prepare appropriate reports and presentations for Board information or recommending Board approval. The reports and presentations include points of view, issues, and options, as appropriate. Examples include:
 - October 25, 2022:
 - 3.1 Markham Centre Update, October 2022.
 - 9.1 Board Presentation to Council Discussion.
 - 12.1 The Library and Political Elections Policy (2022) – Revision.
 - November 28, 2022:
 - 3.1 Markham Centre Update, November June 2022.
 - 10.1 Impact of Library Collections.
 - January 23, 2023
 - 3.1 Markham Centre Update, January 2023.
 - 8.2 Board Legacy Document 2019-2022
 - 10.1 2023 Priorities: Post Recovery Service.
- Staff invite delegations of City staff to attend Board meetings to provide information on municipal aspects of Board issues, as appropriate.
 - November 28, 2022: Ms. Janet Ashfield, Deputy Director, Human Resources Operations, City of Markham.
- Staff invite delegations of consultants and other external representatives to attend Board meetings to provide information on projects and initiatives of interest to the Board, as appropriate.
 - A consultant was present to support an in camera HR discussion on Nov 28/22.

5. **POLICY LIMITATION:** *The CEO shall not allow the Board to be without a workable mechanism for official Board, officer or committee communications.*

CEO RESPONSIBILITY and EVIDENCE of COMPLIANCE:

- In the absence of any feedback, the CEO is in compliance.

6. **POLICY LIMITATION:** *The CEO shall not allow the Board to be without secretarial support, including draft minutes within two weeks of each Board meeting and any action list arising from meetings.*

CEO RESPONSIBILITY and EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE:

- The Board Secretary provides action lists arising from Board meetings within 2 weeks of the meeting.
- The Board Secretary provides a draft of the minutes to the Board within two weeks of the meeting.
- The Board Secretary responds to telephone calls and emails within 48 hours of receipt of them.

7. **POLICY LIMITATION:** *The CEO shall not favour or privilege certain Board members except when:*

AGENDA 5.3

- a) *Fulfilling individual requests for information or;*
- b) *Responding to officers or committees duly charged by the Board.*

CEO RESPONSIBILITY and EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE:

- The CEO is in compliance.

- 8. POLICY LIMITATION:** *The CEO shall not allow the Board to be unaware of an actual or anticipated non-compliance with Ends or Executive Limitations policy of the Board regardless of the Board's monitoring schedule.*

CEO RESPONSIBILITY and EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE:

- There has been no actual or anticipated non-compliance with any policy of the Board to report on.

- 9. POLICY LIMITATION:** *The CEO shall not fail to submit to the Board a required approval (consent) agenda containing all items delegated to the CEO, and required by law or contract to be Board-approved, along with the monitoring assurance pertaining thereto.*

CEO RESPONSIBILITY and EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE:

- During the reporting period, there was nothing in the consent agendas that was required by law to be Board-approved.

- 10. POLICY LIMITATION:** *The CEO shall not allow the Board to be unaware of complaints identified by customers which in the judgment of the CEO are of pressing concern.*

CEO RESPONSIBILITY and EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE:

- No such complaints took place during the reporting period.

- 11. POLICY LIMITATION:** *The CEO shall not allow personal information about Board members to be unprotected or compromised (except for Board member's names, photographs, and any authorized tag lines on the Library website and other promotional vehicles).*

CEO RESPONSIBILITY and EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE:

- The Board Secretary maintains all contact information for Board members in confidential files accessible only to senior administration staff and their support staff.
- The Board's personal contact information is provided through electronic and paper versions to the Board members, senior Administration staff and their support staff only upon specific occasions:
 - a) Emergency,
 - b) Inviting Board members to special MPL events such as opening a library, staff celebrations, etc., and
 - c) To fulfill Revenue Canada's request for information on the "Directors, Trustees, and Like Officials worksheet."
- The Library's Human Resources policy regarding *Confidentiality of Personal Information* further provides that contact information for employees and Library Board members may not be released without the permission of the employee/Board member or the CEO. Requests for this information must be referred to the CEO, or designate.

- 12. POLICY LIMITATION:** *The CEO shall not fail to advise the Board in a timely manner of trends, facts and information relevant to the Board's work.*

CEO RESPONSIBILITY and EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE:

- The monthly CEO reports include:
 - Relevant external trends, such as:
 - Canada's critical 'digital skills gap' problem.
 - Learning Loss Data.
 - Life in a Digital World.
 - Statistical reports on a quarterly basis as part of the monthly CEO's Highlights Report (3.0). The statistical reports include YTD-over-YTD data regarding new member registrations, customer satisfaction, library space (in-person visits, electronic visits, room bookings), circulation, self-service, connectivity (computer usage, website and catalogue sessions, social media followers), and programs and outreach.
 - Enterprise Risk Management (bi-annual report).
 - Background facts relevant to the Board's work or as follow up to Board discussions.
- The regular Strategic Plan Update reports include:
 - Updates regarding work plan progress.
 - Identification of strategic priorities.
 - Identification of societal and/or economic trends that have implications for library strategy.
- Information on Library program offerings is provided on a quarterly basis.
 - Due to the quickly changing nature of programming during COVID closures, notice of upcoming programs is currently provided to the Board on a more frequent basis, either in a Board package or by e-mail.

TO: Markham Public Library Board
FROM: Catherine Biss, CEO & Secretary-Treasurer
PREPARED BY: Diane Macklin, Director, Community Engagement
DATE OF MEETING: March 27, 2023
SUBJECT: **Spring 2023 Library Programs**

RECOMMENDATION:


That the report “Spring 2023 Library Programs” be received.

BACKGROUND:

Board member attendance at Library and community events has several positive benefits. The Public Library Act directs library boards to provide library services that reflect the unique needs of their community. Attending community events as a member of the Board enriches Board understanding of the diversity of interests of the community, gives community members opportunities to interact with the Board, and shows Library support for community initiatives.

This report also demonstrates the breadth of programs being offered to the community to meet the Board Ends, the Library’s strategic priorities and the interests and needs of the community.

Contact mplcommunitylibrarians@markham.library.on.ca for assistance in registering for a program or using the various platforms. Unless otherwise indicated all programs are offered free of charge.



Catherine Biss
CEO & Secretary-Treasurer

Attachments: Appendix “A” Spring 2023 Library Programs

LIBRARY PROGRAMS
SPRING 2023



Each month Markham Public Library offers dozens of unique virtual and in-person programs in a supportive and inclusive learning environment. Working with community partners we bring in the wealth of knowledge that exists in our community to inspire people to learn, acquire new skills, expand their horizons and feel a sense of community

We have something for everyone from business and entrepreneurship to wellness, preschooler to seniors. See our current list of program offerings below or visit our website at markhampubliclibrary.ca (click on [What's On](#)) to see our most up-to-date offerings.

Email mplcommunitylibrarians@markham.library.on.ca for more information about these programs or to register.



Programs that support MPL's Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Accessibility (IDEA) strategy.



