

REPORT

Oakville Public Library Board

Meeting Date: June 20, 2024

FROM: Oakville Public Library

DATE: June 11, 2024

SUBJECT: OPL Partnership Policy – June 20, 2024

RECOMMENDATION:

That the updated OPL Partnership Policy be received for approval.

KEY FACTS:

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

- The OPL Partnership Policy (Appendix A) has been updated from the previous version developed in April 2019 (Appendix B), refining the framework for assessing and initiating partnerships.
- The new policy aligns all partnerships with OPL's mission, vision, and core values, ensuring a unified strategic direction in collaborative efforts.
- Unlike the Fund Development Policy focused on monetary contributions, the Partnership Policy governs non-financial collaborations, emphasizing strategic and community value.
- Partnerships are prioritized that foster a vibrant, inclusive community, extending the library's reach and impact on public service and community engagement.
- The policy clarifies roles and authority levels within the OPL governance structure for approving partnerships, enhancing transparency and accountability in decision-making processes.
- The board was presented with this policy during the May 16th, 2024, board meeting with no changes requested.

BACKGROUND:

The Oakville Public Library (OPL) has a long-standing tradition of enriching the community through meaningful partnerships and collaborations. As part of our commitment to serve as a central hub of knowledge, culture, and innovation, OPL actively engages with a diverse array of external entities including local organizations, corporations, and individuals. This proactive approach ensures that our programs and services are not only reflective of but also directly responsive to the evolving needs of the Oakville community.

COMMENT/OPTIONS:

The OPL Partnership Policy (Appendix A) has been updated from the previous version developed in April 2019 (Appendix B). While the Fund Development Policy encourages monetary gifts to enhance library services, the updated OPL Partnership Policy articulates our commitment to forming strategic partnerships that deeply align with OPL's mission, vision, and values, as outlined in our strategic plan.

This policy was updated to provide a clearer framework for decision-making, emphasizing partnerships that enhance our library's offerings and foster a vibrant, inclusive community atmosphere.

This policy is aimed at ensuring that all partnerships are strategically focused to extend the reach and impact of library services. As OPL continues to navigate the dynamic landscape of community needs and opportunities, the Partnership Policy will serve as a guideline for our ongoing efforts to promote knowledge, inclusivity, and growth within Oakville.

The board was presented with this policy during the May 16th, 2024, board meeting with no changes requested.

APPENDICES:

Appendix A - Partnership Policy (2024)

Appendix B - Partnership Policy (2019)

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