GUIDING PRINCIPLES POLICY

Effective: September 24, 2026 Next Review: September 2030

PURPOSE

To articulate the core work and guiding principles of the London Public Library Board (Board).

BACKGROUND

A public library board is a governing board, a legal corporation, with the authority to make policy and to govern the library's affairs under the Ontario *Public Libraries Act*, RSO 1990, c P.44 (*Public Libraries Act*).

POLICY STATEMENT

The London Public Library (Library) endeavours to provide relevant, accessible, high-quality public library service. In accordance with the *Public Libraries Act*, the Board will seek to provide a comprehensive and efficient public library service that reflects the needs of Londoners. To this end, it is the policy of the Library that the Board achieve the following:

1. Define the Library's Purpose, Values and Strategic Goals in collaboration with the Chief Executive Officer & Chief Librarian (CEO), the Library's management team and other key collaborators, and articulate these through the Library's by-laws, policies and strategic plan;
2. Govern the Library, ensuring that all decision-making is made in accordance with the legal, political, financial and community context within which the Library operates;
3. Adopt and review the Library's by-laws and policies;
4. Review and monitor the Library's financial position, and the associated capital and operating budgets, enabling the Library to function annually and in projected long- term timelines;
5. Determine the manner and frequency of monitoring progress, using appropriate performance metrics, towards the achievement of the Library's Purpose, Values and Strategic Goals.
6. Hire a CEO in accordance with the needs of the Library and evaluate the CEO on the Library's performance, including achievement of the Library's Purpose, Values and Strategic Goals;
7. Ensure that the CEO, working with the Library's management team, has implemented an effective process to identify, minimize (where possible), monitor and manage the potential risks that the Library faces; and,

8. Allow the CEO the maximum range of decision-making, within the limitations of the *Executive Limitations Policy* of the Board, to enable creative agility in achieving the ends.

INQUIRIES

CEO & Chief Librarian