Programs that support MPL's Brain Project to increase brain health and reduce dementia risk



Programs that focus on mental health and well being



Programs that support Markham's seniors community

BOOKS AND READING

Ancestral Voices

Meet and learn from established and emerging artists and authors who represent diverse Indigenous, Caribbean, African and Black communities. Discover our shared histories, our unique lived experiences, and the past, present, and future of own-voices storytelling in this conversation series hosted and conceptualized by Kim Wheatley and Maxine Gordon Palomino. This program series is presented in collaboration with York, Durham, and Peel Libraries.

***Tending to the Fire: An Offering for Storytellers* by Heather O'Watch**

Embark on a journey into tending to your own fire of storytelling. Every writer has a beginning spark and finding the kindling to grow the flame is step one. Stories, lived experiences, dreams and ancestral knowledge is kindling at reach. Join Heather O'Watch as she shares her journey into tending to her fire, and offers some kindling to participants. Heather O'Watch (She/Her) is a Nakoda and Cree woman from the Okanese First Nation in Treaty 4 Territory. She also has paternal ties to Cegakin (Carry The Kettle) First Nation. Heather currently works for a global Indigenous Rights organization and was recently selected amongst 3 other young Canadians to represent Canada at the upcoming G7 Summit as Young Diplomats of Canada. Beyond the realm of her work in Indigenous rights and policy, Heather tends to her passion for storytelling. Heather considers herself a storyteller and an avid story listener. She often reflects about the stories and teachings she has witnessed in her life from her parents, grandparents, and in community from Elders and knowledge keepers.

Virtual

Wednesday, March 8

7:00 pm

LIBRARY PROGRAMS SPRING 2023



Celebrating Stories and Storytellers with Nadia Hohn

Join us for a virtual author visit with multilingual, award-winning children's author, Nadia Hohn. Listen to Nadia as she reads from one of her popular books, learn about what it's like to write, and take part in a Q&A. Nadia's books include *A Likkle Miss Lou: How Jamaican Poet Louise Bennett Coverley Found Her Voice*, *Harriet Tubman: Freedom Fighter*, and the Malaika series. Her first picture book, *Malaika's Costume* was the 2021 TD Grade One Book Giveaway and featured as a float in the 117th Original Santa Claus Parade. Her newest book *The Antiracist Kitchen: 21 Stories (and Recipes)* will be released this fall. Nadia is an "artist" who wants to make sure that all young people see themselves in books. When she's not lost in a story or concocting a tasty vegetarian dish, she is likely spending time in music and the arts or daydreaming about her next adventure. Nadia teaches elementary school and writing for children courses.

Virtual

Wednesday, April 12

9:30 am

Playing the Short Game - How to Market & Sell Short Fiction

A wealth of courses and books exist to teach you how to write stories. But what happens when you've finished writing? Do you know how to sell what you've written? Based on the popular writer's guide, this workshop will give you crucial advice on how to sell your short stories to professional markets and to begin a career as a short fiction writer. Topics covered include:

- Benefits of writing short fiction
- Avoiding traps for the beginner
- Understanding rights and licensing for short fiction
- Finding short fiction markets
- Selecting the right market for your story
- What not to do when submitting
- What do after submitting

Virtual

Thursday, May 4

7:00 pm

Thursday, May 11

7:00 pm

Thursday, May 25

7:00 pm

2SLGBTQ+ and Allies Book Club

Join us in getting to know one another and deciding together what kinds of books we want to read. Membership is on a rolling basis; anyone is welcome to join. This program is brought to you in partnership with CAYR Community Connections.

Virtual

Thursday April 13

7:00 pm

Tuesday, June 20

7:00 pm

Storytime: Pollinator Man Saves the Day

Join us for a storytime by Ashoke Mohanraj author of *Pollinator Man*. From Markham, Ashoke was recently named as one of Canada's top 25 under 25 environmental influencers. Join us for a storytime with Ashoke followed by a demonstration of how pollination works using Cheetos, candy and flowers.

Markham Village Library

LIBRARY PROGRAMS SPRING 2023



Saturday, May 6

11:30 am

Storytime and Fun with author Dr. Yasmin Ladak

Join us for a special storytime with author, Dr. Yasmin Ladak. She will be reading her book *Ellie Helps Emerald Feel Better*. She is a family physician, a writer and the mother of two incredible children. She has been an avid reader from a young age with a particular love for children's books. As a mother, she loves spending time with her children – enjoying the beautiful outdoors, travelling and reading together as a family.

Aaniin Library

Wednesday, April 12

6:30 pm

Storytime and Fun with author Patricia Wong



Join us for a special storytime with author, Patricia Wong, author and illustrator of *Finding Hello*, a book about a shy boy. Children, parents and teachers can appreciate the timid character's journey to finding the courage to overcome social anxieties and meet new friends. Patricia's love of illustrating and writing began at a very young age.

Milliken Mills Library

Tuesday, April 18

6:30 pm

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Founder Fundamentals Workshop Series: Sales and Customer Success

Interested in building your entrepreneurial skills to launch your startup? The Founder Fundamentals Workshop Series is an educational program brought to you by YSpace, York University's innovation hub and the Markham Small Business Centre (MSBC). Whether you are a professional services company, brick and mortar or technology startup, the program aims to equip you with the essential skills and knowledge needed to succeed. Spanning across topics such as Finance 101, to How to write a Business plan, to legal basics and more, this program provides a wide range of learning. In addition, the program connects you with local resources for potential next steps as you progress in your entrepreneurial ventures.

All sessions are virtual

Digital Marketing

Tuesday, March 14

6:00 pm

Sales and Customer Success

Tuesday, March 28

6:00 pm

HR Best Practices

Tuesday, April 4

6:00 pm

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in the Workplace



Tuesday, April 11

6:00 pm

SRED Funding and Government Incentives

Tuesday, March 7

6:00 pm

Tuesday, March 21

6:00 pm

LIBRARY PROGRAMS SPRING 2023



Cautious Consumerism

Learn ways to avoid the most common scams and fraud in Canada and what to do if you become a victim of identity theft

Virtual

Wednesday, March 8

1:00 pm

Small Business Sales & Marketing: Sales solve problems!

Without sales you don't have a business. Determining your roadblocks and developing a strategy to increase your sales will solve many challenges in your business. If you land new clients and retain customers, the sky is the limit. You'll be able to invest in equipment and hire people with confidence that you can afford to spend the money required to do so. Sales solves problems. We'll cover the spectrum of sales topics, from sales basics to all parts of the sales funnel. You'll find information about closing sales, handling objections, networking, getting referrals, and the selling mindset! Registrants will receive an email with the Zoom link 1 day prior to the program. If you do not receive the Zoom link the day before the program: Please note: The email will be from mplcommunitylibrarians@gmail.com. It may be in your junk/spam folder. The subject should read [ZOOM LINK] (Program Name) – (Date). If you still cannot find the email, please contact us prior to the program start time so we can send you the link again.

Virtual

Tuesday, April 11

6:30 pm

Business Legal 101

All you need to know about legal rules of operating a business in Ontario

Chapter 4: Partners and shareholders in a corporation – special aspects and how to get prepared. We are happy to introduce our series of professional workshops – Business Legal 101. In this program, which includes multiple workshops, we will discuss various legal aspects of operating a business in Canada and will answer your questions about the same. This workshop will look at: - Understanding the nature of the shares in a corporation- Importance of an agreement between shareholders - When to prepare one - What to include

Virtual

Monday, March 20

6:30 pm

Monday, April 17

6:30 pm

Get your Business up and Running with These Library Resources!

