

REPORT

Oakville Public Library Board

Meeting Date: October 27, 2022

FROM: Oakville Public Library

DATE: October 18, 2022

SUBJECT: CEO Update – October 27, 2022

RECOMMENDATION:

That CEO Update report be received for information.

KEY FACTS:

The following are key points for consideration with respect to this report:

- RBC has offered to host the OPL Book Bike through the winter at their Bronte branch.
- Caroline Macfarlane is the successful artist commissioned to create art for the Glen Abbey Kids Zone and outdoor space.
- November's Community Conversation will be with culture writer Elamin Abdelmahmoud, to discuss his memoir, *Son of Elsewhere*, and themes of belonging and identity.

BACKGROUND:

N/A

COMMENT/OPTIONS:

OPL Library to Go explores options for a winter home

OPL's Library to Go (Book Bike) program in partnership with the Bronte BIA comes to an end on October 31, 2022. This initiative put over 40 boxes of gently used books back into the Oakville community. To further strengthen our relationship with Bronte BIA, OPL is in talks with RBC (Bronte branch), a BIA member, which could entail offering the OPL Library to Go program indoors at RBC's Lakeshore/Nelson Street branch. This will provide Bronte residents the chance to find gently used books to read over the fall and winter months. OPL would continue to supply Friendly Finds books to fill the book bike and a Bronte BIA volunteer would restock

and keep the book bike space tidy and organized. OPL would also add a *Tap to Give* device to support donations to fund the ongoing maintenance of the book bike program.

Community Conversations: An evening with Elamin Abdelmahmoud

November's Community Conversation will be with culture writer Elamin Abdelmahmoud, to discuss his memoir, *Son of Elsewhere*, and themes of belonging and identity.

Elamin is a culture writer for BuzzFeed News and host of CBC's pop culture show *Pop Chat*. He was a founding co-host of the CBC Politics podcast *Party Lines*, and he is a contributor to *The National's At Issue* panel. His work has appeared in *Rolling Stone*, *the Globe and Mail*, and others. In his debut collection, Elamin shares a one-of-a-kind reflection on Blackness, faith, language, pop culture, and the challenges and rewards of finding your way in the world. *Son of Elsewhere* is a collection of essays explore how we pick and choose from our experience and environment to help us in the ongoing project of defining who we are.

Glen Abbey Art Project – Stage 2

Caroline Macfarlane is the successful artist commissioned to create art for the Glen Abbey Kids Zone and outdoor space.

Caroline is an artist, collaborative designer and documentary filmmaker. She has a deep passion for transforming the built environment through colour and collaboration and sees filmmaking as a powerful tool for education, political engagement, and personal storytelling. After working as a director of the OCAD University Student Gallery and community coordinator OCAD University for five years. She moved to New York City to deepen her education in social justice, collaborative design and documentary filmmaking. She graduated with an MS in Media Studies from the New School and continues to make films and colourful art from her home in Toronto. Her recent short *"Falling Forward"* won *"Outstanding Documentary Short"* at the Art of Brooklyn Film Festival (2020).

OPL is current working with Caroline to schedule her facilitated art program dates in Q1 2023. A detailed schedule will be brought to the board when confirmed.

October FOL Book Sale

In June 2022, the Friends of the Library (FOL) book sale returned for the first time in over two years and was a huge success. On October 26, 2022, FOL will be hosting its second book sale of the year at Central Branch. The book sale will be operated and staffed exclusively by the Friends of the Library's volunteer committee. All proceeds from the book sale goes to helping OPL expand library services and collections in order to create a welcoming space for all members of our community.

Upcoming Book Sale Dates:

- *Fall Sale: October 26-29, 2022*
- *Winter Sale: December 9-10, 2022*

APPENDICES:

N/A

Prepared and Submitted by:
Tara Wong, CEO