



Ajax Public Library Board

6.1 Board Meeting Minutes

Date: June 18, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Place: Rotary Room, Main Branch

Library Board Present

Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi (Acting Chair)
Deborah McDougall Jones (Vice-Chair)
Piyali Correya
Voytek Bialkowski

Mallik Fernando
Rebecca Hayes
Deputy Mayor Sterling Lee
Douglas Miller

Regrets

Sepelene Deonarine

Library Staff

Sarah Vaisler, Chief Librarian & Executive Officer and Secretary/Treasurer
Jason Tooral, Manager of Corporate Services
Kiley Percy, Interim Manager of Public Service
Gajen Mahendra, Coordinator of Safety and Operations
Laura McEwan, Coordinator of Collection Services
Sai Mahendran, Executive Assistant

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement

We would like to begin this meeting by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is situated within the traditional and treaty territory of the Mississaugas. More specifically, the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation, signatories of the Gunshot Treaty of 1788 and the Williams Treaties of 1923. This land is, and will continue to be, home to the Indigenous Peoples. Let us acknowledge the mistakes and traumas of the past through authenticity and support truth and reconciliation. Let us engage and celebrate Indigenous communities by being leaders of action in acknowledging the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's recommendations towards truth and reconciliation. Let us keep these principles close, as we continue towards truth and reconciliation and as we move forward with kindness and respect as a community.

3. Approval of the Agenda

26-06/01

Moved by: Deborah McDougall Jones

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Sterling Lee

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board approve the agenda of the June 18, 2026, Board Meeting.

CARRIED

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None.

5. Presentation

5.1 Six Nations Public Library – Feather Maracle, CEO/Director

Feather Maracle presented an overview of her portfolio and the history of Ontario First Nation Public Libraries to the Library Board. Ms. Maracle informed the Board of the reopening of the Six Nations Public Library scheduled for September 2026.

Piyali Correya left the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

6. Closed Session (Commenced at 7:46 p.m.)

26-06/02

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Sterling Lee

Seconded by: Douglas Miller

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board move into Closed Session.

CARRIED

6.1 Governance matters arising from Council's May 21, 2026, decision.

To discuss personal matters about an identifiable individual.

6.2 Human Resources Matter – Term and Conditions of Employment

To discuss personal matters about an identifiable individual.

Open Session (9:12 p.m.)

Piyali Correya joined the meeting at 9:12 p.m.

Motion to Ratify

26-06/04

Moved by: Voytek Bialkowski

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Sterling Lee

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board ratify all decisions made in Closed Session.

CARRIED

7. Consent Agenda

Items 7.10 & 7.5 were pulled for further discussion as item 9.8 & 9.9 in Other Business.

26-06/05

Moved by: Douglas Miller

Seconded by: Voytek Bialkowski

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board approve the Consent Agenda as amended.

CARRIED

8. Correspondence

8.1 Customer-Staff Feedback Video

A video compilation featuring customer feedback read out by Library Coordinators was presented to the Board.

9. Other Business

9.1 TAC Update – TAC Co-President, Ananya Parthasarathy

TAC Update was deferred as TAC representative was not present.

9.2 Council Update – Deputy Mayor Sterling Lee

Deputy Mayor Sterling Lee shared that Council is exploring a program with upper tiers of government to reduce development charges for projects within the site approval process. The Town of Ajax's Finance department is expected to present the options for participation in the program at a Special Council Meeting in August.

9.3 Internal Monitoring Report – Executive Limitations 3.9 Hiring and Termination of Staff

26-06/06

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Sterling Lee

Seconded by: Rebecca Hayes

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board receive the monitoring report EL 3.9 Hiring and Termination of Staff and agrees that it provides reasonable interpretation of the policy and evidence of compliance.

CARRIED

9.4 2027 Board Budget – Determination of the nature and cost of governance initiatives

26-06/07 Moved by: Douglas Miller
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Sterling Lee

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board agrees to the increased budget of \$17,100 for the following year.

CARRIED

9.5 Staff Report – Library Board Legacy Document

26-06/08 Moved by: Douglas Miller
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Sterling Lee

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board approve the 2022 – 2026 Library Board Legacy Document.

CARRIED

9.6 Staff Report – Library Recruitment Task Force

26-06/09 Moved by: Voytek Bialkowski
Seconded by: Deborah McDougall Jones

Motion that the Library Recruitment Task Force be comprised of the Council Representative, the Library Board Chair and Rebecca Hayes.

CARRIED

9.7 Committee Updates/Committee Composition Work Plan

26-06/10 Moved by: Rebecca Hayes
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Sterling Lee

Motion that the appointment of the fourth participant on the Policy Review Committee be deferred to the September 17, 2026, Board meeting.

CARRIED

9.8 Staff Report – 5 Year Collection Review Report

Rebecca Hayes commended the Collection Services department for its successful approach in maintaining a growing and well-performing collection.

26-06/11 Moved by: Rebecca Hayes
Seconded by: Mallik Fernando

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board receive this report for information.

CARRIED

9.9 Staff Report – June 2026 Chief Librarian’s Report

Deputy Mayor Lee praised the Library's Drag Queen Story Time event and raised questions regarding the proximity of protestors at the event.

Deputy Mayor Lee requested the CLEO to provide the Board with a brief overview of Library’s response to the customer feedback regarding children’s access to computers at the Library branches.

26-06/12 Moved by: Deputy Mayor Sterling Lee
Seconded by: Rebecca Hayes

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board receive this report for information.

CARRIED

10. Announcements

Métis Heritage Day event at the HMS Hall, Ajax Community Centre on Saturday, June 20 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Annual Sunrise Ceremony for National Indigenous Day at Paradise Park on Thursday, June 25 at 6:00 a.m.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

26-06/13 Moved by: Voytek Bialkowski
Seconded by: Douglas Miller

Motion that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

Next meeting: Thursday, September 17, 2026
7:00 p.m. Multi-Purpose Room, Audley Branch

Deputy Mayor Lee requested the CLEO to provide the Board with a brief overview of Library's response to the customer feedback regarding children's access to computers at the Library branches.

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board receive this report for information.

10. Announcements

Annual Sunrise Ceremony for National Indigenous Day at Paradise Park on Thursday, June 25 at 6:00 a.m.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

Motion that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

Next meeting: Thursday, September 17, 2026
7:00 p.m. Multi-Purpose Room, Audley Branch