Getting your own business up and running is no easy feat. Whether you're an aspiring business owner, a new small business, or you've been around for many years, you will be ecstatic to hear about the many resources that we have that can take your business to the next level. Join us as we look into the many physical and electronic resources we have, and as we do a deep dive and showcase some of the great databases that you have free access to with your library card. We will also go over some of the physical spaces and equipment that are available to you. Our knowledgeable staff can help you stand out from the competition

Virtual

Thursday, April 13

7:00 pm

LIBRARY PROGRAMS SPRING 2023



Employment Insurance and Types of Federal Leave

Are you looking to understand how employment insurance works? The Federal Government's Employment Insurance (EI) program offers temporary financial assistance to workers. This session, provided by staff of Service Canada, is a virtual webinar about Employment Insurance and how it relates to you. By attending, you will obtain an excellent overview of the EI program, the application process, and the conditions for receiving benefits. Information will be provided on the types of EI benefits such as the Sickness and Maternity & Parental benefits, eligibility, and actions required for maintaining benefits. You will also learn about electronic services, such as the Job Bank and accessing a My Service Canada Account. This program is provided in partnership with Service Canada.

Virtual
Wednesday, May 17 12:00 pm

7 Ways to Build and Improve Your Credit Fast

Good credit is important and easy to build. Plus, STOP paying a service to "fix" your credit. Get the blueprint to repair, rebuild and protect your credit.

Virtual
Tuesday, March 7 7:00 pm



Income Security Programs for Older Adults

Join Service Canada outreach staff to learn about financial programs and other services offered by Service Canada for Seniors and their caregivers. The session will also provide general information about Service Canada that may be of interest to seniors. In this session, you will learn about:

- Benefits and services available to seniors who are retired or at pre-retirement age
- Canada Pension Plan
- Old Age Security and Guaranteed Income Supplement Allowance
- Disability Tax Credit
- Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP)
- And much more

Milliken Mills Library
Wednesday, April 5 10:30 am

Investing Crash Course

In this presentation, the presenter will go over the different types of investment accounts, different classes of investments (Stocks, Bonds, Mutual funds) and the mistakes he made early in his trading career so that you don't have to.

Aaniin Library
Wednesday, March 15 7:00 pm

JOB SKILLS AND CAREERS

One-on-One Resume Review and Job Assistance

LIBRARY PROGRAMS SPRING 2023



An Employment Counselor will be on site to provide any interested job seekers with assistance in their job search and to help review their resume. This will be on a drop-in basis, so please come early to ensure you get a chance to have your resume reviewed!

Cornell Library
Thursday, March 2 6:00 pm

How to Excel in your Virtual Job Interview

As a result of COVID-19 and government regulations to maintain physical distancing, it has become essential to learn how to perfect the virtual interview process. Virtual communication requires adjustments due to the limited ability to read body language and facial expressions. We will review the best ways to be successful during your next virtual interview. Conducting an effective interview. Using appropriate body language and speaking voice in an interview. Answering behavioural questions effectively. YMCA Employment services

Virtual
Tuesday, March 28 6:30 pm
Tuesday, April 25 6:30 pm
Tuesday, May 30 6:30 pm
Tuesday, June 27 6:30 pm

How to Write a Winning Resume That Gets Results

Designed to assist you prepare a targeted, accomplishment-based resume. This workshop will help you create a winning resume and increase your chances of landing a job interview.

Virtual
Monday, Mar 27 6:30 pm
Monday, April 24 6:30 pm
Monday, May 29 6:30 pm
Monday, June 26 6:30 pm

Meet a Meteorologist

Joan Klaassen is a retired Environment and Climate Change Canada meteorologist and climatologist, who has been the Education Coordinator for Toronto Centre Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society since 2017. Learn all about the job of a meteorologist from Joan whose career spans over 37 years with private and government sectors. Join us as we learn about the role of weather forecasters and other meteorologists in understanding weather, climate and climate change.

Virtual
Wednesday, April 5 7:00 pm

LIBRARY PROGRAMS SPRING 2023



Environmental Careers with Seneca

Seneca College is committed to social, economic and environmental health. Join us to learn about the programs offered at Seneca College in the environmental and sustainability sector and how Seneca aims to establish sustainability as an essential consideration in the planning, design and delivery of Seneca's academic programs, services and operations.

Virtual

Tuesday, April 18

6:30 pm

Paying for Your Studies

Thinking about your financial aid options? This session will explore a variety of ways to pay for your studies including "scholarships, bursaries, government financial assistance such as OSAP. This program is presented in partnership with Seneca College.

Milliken Mills Library

Tuesday, April 25

6:30 pm

Mastering Job Interviews

Join Imbert Fung, founder and director of Future Reach Education, for an interactive workshop on mastering the behavioural interview. As a former senior leader in the corporate and non-profit world, Imbert has conducted 400+ interviews recruiting professionals for entry-level to management positions. In addition, having worked in several different sectors across the globe, Imbert has himself sat in the interviewee chair on 80+ occasions. With accumulated successes (and failures) on both sides of the table, Imbert will share his strategies and advice for job interviewing

Cornell Library

Saturday, March 11

11:30 am

Discover Seneca to Improve your Employability and Gain Vital Career Skills!

Discover the more than 300 programs offered at Seneca College. Whether you want to up-skill, re-skill or start something new Seneca has the polytechnic education combining theory and hands on training that will help you reach your goals. Join us to learn about the programs offered at Seneca full-time, part-time, online, in-person, 4 years degrees, 2 years diplomas or short burst micro-credentials and not to mention newcomers' programs.

Virtual

Wednesday, April 12

6:30 pm

Discover a Career in Early Childhood Education and Ontario's ECE Grants

Do you enjoy working with young children or preschoolers? Or, are you thinking about a career in childcare or working with children? Join us to learn about the highly in demand career in early childhood education (ECE). Whether you are working in the field or would like to enter the field, whether you have previous education or starting new, no matter what your personal path is, Seneca has flexible programs that will fit your busy life. Full-time, part-time and accelerated study options. You will also learn about government funding & grants available specifically for this field and how to qualify.

Markham Village Library

Monday, March 27

6:00 pm

**LIBRARY PROGRAMS
SPRING 2023**



Discover Seneca Microcredentials - Short courses to boost your skills

Are you an adult looking to upgrade your skills or credentials? Or, are you looking for a new job and would like to enhance your resume? Microcredentials at Seneca help you upskill, reskill and boost new skills development. These career- and profession-based programs equip you with in-demand skills and knowledge in key industries and sectors. Focused learning adds value to your existing education and enhances your employability — all in a short time frame. This program is presented in partnership with Seneca College.

