

REPORT

Oakville Public Library Board

Meeting Date: May 15, 2025

FROM: Oakville Public Library

DATE: May 6, 2025

SUBJECT: CEO Update – May 15, 2025

RECOMMENDATION:

That CEO Update report be received for information.

KEY FACTS:

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

- On April 29th, Caitlyn Hicks, Director, Customer Experience presented at the Joshua Creek Residents Association Annual General Meeting.
- On May 8th, Oakville Public Library launched the **Folarin Agbaje African Comics Collection**, a new graphic novel series created in memory of Folarin Agbaje, a valued OPL employee who passed away last May.
- Congratulatory letters have been sent to both Members of Parliament elected in the recent federal election.

BACKGROUND:

N/A

COMMENT/OPTIONS:

Joshua Creek Resident's Association

On April 29th, Caitlyn Hicks, Director, Customer Experience presented at the Joshua Creek Residents Association Annual General Meeting. The focus of the presentation was to give an update on the New Central Project.

The presentation was well received. The attendees had a number of questions related to the plans for the current site once the library moves, whether residential was planned to co-located on the new site and whether parking would be available at the new location.

Folarin Agbaje African Comics Collection

On May 8, Oakville Public Library launched the **Folarin Agbaje African Comics Collection**, a new graphic novel series created in memory of Folarin Agbaje, a valued OPL employee who passed away last May.

Folarin was deeply passionate about comics and their accessibility and played a key role in introducing Nigerian graphic novels to the community Toronto community through his volunteer work with the Canadian Open Comics Library. In partnership with the Canadian Open Comic Library, which curated an initial collection in his honour, OPL has built on this work to establish a permanent collection now available to our customers.

The initiative not only celebrates Folarin's legacy, but also supports OPL's commitment to diverse, inclusive storytelling and accessible public resources.

You can view the full collection here:

➡ [Folarin Agbaje African Comics Collection](#)

2025 Federal Election

On April 28, Canada held a federal election, resulting in a minority government led by the Liberal Party. The outcome suggests a continued need for cross-party collaboration in Parliament, which may shape the pace and nature of federal policy decisions in the coming years. While no single party holds a majority, the Liberals have retained enough seats to continue governing with support from other parties on key legislation.

Oakville is represented by two federal ridings, and the election results were as follows:

- **Oakville East** – Anita Anand (Liberal Party, re-elected)
- **Oakville West** – Sima Acan (Liberal Party, newly elected)

In keeping with OPL's commitment to proactive government relations, congratulatory letters have been sent to both Members of Parliament. Each letter included an invitation to visit their local OPL branch, offering an opportunity to connect firsthand with the services and see the community impact the library delivers in their constituencies.

Prepared and submitted by:
Tara Wong, CEO