
The Blue Mountains Public Library Board Meeting

Meeting Date: April 16, 2026
Meeting Time: 1:00 p.m.
Location: Library Boardroom
Microsoft Teams

Prepared By: Jennifer Murley, CEO/Secretary of the Board

In Attendance: Carol Sackville-Duyvelshoff
Joanne de Visser (Vice-Chair)
Julia Scott (Chair)
Kristina Wichman
Laurey Gillies
Marie Swift
Shawn McKinlay (Council Rep) [Via Microsoft Teams]

Staff: Jennifer Murley, CEO
Franz Greenfield, Administrative Assistant

Absent: N/A
Regrets: N/A

A. Call to Order

- A.1 Moment of Reflection
The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. A Moment of Reflection was observed.
- A.2 Indigenous Acknowledgement Statement
The Chair read the Indigenous Acknowledgement Statement.
- A.3 Public Announcement
No members of the public were present.

B. Agenda

- B.1 Approval of the Agenda

BMPL-Resolution 2026-023

Moved by Joanne de Visser and seconded by Kris Wichman, THAT the Agenda of April 16, 2026, be approved as circulated, including any items added to the Agenda. CARRIED.

- B.2 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof
None.

C. Reports to be “Received as Information”

All reports to be received as information were received with additional discussion occurring as the items arose within the agenda.

BMPL-Resolution 2026-024

Moved by Carol Sackville-Duyvelshoff and seconded by Marie Swift, THAT this Board receive as information:

1. ADM.26.08 entitled “2026 Draft Action Plan-V2”
 2. FIN.26.01 entitled “Q4 2025 Finance Report”
 3. FIN.26.02 entitled “Q1 2026 Finance Report”
- CARRIED.

D. Minutes

- D.1 Previous Minutes

BMPL-Resolution 2026-025

Moved by Carol Sackville-Duyvelshoff and seconded by Joanne de Visser, THAT this Board approves the Blue Mountains Public Library Board minutes of March 19, 2026, as circulated; AND

THAT this Board receives the Blue Mountains Public Library Strategic Planning Steering Committee minutes of February 9, 2026, as information. CARRIED.

- D.2 Business Arising from the Minutes
None.

E. Communications with the Board

The deadline for registration was Monday, April 13, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.

- E.1 Deputations
None.
- E.2 Public Input on the Agenda
No members of the public were present.
- E.3 Correspondence
None.

F. Strategic Plan Updates & Action Items

F.1 Action Planning

1. **Discussion:** ADM.26.08 entitled “2026 Action Plan-V2”

The Board reviewed, discussed and edited the latest draft of the 2026 Action Plan before providing approval.

BMPL-Resolution 2026-026

Moved by Laurey Gillies and seconded by Kristina Wichman, THAT the Board approve the 2026 Action Plan as amended. CARRIED.

F.2 Strategic Plan Pillar: Community Hubs

1. **Verbal Report:** LES Washroom Renovation [Library CEO]

The project experienced a delay due to the contractor not submitting the required paperwork, but the Town has now received the documents. Construction timelines have not yet been established. Library staff will begin downsizing and reorganizing the contents of the storage room (“Dungeon”), as portions of the space will be repurposed to accommodate a hot water tank and the custodian’s closet.

F.3 Strategic Plan Pillar: Organizational Excellence

1. **Report:** FIN.26.01 entitled “Q4 2025 Finance Report »

CEO Murley noted no concerns for the fourth quarter of 2025. The Board can anticipate a surplus rollover from 2025.

Discussion arose regarding financial reporting needs. The Board acknowledged that preparing quarterly reports is time-consuming for CEO Murley and noted that the level of detail currently provided is not necessary. Instead, the Board is looking for a high-level overview, along with alerts when significant issues or concerns arise. They also highlighted that limited direct access to the status of reserve funds is impacting decision-making. Aside from two reserve funds held in the Board’s TD accounts, information on all other reserves must be obtained through the Town’s finance team.

The Board established a Finance Working Group consisting of Laurey Gillies, Julia Scott and Carol Sackville-Duyvelshoff to:

- Identify which financial metrics the Board needs to review and how frequently.
- Explore the possibility of moving reserve funds into an account controlled by the Board.