Virtual
Thursday, May 11 6:00 pm

Preparing for a Global Business Career

Are you a student or recent grad eager to build a career in business? Trying to figure out which Bachelor's and MBA programs will give you a "head start" in the business world? There are many types of business fields and multinational corporations, and there's no set formula for a successful business career. However, for high school students and young professionals eager to develop a career in business, there are certain Bachelor's and MBA programs that not only provide you with solid business fundamentals but are also better able to set you up for future success because of their networks and reputation in industry. In this program, you will learn about: different US and Canadian universities that have exemplary business programs US and Canadian MBA options and how different academic pathways translate to career opportunities. Who should attend: - High school students interested in competitive business university programs. - Recent grads and young professionals considering top-ranked MBA options. - Parents and educators who want to help their students prepare for a business career This seminar is presented by Imbert Fung, Education Coach and founder of Future Reach

Virtual
Thursday, May 25 7:00 pm

DIGITAL LITERACY & TECHNOLOGY

Seniors Tech Support



Do you need tech support? Want to learn how to use a computer better or use social media? If so, attend our Seniors Tech Support sessions on Zoom. These sessions, offered through Seneca College, cover a variety of topics. Participants will have time to ask specific technology questions. After joining our virtual session, additional customized technology support may be arranged in-person at any of our branches.

Virtual
Tuesdays, March 7 – April 11 11:00 am
Wednesdays, March 8 – April 12 2:00 pm

Seniors Tech Café



Do you need assistance with technology? Do you have questions about emails, social media, online security or anything else technology related? Stop by the Tech Café where Seneca College students are ready to empower you with technological confidence.

LIBRARY PROGRAMS SPRING 2023



Thornhill Community Centre Library	
Thursday, March 9	10:00 am
Wednesday, March 15	10:00 am
Tuesday, March 21	10:00 am
Tuesday, April 11	10:00 am

CBC Radio Camp

Testing... microphone check... is this thing even on? Do you have a story to tell? Do you want to open your ears to the wonderful world of sound all around you? Learn how to make a short radio documentary with a CBC Radio Producer and tell your story through sound. Youth will learn skills needed to write, record, and narrate a radio documentary. This course takes place over a 4 week period. We encourage you to come to all sessions however can also accommodate those who aren't able to attend them all.

Cornell Library	
Weekdays in March	4:00 pm (visit website for full schedule)

How to Use the Digital Library: Magazines & Newspapers

Did you know that the library offers access to magazines and newspapers from around the world? Join us to learn:

- How to create an account for PressReader (newspapers), Flipster (e-magazines), and more
- How to browse and borrow materials
- Little known tips and tricks

Participants will have a chance to ask questions and create their own accounts.

Virtual	
Tuesday, March 7	7:00 pm
Wednesday, April 5	10:30 am

How to Use the Digital Library: Courses

Are you looking to learn a new skill or hobby? Did you know that the library offers thousands of self-paced courses you can take from the comfort of your home? Join us to learn:

- How to create an account on Universal Class, Learning Express Library, and more...
- How to browse and borrow digital materials
- Little known tips and tricks

Participants will have a chance to ask questions and create their own accounts.

Virtual	
Tuesday, April 4	7:00 pm
Friday, May 12	10:00 am

Introduction to 3D Printing (all ages)

Are you interested in creating 3D objects? If so, join us for an introduction on the basics of 3D design and a demonstration of modelling using TinkerCad – a free online platform that allow users to design their 3D objects for printing. Participants would have a better experience with two devices - one to follow the Zoom meeting and one device with computer mouse to use TinkerCad. Become Maker Certified. Please note: if you are looking to use our makerspaces independently, you must be 13+

LIBRARY PROGRAMS SPRING 2023



Virtual	
Wednesday, March 8	7:00 pm
Wednesday, April 12	7:00 pm
Wednesday, June 7	7:00 pm
Markham Village Library	
Wednesday, May 10	7:00 pm

Introduction to Cricut's Design Space

Want to learn how to create unique designs for your next craft project? This workshop will provide step-by-step instructions on how to create a greeting card using Cricut's Design Space. Become Maker Certified. If you are looking to use our makerspaces independently, you must be 13+

Virtual	
Wednesday, April 26	7:00 pm

How to Make a Vinyl Sticker with Cricut

Want to learn how to create unique designs for your next craft project? This workshop will provide step-by-step instructions on how to create a vinyl sticker using Cricut's Design Space. The cost of the program is \$5. All materials will be provided and all participants will leave the program with a finished vinyl sticker. Become Maker Certified Please note: if you are looking to use our makerspaces independently, you must be 13+

Markham Village Library	
Wednesday, March 22	7:00 pm
Angus Glen Library	
Wednesday, April 19	6:30 pm
Aaniin Library	
Wednesday, May 17	6:30 pm
Cornell Library	
Wednesday, June 14	6:30 pm

How to Make a Custom T-Shirt with Cricut

Want to learn how to create unique designs for your next craft project? This workshop will provide step-by-step instructions on how to create a t-shirt design using Cricut's Design Space and apply the design using the Cricut Heat Press. The cost of the program is \$6. Participants must bring their own t-shirt or tote bag. Other materials will be provided and all participants will leave the program with a finished product. Become Maker Certified Please note: if you are looking to use our makerspaces independently, you must be 13+

Aaniin Library	
Wednesday, March 29	7:00 pm
Thornhill Community Centre Library	
Wednesday, May 24	6:30 pm
Aaniin Library	
Wednesday, June 21	6:30 pm

LIBRARY PROGRAMS
 SPRING 2023



EDUCATION, ACADEMIC SUPPORT AND LIFELONG LEARNING

Reading Buddies

Participating children (between ages 6-10) will practice & improve reading with a dedicated mentor. Our mentors are carefully recruited & trained to effectively help children improve their reading skills. They will monitor and coach children as they read different materials every class. They will also introduce a variety of literacy-based games to ensure participants not only improve their reading skills but they also have a positive learning experience so they can become reading enthusiasts. Please note that this program is designed for children reading independently between ages 6-10. Participants must commit to the full 5-week program (excludes Family Day long weekend).

- Cornell Library
 Saturdays, March 4 – May 13 (various morning timeslots)
- Thornhill Community Centre Library
 Saturdays, March 4 – May 13 (various afternoon timeslots)
- Milliken Mills Library
 Saturdays, March 4 – May 13 (various afternoon timeslots)
- Unionville Library
 Sundays, March 5 – May 14 (various afternoon timeslots)

PALS: Pet Assisted Literacy Support

We’re partnering with One Health Partners to introduce PALS in the Library, an animal assisted reading program designed to motivate, inspire and support the development of literacy skills, social emotional learning and love of reading. Young readers build confidence and capacity as they read out loud to a learning pal who is fun, furry and only requires reading to be punctuated with periodic pats. This program will provide a unique, safe and fun learning opportunity for children to individually practice reading to a certified therapy dog who is also temperament tested professionally evaluated, safety and health screened therapy dog.

- Unionville Library
 Saturday, April 15 various afternoon timeslots
- Saturday, May 14 various afternoon timeslots

French Reading Club

Join us every month for our live French Reading Club from the comfort of your home! Offered through U+ the sessions are led by professional language instructors. Together, we will practice our French reading and comprehension skills in a group setting by reading along to classic books selected by the library.

Virtual				
Wednesday, March 29	ages 4 to 8	4:00 pm	ages 9 to 15	4:30 pm
Wednesday, April 26	ages 4 to 8	4:00 pm	ages 9 to 15	4:30 pm
Wednesday, May 17	ages 4 to 8	4:00 pm	ages 9 to 15	4:30 pm
Wednesday, June 14	ages 4 to 8	4:00 pm	ages 9 to 15	4:30 pm

LIBRARY PROGRAMS SPRING 2023



Minds on Math for Grades 2 and 3

Join us for fun and hands-on math sessions to spark interest in math and provide an opportunity for your child to enhance their math skills. Themes include patterning, geometry, number sense, numeration, money and time.

