



St. Catharines Public Library Board

Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 19, 2026, 6:00 pm
Mills Room, Central Library & Microsoft Teams

Present: P. Clausi
J. Coles (Chair)
K. Diiorio
Councillor J. Lindal
L. Littleton (joined at 6:33pm)
Councillor G. Miller (joined at 6:07pm)
N. Olmstead
G. Riihimaki

Regrets: S. Dimick (Vice-Chair)

Staff: D. Bott (left at 7:29pm)
L. DiDonato (left at 7:32pm)
M. Haanstra (left at 7:15pm)
L. Jenter (Recording Secretary)
(left at 7:32pm)
H. Jones (left at 7:29pm)
A. Maciukas (left at 7:32pm)
S. Mannella (left at 7:15pm)
J. Spera (left at 7:15pm)
K. Su (Secretary)
(left at 7:32pm, returned at 8:12pm)

Chair calls Regular Meeting to order at 6:01pm.

Councillor J. Lindal reads the following SCPL Land Acknowledgment:

The land on which the Board meets today is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples, many of whom continue to live and work here today. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties and is within the land protected by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum agreement. Today this gathering place is home to many First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Peoples. Acknowledging this is a reminder that our great standard of living is directly related to the resources and friendship of Indigenous people.

1. Adoption of Agenda

1.1 Additions/Deletions to Agenda

Move item 5.1 CEO Report to Item 6.1 CEO Report and Central Security. Items originally listed as 6.1, 6.2 were deferred and renumbered as 6.2, 6.3.

1.2 Adoption of Agenda

MOTION: 2026-27

MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

THAT the Agenda be adopted as amended

Councillor J. Lindal

G. Riihimaki

MOTION CARRIED.

2. Chair's Remarks & Declarations of Interest

The Chair thanked the Library for the gift in memoriam. There were no Declarations of Interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes (attachment)

3.1 Regular Meeting – February 19, 2026

MOTION: 2026-28 THAT the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 19, 2026 be adopted.

MOVED BY: K. Diorio

SECONDED BY: P. Clausi

MOTION CARRIED.

4. Monthly Updates (verbal)

4.1 St. Catharines City Council – Councillor J. Lindal and Councillor G. Miller
Councillor J. Lindal and Councillor G. Miller provided updates on regional amalgamation and the provincial decision to defund Consumption and Treatment Services (CTS). The Councillors encouraged attendance to the Council meeting on March 23, discussing CTS funding, and the Special Council Meeting on March 30, discussing amalgamation.

4.2 OLS Update – J. Coles
The Chair encouraged Board Members to review the OLS training resources for Board governance.

4.3 CEO Update – K. Su
The CEO updated the Board about the following:

- **Community Needs Assessment** – reminder for Board members to complete the doodle poll to indicate availability for Board focus group.
- **Meeting with Mayor and CAO** – discussed the Central Library renovation. Library will present to Council in June to request a revision to the motion to release the project funding.

5. Consent Agenda

5.1 CEO Report – K. Su

5.2 Department Reports – February 2026

5.2 (a) Customer Service – J. Spera & M. Haanstra

5.2 (b) Innovation, Collections, and Technology – D. Bott

5.2 (c) Programming & Promotions – H. Jones

5.2 (d) Facilities – S. Mannella

5.2 (e) ILS Migration – D. Bott

5.3 Quarterly Progress Update on the 2026 Work Plan (Q1) – K. Su

MOTION: 2026-29 THAT the Consent Agenda be received as circulated except for Item 5.1 CEO Report pulled for discussion.
MOVED BY: N. Olmstead
SECONDED BY: Councillor G. Miller
MOTION CARRIED.

6. Discussion Reports

6.1 CEO Report and Central Security – J. Coles and P. Clausi

The Board discussed provincial defunding of Consumption & Treatment Services (CTS) and the potential impact on SCPL. The CEO and Business Administrator shared current strategies to mitigate the impact, including maintaining two security guards at Central through at least the end of June, as well as upgrades to security cameras, continued monitoring of incidents or trends, and staff training. The Board discussed Hamilton Public Library's (HPL) decision to require Library cards to enter their Central Library. The Board determined to request a delegation at City Council to share concerns regarding access to social services, CTS closures and HPL decision.

L. Littleton joined the meeting at 6:33pm

MOTION: 2026-30 THAT the Board request a delegation of the upcoming Council Meeting on March 23 and that the Chair and Business Administrator speak on behalf of the Library Board.
MOVED BY: Councillor J. Lindal
SECONDED BY: N. Olmstead
MOTION CARRIED.

6.2 Policy (G-10) Internet Use – D. Bott

The Board received Policy (G-10) Internet Use. The Board recommended additional amendments to remove individual interpretation of offensive content.

MOTION: 2026-31 THAT the Board approve amended Policy (G-10) Internet Use.
MOVED BY: K. Diiorio
SECONDED BY: L. Littleton
MOTION CARRIED.

6.3 June Board Meeting Date – K. Su

The Board received recommendation to reschedule the June Board meeting.

MOTION: 2026-32 THAT the Board approve rescheduling the June Board Meeting from June 11, 2026 to Thursday, June 18, 2026, at 6pm.
MOVED BY: Councillor G. Miller
SECONDED BY: P. Clausi
MOTION CARRIED.

7. In-Camera Session

7.1 In-Camera Agenda

7.1(a) Additions/Deletions to In-Camera Agenda
None

7.1(b) Adoption of In-Camera Agenda

MOTION: 2026-33 THAT the In-Camera Agenda be adopted.
MOVED BY: G. Riihimaki
SECONDED BY: N. Olmstead
MOTION CARRIED.

M. Haanstra, S. Mannella and J. Spera left the meeting at 7:15pm.

7.2 Motion to Move In-Camera

MOTION: 2026-34 THAT the Regular Meeting move to In-Camera Session to discuss labour relations and personal matters.
MOVED BY: K. Diorio
SECONDED BY: L. Littleton
MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting moved to In-Camera Session at 7:15pm.

D. Bott and H. Jones left the meeting at 7:29pm

L. DiDonato, L. Jenter, A. Maciukas and K. Su left the meeting at 7:32pm

K. Su returned to the meeting at 8:12pm.

7.6 Return to Open Session

MOTION: 2026-36 THAT the In-Camera Session return to Open Session.
MOVED BY: K. Diorio
SECONDED BY: N. Olmstead
MOTION CARRIED.

The Meeting returned to Open Session at 8:12pm.

8. Motion(s) Arising From In-Camera Session

MOTION: 2026-37 THAT the Board and Staff proceed as directed during the closed session.
MOVED BY: Councillor J. Lindal
SECONDED BY: Councillor G. Miller
MOTION CARRIED.

9. Motion to Adjourn

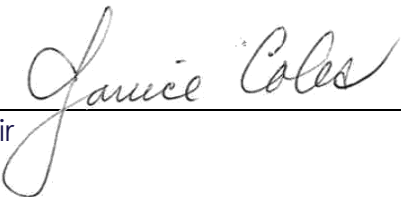
MOTION: 2026-38 THAT the Regular Meeting be adjourned.
MOVED BY: G. Riihimaki
SECONDED BY: N/A
MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 8:13pm.

10. Next Meeting / Upcoming Events

Volunteer Appreciation Event – Thursday, April 16, 2026 at 4:30 pm, Mills Room, Central Library

Board Meeting – Thursday, April 16, 2026 at 6:00 pm, Mills Room, Central Library & Microsoft Teams

Chair 

Secretary 