

Held: Thursday, May 21, 2026

Location: Central Library

Attendees: Councillor M. Brenner; Councillor S. Butt; Councillor L. Cook (departed at 9:15pm); K. Danylak; B. Kenworthy; A. Maginley (Chair); F. Mahjabeen; A. Mir; D. Sharma; S. Sheehy; K. Smuk

Absent:

Staff: S. Oza, (Acting) CEO/Director of Public Libraries; C. Moore, Director, Corporate Services & Collections; L. Wallis, (Acting) Executive Assistant; M. Carpino, CAO, City of Pickering; R. Perera, Deputy Clerk, City of Pickering;

1. Meeting Called to Order

A. Maginley called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

2. Land Acknowledgement

B. Kenworthy read the City of Pickering Land Acknowledgement.

3. Public Delegations

There were no Public Delegations.

4. Approval of Agenda, Conflict of Interest Disclosure

No interest was declared.

Motion #26.46

Moved by D. Sharma, Seconded by L. Cook **Motion THAT** the Agenda be adopted as presented.

Carried.

5. Presentations

5.1 CAO Townhall

Supported by a PowerPoint presentation M. Carpino introduced herself and outlined her roles and responsibilities as Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) for the City of Pickering; explaining that the CAO oversees the City's administrative operations, including administration, operations, communications, and staffing.

M. Carpino provided an overview of the City's capital and current budgets, including funding sources, allocation across the City, Region, and School Boards, and the services they support.

She highlighted capital projects and growth-related investments, including facility replacements, retrofits, demolitions, and asphalt resurfacing. Project selection is based on identified needs and overall community benefit, with a structured decision-making process to ensure initiatives that provide the greatest long-term value are prioritized and completed.

M. Carpino then discussed major projects such as the Dorsay Community & Heritage Center, Seaton Recreation and Library, and City Centre Park, sharing concept designs. These multipurpose facilities are intended to meet a range of community needs and have included public engagement through open houses.

In response to questions, it was noted that City Centre Park preliminary work is expected to be completed by the end of 2026, with full completion anticipated in 2028. Existing parking will remain, with access through on-street, mall, and recreation center parking; no additional spaces are planned.

M. Carpino also highlighted other major projects in Pickering, including those affecting transportation, amenities, and residential development. These projects are being led by a mix of the City, Region, Province (MTO), and private developers. She noted that Pickering continues to evolve from a commuter community to a city where people can both live and work.

The Board thanked M. Carpino for her in-depth presentation.

The Board asked how it could better support and align with City initiatives. M. Carpino noted the Library Board has demonstrated strong collaboration with the City in recent years and should continue to advocate for library priorities while maintaining open and ongoing communication.

The future of Central Library was also discussed. M. Carpino advised plans to include the Central Library were included in the City Centre design. While the project has been deferred to 2028, the vision remains.

M. Carpino departed at 9:15pm

6. Consent Agenda

6.1 Minutes of the Previous Board Meeting – April 23, 2026

6.2 Library Information Update - April

6.3 2024 Audited Financial Statement

Motion #26.52

Moved by S. Sheehy, Seconded by K. Danylak **Motion THAT** the items on the Consent Agenda be adopted.

Carried.

7. Correspondence

7.1 None.

8. Ends Discussion

8.1 None.

9. Staff Reports

9.1 Anti-Black Racism Working Group Update

S. Oza shared that ABRWG was selected by the City of Pickering to receive the 2025 City of Pickering Community Group Award in recognition of its outstanding contributions and service to the community. ABRWG members were acknowledged and presented with the award at the City's Civic Awards Celebration.

The group also met with the Library's Manager, Collections & Digital Experience, J. Derlatka, and Client Experience Specialist – Local History, D. Martin-Wylie, to learn about the new Local History Experience Centre at the Dorsay Community & Heritage Centre.

ABRWG is currently focusing on learning initiatives related to artificial intelligence and has been invited to participate in Pickering Public Library's 2026 Staff Learn Day to further engage and build connections with staff.

10. Executive Limitations Policies & Monitoring Reports

10.1 EL 04 Staff Conduct

A. Mir met with S. Oza prior to the meeting and noted that the report was clear and straightforward. He highlighted one update introduced in 2025 related to a harassment concern. Clarification was provided to staff who may be uncomfortable reporting to a manager or direct supervisor of the opposite sex to instead report such concerns to another manager of the same sex.

He concluded that the findings indicate the Pickering Public Library provides a positive and supportive working environment for staff.