Angus Glen Library
Thursdays, March 23 – April 20 4:30 pm

Math Club for Preschoolers

In this math club for preschoolers: we will explore fun ways to learn math literacy, number sense, patterns, geometry, measurement, data collection and math processes. Please note: Since this is a 2 session program, it is encouraged that you sign up for both classes

Virtual
Wednesdays, April 12 and 19th 1:00 pm

Tips and Fun with Math for Grades 1 and 2

Join U+ Education and Markham Public Library for our live Tips and Fun with Math from the comfort of your home! Together, we will have a fun time learning and developing communication skills in math through interesting and challenging math problems.

Virtual
Monday, March 20 4:30 pm
Monday, April 17 4:30 pm

Mastering Multiplication Club (Grades 2-4)

Is your child trying to learn the multiplication table? Or, would you like your child to have some extra practice? In these two sessions, students will: learn the 3 through 6 multiplication tables through fun games and math drills. Multiplication is the foundation to math skills and mastering it helps ensure students master math for years to come.

Virtual
Saturday, May 27 10:30 am
Saturday, June 10 10:30 am

Tips and Fun with Math (Grades 7-8)

Join U+ Education and Markham Public Library for Tips and Fun with Math from the comfort of your home! Together, we will have a fun time learning and developing communication skills in math through interesting and challenging math problems.'

Virtual
Monday, March 20 5:00 pm
Monday, April 17 5:00 pm

LIBRARY PROGRAMS SPRING 2023



Euclid Math Contest Camp for Grades 11 and 12

Join U+ Education and Markham Public Library for our live Euclid Math Contest Camp from the comfort of your home! The University of Waterloo's Euclid math contest is a great way to challenge your learning while also getting admission bonus points for your dream programs at uWaterloo!

Virtual

Monday, March 20	7:45 pm
Monday, April 17	7:45 PM

Homeschoolers Weekly Meet-Up

Do you homeschool your child (ren)? Join our weekly meet up to meet other homeschoolers, socialize, learn about library resources, explore STEAM building activities and meet special guest speakers.

Angus Glen Library	
Mondays, March 6 – June 19	10:30 am

Playful Machines: Homeschoolers Science Program

Attention all homeschool families! We are excited to partner with York University's Science Outreach program to offer homeschoolers an opportunity to participate in a science workshop! Playful Machines is geared towards children from Kindergarten to Grade 3 (others interested are welcome to join). You'll explore 3 simple machines and have an opportunity to build simple machines that you might find on a playground.

Milliken Mills Library	
Wednesday, March 22	10:30 am

Crime Lab: Homeschooler's Science

Attention all homeschool families! We are excited to partner with York University's Science Outreach program to offer homeschoolers an opportunity to participate in a science workshop! Crime Lab is geared towards children in grades 4 to 6. You will learn about forensic science and the types of evidence that are examined in a crime scene. Use various techniques to analyze clues, test solubility, reactivity and density. You'll have an opportunity to collect data, form conclusions and work as a team to problem solve.

Milliken Mills	
Wednesday, March 29	10:30 am

Chess in the Library

Is your child interested in learning how to play chess? CITL is a non-profit student-run organization that aims to promote chess across Canada to players of all skill levels. Through this bi-weekly chess program children will learn how to play chess.

Unionville Library	
2 nd and 4 th Sunday of each month	2:00 pm or 3:00 pm

School Readiness and How to Prepare for Preschool & Kindergarten

Do you have a child entering preschool or kindergarten soon? Join us to learn about the tips and strategies to help prepare your child for their next adventure as they begin school. Starting school can

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be a challenge, especially during a pandemic. This workshop will look at: What "school readiness" truly means and provide a breakdown of fundamentals from preschool to kindergarten with regards to social competence, emotional development, language, and early literacy/academic skills. Useful strategies and resources will be discussed such that caregivers/educators can continue to support young children to prepare for successful early school life. This program is presented in partnership with Aspiration & Discoveries Therapy and Education Centre. Note: Feel free to bring your child/preschooler as we will have some hands on activities for you and your child to participate in together.

Milliken Mills Library
Saturday, April 29

10:00 am

Elementary School Learning and Academic Success (2 part series)

The elementary grades are crucial learning stages to establish students' ability to prepare for academic life and is a strong predictor of future academic success. This two part workshop will: Look at what essential skills are needed for academic learning and independence at school. We will explore strategies aiming to improve literacy/academic learning, advanced language proficiency, social-emotional development, and teamwork competence. This program is presented in partnership with Aspiration & Discoveries Therapy and Education Centre.

Virtual
Wednesdays, March 22 & 29

6:30 pm

Tips and Tricks to Ace Your Exams

Are you in high school, college or university? Are you interested in learning more about exam preparation tips? Join us for an informative session to learn more about tips and strategies to help you study for your exams. This workshop is presented by Seneca College

Virtual
Thursday, April 6

5:30 pm

Understanding the IEP in Ontario's Education System for High school, College and University Students



Are you interested in learning how an IEP is used in high school as compared to college and university? In this program, we will cover the following:

- How an IEP is used in high school vs. how it is used in college/university.
- What is the difference between an accommodation and a modification?
- How accommodations can be used to support the student in college/university

This program is presented in partnership with the Counseling and Accessibility Services from Seneca College.

Angus Glen Library
Monday, March 6

6:00 pm

5 Secrets for Academic Success in College and University

Are you a student in high school or a parent or guardian interested in learning more about steps to guide your child through their academic journey? This presentation will address major myths related to academic success in college and university as well as highlight strategies that students can use to

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ensure they meet their academic potential. About our presenter: Our presenter, Christopher Grafos, Ph.D., is the founder and chief scholarship mentor at BridgesEDU Scholarships. Christopher strives to show students the often unspoken rules of academic and career success.

Markham Village Library
Tuesday, March 21

6:00 pm

"Value"-able Education: Finding the Best Affordable U.S. University Options

Have you ever thought about whether a post-secondary education in the U.S. can be affordable? Are there "bargains" among U.S. universities for students from Canada? With over 4,000 universities and colleges in the U.S., finding that high-quality "bargain" can feel like looking for a needle in a haystack. In this program, you will learn about several categories of scholarships and tuition discounts that make certain U.S. universities attractive options for different types of Canadian students. Also, you will learn about how specific U.S. schools offer favorable tuition options to applicants from Canada. This seminar is ideal for high school students considering applying to U.S. universities as well as parents and educators who want to help students prepare for the U.S. application process. Presented by Imbert Fung Education Coach and founder of Future Reach Education

Markham Village Library
Tuesday, March 28

7:00 pm

Top Ranked U.S. Universities: To Apply or Not to Apply?

