



## Ajax Public Library Board Board Meeting Minutes

**Date:** June 19, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** Multi-Purpose Room, Audley Branch

### Library Board Present

Piyali Correya (Chair)

Deborah McDougall Jones (Vice-Chair)

Voytek Bialkowski

Sepelene Deonarine

Mallik Fernando

Rebecca Hayes

Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi

Regional Councillor Sterling Lee

### Regrets

Douglas Miller

### Library Staff

Sarah Vaisler, Chief Librarian & Executive Officer and Secretary/Treasurer

Melissa Redden, Manager of Public Service

Jason Tooral, Manager of Corporate Services

Kiley Percy, Coordinator of Marketing and Communications

Sai Mahendran, Executive Assistant

### 1. Call to Order

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

Voytek Bialkowski joined at 7:01 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.

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**3. Approval of the Agenda**

25-06/01

Moved by: Regional Councillor Sterling Lee  
Seconded by: Mallik Fernando

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board  
approves the agenda of the June 19, 2025,  
Board Meeting.

**CARRIED**

**4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

None.

**5. Guest Presentation:**

Sepelene Deonarine joined at 7:07 p.m.

**5.1 Web Usability Study – Kiley Percy, Coordinator of Marketing and Communications**

Kiley presented an overview of the Library's website usability study, highlighting the need to assess user experience and functionality. Using both qualitative and quantitative methods, the study aimed to identify pain points, improve navigation, and enhance accessibility. She shared key findings and outlined a phased approach to improvements through short-term, medium-term, and long-term strategic goals to create a more user-friendly and inclusive website.

**6. Consent Agenda**

25-06/02

Moved by: Regional Councillor Sterling Lee  
Seconded by: Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board  
approves the Consent Agenda as distributed.

**CARRIED**

**7. Correspondence**

**7.1 Customer Testimonial – Kaylan, James and Luke Thibeault**

Customer James Thibeault and his two children shared appreciation for the Library as a vital community hub, enjoying events like Lego Day and the variety of resources available. They value it as a welcoming place to play, explore new things and access materials for both kids and adults.

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## 8. Other Business

### 8.1 TAC Update – Ananya, TAC Representative

Ananya provided an update on recent TAC initiatives as the current term is ending. Over 200 study kits have been distributed as part of the TAC's final activities. She also highlighted the upcoming Game On event on June 27 as TAC's first summer program. The posting for new TAC member applications closes on June 23, with training for incoming members scheduled for July 8.

### 8.2 Council Update – Regional Councillor Sterling Lee

Regional Councillor Sterling Lee shared that Council is heading into its summer recess. Councillor Lee noted that a special Regional Council meeting was held on June 18 to establish 2026 budget guidelines for staff planning. Councillor Lee shared details on the upcoming Mayor & Council BBQ, taking place at the Ajax Community Centre on June 28.

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

25-06/03      Moved by: Sepelene Deonarine  
Seconded by: Deborah McDougall Jones

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

**CARRIED**

### 8.4 Board Budget: Determination of the nature and cost of governance initiatives for 2025

25-06/04      Moved by: Mallik Fernando  
Seconded by: Regional Councillor Sterling Lee

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board agrees the current budget of \$11,600 will remain the same for the following year.

**CARRIED**

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## **8.5 Committee Updates**

Sepelene Deonarine shared highlights from the Annual Board Assembly meeting held on June 10. Key topics included planning for the upcoming virtual conference in November 2025, operating budget applications, board networking, and roundtable discussions on incidents, security trends, strategic planning, Library Board involvement, partnerships, and fundraising.

## **8.6 Announcements**

The next Board meeting will be held in September.

Library's Book Vending Machine ribbon cutting ceremony held on July 17.

## **9. Closed Session (Commenced at 7:57 p.m.)**

### **9.1 To discuss security of the property of the Board.**

25-06/05      Moved by: Regional Councillor Sterling Lee  
Seconded by: Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi

Motion that Ajax Public Library Board move  
into Closed Session.

**CARRIED**

### **Open Meeting (8:28 p.m.)**

### **Ratify Decisions made in Closed Session**

25-06/06      Moved by: Rebecca Hayes  
Seconded by: Mallik Fernando

Motion that all decisions made in Closed  
Session be ratified.

**CARRIED**

## **10. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

25-06/07      Moved by: Deborah McDougall Jones  
Seconded by: Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi

Motion that the meeting be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

Next meeting:                      Thursday September 18, 2025  
7:00 p.m. Rotary Room, Main Branch