Motion #26.53

Moved by A. Mir, Seconded by D. Sharma **Motion THAT** Board has received the monitoring report for policy EL 04 Staff Conduct as presented; and agrees that it provides reasonable interpretation of the policy and evidence of compliance; and THAT the Board adopt policy EL 04 Staff Conduct as presented, the policy being complete, sound, and effective.

Carried.

Executive Limitations policy EL 10 Communication and Counsel to the Board will be discussed at the next Board meeting. All members were asked to review prior to the next meeting. Assigned to D. Sharma.

11. Board Committee Reports

11.1 Report of the Building Committee

Councillor S. Butt shared that the Committee had planned to meet in May to discuss items related to the new Seaton Recreation Centre project. However, due to scheduling conflicts, the meeting has been deferred to the fall, as the matter is not considered urgent at this time.

11.2 Report of the CEO Recruitment Committee

A. Maginley reported that the Committee met on May 18, 2026. Updates from that meeting were shared and discussed with the full Board during the in-camera portion of the meeting.

12. Governance

12.1 None.

13. Board Policy Review

13.1 Board Policy Review

S. Oza provided a verbal update that the Board will be in receipt of the Purchasing, Hiring, Health & Safety, and Respect in the Workplace policies for review at the next Board Meeting planned for June 18, 2026.

14. New & Unfinished Business

14.1 Member Community Reports

A. Maginley reported that he attended the City of Pickering's Civic Awards in support of the Anti-Black Racism Working Group, which was recognized with the City's Community Group Award. The event was well attended and positively received.

S. Oza brought to the Board's attention that Pickering Public Library's 2025 TD Summer Reading Club received national recognition, placing third in Canada and earning an award from Library and Archives Canada. In recognition of this achievement, the Library's Children's Engagement Specialist was invited to attend the Marigold Library System Conference in Calgary to formally accept the award.

A. Maginley noted increased community discussion regarding the acquisition and repurposing of the Comfort Inn on Kingston Road, across from the George Ashe Library. The conversion of the site to a mental health asylum and refugee housing may result in impacts on the George Ashe Library, including increased foot traffic and a more diverse clientele. It was noted that this is something the Board and Senior Leadership should continue to monitor.

14.2 Appointment of Board Designate – Alberta Bill 28

S. Oza shared a verbal update with the Board that Alberta Bill 28, which addresses public library governance in Alberta, received Royal Assent.

S. Oza noted that additional advocacy options are still being explored and confirmed that the Board remains comfortable proceeding with plans to appear as delegates before City of Pickering Mayor and Council at the June Council Meeting.

Motion #26.53

~~Moved by [name], Seconded by [name] THAT the Board appoint S. Oza as its designate, with delegated authority to represent and communicate the Board's position, and, where appropriate, to endorse that position with respect to Alberta Bill 28, the Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026, in a manner consistent with the direction provided by the Board to the City of Pickering Municipal Council.~~

~~Carried.~~

15. Confidential Matter

The meeting format was restructured. The meeting began with item 15 Confidential Matter. The Board moved into a closed session.

Motion #26.47

THAT the Board move into IN-Camera in accordance with provisions of Section 16.1 (4) of the Ontario Libraries Act and Section 3.9 of the Pickering Public Library Board Bylaws, in the matters to be discussed are related to:

d) Personal matters about an identifiable individual.

Motion #26.48

THAT R. Perera, Deputy Clerk, City of Pickering, be appointed as secretary for the Pickering Public Library Board to record minutes and provide procedural advice as needed during the course of the in-camera portion of the meeting.

Motion #26.49

Confidential Motion Passed

Motion #26.50 & #26.51

[Rising from In-Camera] THAT the Board rise from the closed session of the Pickering Public Library Board Meeting and THAT the meeting be adjourned

A. Maginley shared a that a decision was made during in camera session.

R. Perera departed at 7:43pm.

16. Board Meeting Evaluation

Chair Maginley shared the results of the previous month's Board meeting self-evaluation. Board members were asked to complete the evaluation for the current Board meeting.

17. Date of Next Meeting and Adjournment

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, June 18, 2026, at 7:00 pm.

Motion #26.55

Moved by S. Sheehy, Seconded by K. Danylak **Motion THAT** the meeting be adjourned. **Carried.**

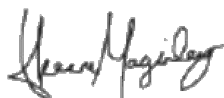
The meeting was adjourned at 9:29 pm.

Signature of Library CEO:



Date: June 19, 2026

Signature of Library Board Chair:



Date: June 19, 2026