Ivy League and other top-ranked U.S. universities are sought-after by high school students around the world, BUT the application process for these schools can also seem confusing. You might find yourself asking questions like: should talented Canadian high school students apply to these schools? Are they even affordable? It turns out many of these "elite" universities can indeed be within reach for students and families from Canada, but there are some important fit factors to consider. In this program, education coach Imbert Fung from Future Reach Education will guide you through the advantages and disadvantages of elite U.S. universities versus top Canadian universities, affordability and financial aid options, share application tips for recommended universities, and answer your questions about university options south of the border. This seminar is ideal for high school students considering applying to U.S. universities as well as parents and educators who want to help students prepare for the U.S. application process. Presented by Imbert Fung Education Coach and founder of Future Reach Education

Virtual
Saturday, March 4

12:00 pm

Milliken Mills Library
Saturday, April 29

11:30 am

Unique U.S. Universities for Uniquely Different Students

How do Canadian and U.S. universities differ? With 4000+ post-secondary institutions in the U.S., there's a huge diversity of schools, including many high-quality universities with uniquely designed programs for ambitious students. As a high schooler or a parent, you might be eager to find the best university that will set the student up for future success. In fact, it's important to identify university programs that will be a great fit for the student's learning style, interests and goals. In this program, education coach Imbert Fung from Future Reach Education will:

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- Provide an overview the key differences of attending university in U.S. versus in Canada
- showcase a handful of high-quality U.S. university programs that are uniquely different from anything available in Canada
- share some application tips
- and answer your questions about university options south of the border

Virtual

Tuesday, April 11

6:30 pm

Travel to Japan (Ages 4 to 9)

Travel to Japan (Fundamentals) is designed for children ages 4-9 who are interested in Japanese culture. This course gives children the opportunity to learn about Japanese culture and learn the most basic Japanese words that can be used in everyday life. Students will also explore famous tourist spots with the instructors through multimedia elements. Children can discover Japanese words that can be put into practice when travelling to Japan. No basic Japanese knowledge is needed.

Virtual

Wednesday, March 29

5:00 pm

Wednesday, April 26

5:00 pm

Wednesday, May 17

5:00 pm

Travel to Japan (age 10 to 17)

Travel to Japan is designed for children ages 10-17 who are interested in Japanese culture. This course gives children the opportunity to learn about Japanese culture and learn the most basic Japanese words that can be used in everyday life. Students will also explore famous tourist spots with the instructors through multimedia elements. Children can discover Japanese words that can be put into practice when travelling to Japan. No basic Japanese knowledge is required

Virtual

Wednesday, March 29

5:30 pm

Tuesday, April 26

5:30 pm

Pets and Wildlife in Markham Public Library

Come across a coyote and wonder what to do? Thinking about Pet ownership? Animal Services Officers from the City of Markham answer your questions and discuss responsible pet ownership, wildlife in the City and the duties they perform for the residents and animals of Markham. You might be able to meet some furry critters and win prizes as well!

Angus Glen Library

Sunday, April 2

1:00 pm

Cornell Library

Saturday, April 29

11:00 am

Furry Friends Meet and Learn about Animals

Meet some animals and learn about how to properly care for them. Paradise Kritters Animal Rescue will be bringing along some furry friends and they will be discussing how to adopt as well as surrender animals.

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Markham Village
Saturday, April 1 11:00 am

Save Soil Arts & Crafts, Songs, Dance and Storytelling

Did you know Soil is going extinct like the dinosaurs? SaveSoil is a joyful global movement to protect the earth and rescue soil. Come and learn about the importance of healthy soil and what can be done to save soil. Enjoy arts & crafts, songs, dance, storytelling and more!

Aaniin Library
Saturday March 25 11:00 am

Angus Glen Library
Wednesday March 15 11:00 am

Cornell Library
Saturday May 13 11:00 am

Milliken Mills Library
Saturday April 15 11:00 am
Saturday, June 17 11:00 am

NEWCOMERS

Plain Tea and Murruku



Join us to enjoy plain tea and murukku while enjoying the game of cards, ludo, carom, and other activities with other older adults. This program is in partnership with the Federation of Tamil Canadians collaborating with Boxgrove Wellness Club.

Aaniin Library
Sunday, April 16 3:00 pm
Sunday, May 14 3:00 pm
Sunday, June 11 3:00 pm

English Conversation Circle

Are you a newcomer to Canada looking to improve your conversational English and meet new friends? Join our weekly English Conversation Circle, where we practice in friendly small groups led by local long-term residents. The program is brought to you in partnership with CCSYR through the Library Settlement Partnerships (LSP).

Angus Glen Library
Mondays, March 6 – June 19 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Virtual
Mondays, March 6 – June 19 1:30 – 3:00 pm

Basic Digital Skills Coaching for Newcomers

Newcomers are invited to join this unique program to learn and practice basic digital skills with a coach. The content includes:

- how to use Zoom, Google Maps and YouTubeMobile Apps

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- How to find reliable information online
- How to be connected to the community digitally
- And more...

Feel free to bring your own device or Chromebook can be provided for your practice during the session. This program is available in English, Mandarin, and Cantonese. This session is brought to you in collaboration with CCSYR through the Library Settlement Partnerships (LSP). **新移民数字技能答疑解惑 (国语)** 本活动致力于帮助新移民学习并使用基础的数字生活工具。包括但不限于zoom会议·电邮收发·谷歌地图·油管视频等。同时帮助新移民在线上融入本地社区·寻找可靠的网络资源。本活动以小组方式进行·每次活动至多3名参与者。如有兴趣·请提前报名预约。您可以携带自己的电子设备参与活动·同时组织者也会提供Chromebook笔电供您借用。

Thornhill Community Centre Library	
Thursday, March 9	10:00 am
Thursday, March 23	10:00 am
Cornell Library	
Thursday, March 9	10:00 am
Thursday, March 23	10:00 am
Angus Glen Library	
Thursday, April 20	10:00 am
Thursday, May 18	10:00 am
Thursday, June 15	10:00 am

Money Management as a Newcomer

Join the YMCA Newcomer Information Centre to get familiar with the basics of the Canadian Financial System, learn about different products & services, as well as how to better manage your money and protect yourself from fraud. Topics include:

- Banking Service in Canada
- Debt & Borrowing (Canadian Banking Products)
- Government Financial Support Programs
- How to Save

This workshop is brought to you in partnership with the YMCA Newcomer Information Centre.

Virtual
Thursday, June 15 2:00 pm

7 Ways to Learn English at the Library

Learning English can be a challenge, especially if you don't have many opportunities to practice at home. Thankfully, Markham Public Library is here to support all of your language-learning needs. With our physical and online resources, you can learn English all while improving your pronunciation, reading, writing, and conversation skills. This session will provide a live tutorial of seven resources that will help you practice English in real time, including:

- Audiobooks (Libby & Hoopla)

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- Movies & TV Shows (Hoopla & Kanopy)
- Mango Languages
- Udemy online learning courses
- Podcasts & Radio (CBC Corner)
- English Conversation Circles
- ESL Classes
- And more...

You will also learn how you can apply for a library card and use it to support all of your learning and entertainment needs.

Virtual

Thursday, May 11

6:00 pm

Know Your Rights at Work: Introduction to the Employment Standards Act

How much do you know about employment rights? Join us to learn:

- What are rules about hours of work?
- What is the minimum wage?
- Do I get a paid holiday?
- Are sick days paid or unpaid?
- Are there benefits that I can get while I am on leave?
- What if my job is terminated?
- How can I enforce my rights as a worker?
- Where can I find out more and get legal help?
- Questions & Answers

This session is brought to you in collaboration with CCSYR through the Library Settlement Partnerships (LSP).