2. **Report:** FIN.26.02 entitled “Q1 2026 Finance Report »

It was noted that the net tax levy number has been incorrectly listed. CEO Murley to correct the error.

3. **Verbal Report:** Strategic Planning Steering Committee Update [Joanne de Visser]
Member de Visser provided an update on the Committee’s activities:

- All digital surveys are complete. The Committee is collaborating with Councillor Ardiel to release a survey for the agricultural community.

- Due to time constraints, the Committee will not hold an in-person session with the Craighleith Working Group, but input on Craighleith specific issues has been captured through the digital surveys.
- The Committee held a consultation session with the L.E. Shore Gallery's Arts & Culture Council (ACC).
- Next steps include presenting a formal report at the Board's May meeting and holding an in-person workshop with staff, Board and the ACC to review the consultation data and confirm the new strategic plan's pillars, vision, mission and mandates.

G. Roundtable

G.1 Roundtable—General updates by the Board

1) Community Updates and News:

- Times Colonist (March 24, 2026): [Cuts to library staff in federal prisons raise alarm bells](#)
- CBC News (March 30, 2026): [Library fears increased drug use at downtown London branch if supervised injection site closes.](#)
- Collingwood Today (April 1, 2026): [\[Collingwood\] Council votes to spend \\$15 k more on rec facility location search](#)
- CityNews Everywhere (April 2, 2026): [Alberta expanding book restrictions to public libraries.](#)
- Collingwood Today (April 8, 2026): [TBM supported 21 youth climate change projects through grant money](#)
- Collingwood Today (April 8, 2026): [TBM drops development charges by 40% to settle appeal](#)
- Soo Today (March 2, 2026): [Sault librarians rise up against city's TikTok ban](#)
- Simcoe Reformer (March 4, 2026): [New 15.5M Hagersville Library and Active Living Centre opens to public](#)

2) BMPL Events: a shortlist of special events occurring prior to the next meeting were provided.

- [The Word on the Bay Writer's Expo](#)
April 18, 2026 | 10-4 pm | L.E. Shore
- [Community Clean-Up](#)
April 18, 2026 | 2-4 pm | L.E. Shore
- [Robert Burcher Presents: My Summer of Glorious Freedom](#)
April 21, 2026 | 6-7:30 pm | L.E. Shore
- [TBM Volunteer Fair and Recognition Awards](#)
April 22, 2026 | 4-6 pm | Beaver Vallery Community Centre
- [Exhibit Opening: The Nature of Seeing](#)
May 2, 2026 | 2-4 pm | The Gallery at L.E. Shore
- [Pop in for an Art Pop Up with Beverley Smith](#)
May 3, 2026 | 2-4 pm | The Gallery at L.E. Shore
- [Author Talk: Joy Fielding](#)
May 7, 2026 | 7-9 pm | L.E. Shore

H. Key Messages

The Key Messages were determined by the Board and approved for release.

BMPL-Resolution 2026-027

Moved by Kristina Wichman and seconded by Marie Swift, THAT this Board approves the release of the April 2026 Key Messages. CARRIED.

I. Notice of Meeting Dates

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. in the L.E. Shore Boardroom.

All meetings and relevant agenda materials will be posted on the [Meeting and Agenda](#) page of Governance.

The Board took a brief break at 2:55 p.m., returning at 3:05 p.m.

J. Closed Session

BMPL-Resolution 2026-28

Moved by Carol Sackville-Duyvelshoff and seconded by Laurey Gillies, THAT, pursuant to sections 16.1(b) and 16.1(4)(c) of the Public Libraries Act, this Board do now move into closed session in order to address matters pertaining to personal matters about an identifiable individual and a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the Board. CARRIED.

The Board moved into closed session at 3:06 p.m.

Adjournment of Closed Session

The Board returned to public session at 4:00 p.m.

BMPL-Resolution 2026-29

Moved by Carol Sackville-Duyvelshoff and seconded by Marie Swift, THAT this Board approve all resolutions and recommendations arising from the closed session. CARRIED.

K. Adjourned

The Board adjourned at 4:01 p.m.

Julia Scott, Chair

Jennifer Murley, Board Secretary