Virtual

Thursday, June 22

6:00 pm

Workplace Culture 101

As you arrive in Canada your priority is to get a job as soon as possible. Before you start your new job why not familiarize yourself with Canadian workplace culture? This webinar will help you succeed in the Canadian workplace, understand the work environment, prepare you to work in a multicultural workplace, and learn about effective communication skills. By adopting and practicing the information from this webinar, you will be on your way to your dream job! Topics: Keys to Success in the Canadian Workplace Work Environment Cultural Diversity in the Workplace Effective Communication Skills

Virtual

Tuesday, March 7

2:00 pm

WELLNESS

Shared Reading: A Reading Therapy Program



Shared Reading is an interactive reading program that has the potential to improve well-being, reduce feelings of isolation, and strengthen communities. A library staff member will read aloud passages

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from various kinds of literature (novels, short stories, poems, non-fiction material, etc.) based on a specific theme (i.e., resilience, loneliness, forgiveness, etc.) and then lead an engaging discussion or activity with the group. Reading literature aloud in real-time like this means that everyone is involved in a shared, immediate experience, and we encourage everyone to freely share their thoughts, feelings, and memories that arise during the readings. No preparation is required, and it is not necessary for group members to read aloud or speak during the meeting - it is completely fine to just listen and observe. NOTE: Library staff are not mental health professionals. Although Shared Reading has been demonstrated to provide positive psychological benefits, these reading groups should not be viewed as a form of "treatment" for serious mental health issues. If you are feeling in crisis, please contact a mental health professional.

Virtual

Wednesday, March 29	7:00 pm
Wednesday, April 26	7:00 pm
Wednesday, May 31	7:00 pm
Wednesday, June 28	7:00 pm

Meditation



Join us every Wednesday for a guided virtual meditation workshop led by an instructor from Markham Yoga. This online session will lead you in powerful breath work and other meditation techniques. All ages welcome!

Virtual

Wednesdays, March 8 – June 28	8:15 pm
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Laughter Yoga



Come laugh with us through breathing techniques, meditation and gentle yoga movement. Brought to you by Markham Yoga, Laughter Yoga is a great way to stay mindfully aware, joyous and dissolve stress. Here's just a few benefits of this joyous session:

- Boost your immune system. Laughter boosts the immune system by decreasing stress hormones and increasing immune cells and infection-fighting antibodies, thus improving your resistance to disease
- Lower Stress
- Relieve Pain
- Give Your Abs a Workout
- Protect Your Heart and Lungs.

Virtual

Sundays, March 5 – June 25	9:30 am
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Yoga for Older Adults



Yoga for Older Adults is a 30 minute program that offers an opening meditation; breathing techniques, which allows participants to cultivate awareness and presence in their body and mind and gentle stretches for arms, legs, shoulder and back. This program is geared to older adults but all ages are welcome to participate.

Virtual

Wednesdays, March 8 – June 28	10:30 am
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LIBRARY PROGRAMS SPRING 2023



Joyful Family Yoga

Joyful Family Yoga, led by an instructor from Markham Yoga, offers an energizing, family friendly class, to build strength, increase flexibility and create mental clarity.

Virtual

Saturdays, March 4 – June 24 9:30 am

Chair Yoga

In this class, participants will learn gentle and dynamic exercises and stretches for balance while seated and supported in a chair or on a mat.

Virtual

Wednesday, March 8 – June 28 10:00 am

Flex and Stretch Yoga

Let's chill and unwind in this wonderful Flex & Stretch Yoga session from Markham Yoga. Using active and passive stretching we will focus on the breath and releasing tension throughout the body as we stretch, leaving you a little stronger, more flexible and mindful

Virtual

Mondays, March 6 – June 26 7:00 pm

Cognitive Behavioural Therapy for Insomnia

Led by Health for All's Social Workers and Pharmacist over 4 weeks, this series of in-person group sessions will teach you proven strategies to better manage your sleep. Topics covered include common myths about sleep, stimulus control, relaxation techniques, sleep restriction and more!

Cornell Library

Thursdays, May 25, June 1, 8 & 15 1:30 PM

Minds in Motion

Minds in Motion® is a copyrighted Alzheimer's Society program, with a goal of reaching out and encouraging Mandarin speakers, ages 55+ to meet new friends while enhancing physical health and cognitive stimulation. Participants can expect gentle seated exercises and fun games along with other physical, mental and social stimulation activities aimed at getting the mind moving!

起來參加舒展身心的交誼活動, 動動手腳和動動腦筋 活動內容: 輕鬆椅子運動、遊戲、唱歌、分享等

Virtual

Fridays, March 3 – May 26 10:30 am

Brain Health 大腦健康

Alzheimer's Association of York Region leads this presentation that examines the many ways that we can keep our brains healthy and lower the risk of getting a dementia.

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「認知障礙症」是一種腦退化的疾病，這疾病令患者的認知功能漸漸退化，大腦產生病變。因此，預防認知障礙症的行動要及早開始。「約克區認知障礙症協會」希望透過講座形式，提高社區人士對「認知障礙症」的認識。

Virtual
English
Thursday, June 15 10:30 am

Cantonese
Tuesday, April 4 10:30 am

Essential Oils Basics

Let's get back to the basics. In this program, participants will learn what essential oils are, how they can support their health and wellness (ex. Sleep, digestion, stress, skin etc.) and how oils can be used to reduce toxic load in the home.

Virtual
Tuesday, March 21 7:00 pm

Aging Well



Join us for a 4-week series of health presentations geared towards Older Adults and their caregivers. Led by health professionals from Markham's Community Care Team at Health for all, you will learn practical skills for addressing common physical and mental health concerns. Although we hope that you will join us for the whole series, participants can also register for just a single session within the series.

Virtual
Thursdays, June 6, 13, 20, 27 11:00 am

Aging Well - Healthy Eating and Nutrition for Older Adults



Join us for a series of health presentations geared towards Older Adults and their caregivers. Led by health professionals from Markham's Health for All, Community Care Team, you will learn practical skills for addressing common physical and mental health concerns. Although we hope that you will join us for the whole series, participants can also register for just a single session

Virtual
Wednesday, March 8 11:00 am

Assertive Parenting: When to Say Yes or No

Many parents confuse the act of being an assertive parent with aggression. There isn't anything wrong or aggressive about clear, direct, and honest communication when done appropriately. That's why it is important to know when you're being too aggressive in saying "No" and too lenient in saying "YES". Assertiveness is an essential skill that can significantly reduce the amount of conflict in your home. In this workshop, we will be discussing what Assertive Parenting is and when to say YES and NO. Our facilitator, Rose Morsh, is a Parenting Practitioner, Family Mediator, Child Voice Practitioner and

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founder of Child, Youth and Family Support Centre, a not-for-profit organization, which is licensed under the Ministry of Education and OAFM.

Virtual
Tuesday, May 23, 2023, 1:00 PM

Improving Sleep

Attendees will learn what normal sleep patterns look like as we get older, discuss ways to improve sleep, and learn about helpful resources for better sleep. This program will be facilitated by staff from Health for All

Cornell Library
Thursday, April 13 1:30 pm

Healthy Hearing



Take a moment and look around you... How many daily activities involve hearing? Think about it; waking up to your alarm clock, answering the phone, listening to music or to the TV, it all requires you to hear. What about meeting people, exchanging conversations and interacting with family or the barista at your local coffee shop? Hearing affects all our day today interactions and is almost always taken for granted so we want to keep our hearing as healthy as we can for as long as possible. In this program ,participants will learn about:• Hearing Loss and Aging• Communication strategies over the phone• Communication during COVID-19• Basic troubleshooting of hearing aids• How counsellors can help• Canadian Hearing Services Programs and supports About your instructor A counsellor from the Canadian Hearing Services will lead this hour long program.

Virtual
Thursday, March 23 11:00 am
Tuesday, May 16 10:30 am

Hearing Screening Clinic



The Canadian Hearing Services is providing free hearing clinics from 10am-3pm.Attendees will have the opportunity to:• Have a hearing screening (initial hearing test) • Ask questions about hearing loss and hearing health • Troubleshoot and manage hearing aids • Learn about assistive listening devices • Learn about Hearing Care Counselling programs and how counsellors can help once registered, you will be contacted by a counsellor from the Canadian Hearing Services for additional registration information.

Markham Village Library
Tuesday, June 13 10:00 am

How to Feel Self Love



Life Coach Giovanni Maccarrone shows you how to break free of conditioning to get back to real self-esteem. Giovanni believes everybody naturally has self-esteem but gets disconnected from it

LIBRARY PROGRAMS SPRING 2023



through conditioning. Learn the common patterns of how you got conditioned, what keeps you from feeling self-esteem, and how to break free of it all and to finally feel like yourself again.

Markham Village Library
Wednesday, May 17

7:00 pm

Find your success through stress



Are you overwhelmed or stressed at work? Or perhaps you're transitioning jobs and find it frustrating. We invite you to join us for this event: Learn the different approaches that can get you out of being frustrated & overwhelmed and start consciously choosing a path that works for you.

Aaniin Library
Monday, April 17

6:30 pm

CREATIVE EXPRESSION

Sequential Art – Telling a Story the Comic Way

Graphic Novels, comics, strips all have one thing in common; their form of story telling is done through sequential art and narrative. Join comic author and creator Allison Danger to learn the nuances of sequential storytelling and how a comic script is its very own type of beast.

Virtual
Thursday, April 20

7:00 pm

Storytelling by Sandra Whiting



Join us for an all ages storytelling session with storyteller Sandra Whiting. Sandra's stories are not just for scaring children or transporting them into fantasies beyond their dreams. Her stories are for adults as well. We are never too old to hear a story; never too old to share ourselves or to be transported to magical places. Sometimes, these magical journeys help us to make sense of our own world and in sharing ourselves with others we make them better people. As a charismatic storyteller, Sandra has told her tales on radio and television, spoken at hundreds of schools to thousands of children, in churches, in libraries, at festivals and at special cultural events. Her stories are filled with the vibrancy of African and Caribbean folklore; they are colored by the magical experiences of growing up in the Caribbean, and they are enriched by the joy of her life in Canada. And she is ready to share them with you.

Milliken Mills Library
Saturday, June 24

11:00 am

Asian Heritage Month Dance Performance



Join us for a Chinese dance performance and a dance lesson, by the Carol C Dance School, to celebrate Asian Heritage Month.

Milliken Mills Library
Saturday, May 13

1:00 pm

LIBRARY PROGRAMS SPRING 2023



Learn to Paint: Painting Techniques from an Artist

Learn how to paint from artist, [Peter Suk Sin Chan](#). Peter specializes in Chinese watercolour painting and Western Oil Painting. He is also an actor.

Virtual

Wednesday, March 22	7:00 pm
Wednesday, May 3	7:00 pm
Wednesday, June 21	7:00 pm



Traditional Indian Music

Learn about traditional Indian music, musical instruments, and different singing types and styles. Gauri Guha, a vocalist in the Indian classical khayal style, will be leading this program. Classically trained with a Bachelor of Music and an M.A. degree in Bengali Literature Gauri has performed worldwide and loves to educate others on the wide variety of music from India.

Virtual

Wednesday, March 15	7:00 pm
March 29	7:00 pm

Film Club

Are you interested in films and documentaries? Join our film club for a thoughtful and lively discussion on our selected title each month. Much like a book club, this is a great opportunity to meet new people and share ideas. All films are available in MPL's collections. Please ask staff for assistance in finding and borrowing the selected titles from our collection.

April – in recognition of Earth Day we will be talking about *The Biggest Little Farm*

May – It's Asian Heritage Month and we'll be talking about *The Farewell*

June – for Indigenous History Month we'll be talking about *The Grizzlies*

Thornhill Village Library

Tuesday, April 18	6:30 pm
Tuesday, May 16	6:30 pm
Tuesday, June 20	6:30 pm

TO: Markham Public Library Board

FROM: Catherine Biss, CEO & Secretary-Treasurer

PREPARED BY: Deborah Walker, Director, Library Strategy & Planning

DATE OF MEETING: March 27, 2023

SUBJECT: **Board Presentation to Council Discussion**

RECOMMENDATION:

That the report entitled “Board Presentation to Council Discussion” be received.

BACKGROUND:

The Library Board presentation to General Committee is scheduled for April 11th, 2023.

The presentation Team includes Chair Margaret McGrory, Vice-Chair Raymond Chan, and members Lillian Tolensky and Edward Choi.

The Presentation Team has met twice to review and develop the Power Point which will be presented to the Board on Monday March 27th.

The slides are due to the Clerk’s department on March 27th; however, the speaking notes will continue to be refined by the Team in advance of a rehearsal meeting and the Team’s appearance before General Committee on April 11th.

Strategy for the Board’s Presentation to General Committee

Given the proposed length of time for the presentation (20 minutes), the slides are built around the following strategic principles:

- Focus on library services and programs that are unique and not duplicated within the city.
- Showcase MPL’s “big moves”, achievements and innovations over the last four years.
 - Use the Board Legacy document to identify these, and avoid laundry lists¹ (i.e., all-inclusive bulleted lists).
- Demonstrate alignment with Building Markham’s Future Together (BMFT) and municipal priorities.

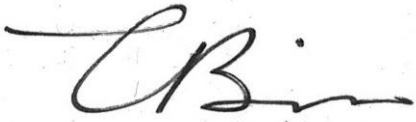
¹ “A lengthy, inclusive list of data, matters for consideration, etc., often regarded as unorganized or showing a lack of necessary selectiveness”. <https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/laundry-list>

- Describe the role of the Library Board in relation to Council – use the description from the Board Legacy document.

The goal is a brisk, informative and engaging presentation, with pictures and statistics that build a narrative of heavy use, inclusion and quality of life.

Outline of the Next Board Presentation to Council

- Role of the Library Board
- Alignment with BMFT
- Library Achievements 2019-2022 Across Three Areas of Strategic Focus
 - Achievements:
 1. Reading and Literacy
 2. Places and Spaces
 3. Digital Markham
- Looking Ahead



Catherine Biss
CEO & Secretary-Treasurer