

BYLAW

A bylaw relating generally to the transaction of the affairs of

FRIENDS OF THE GUELPH PUBLIC LIBRARY

(the “Friends”)

WHEREAS the Friends received charitable status (81462 3138 RR0001) issued by the Canadian Revenue Agency on June 13, 2013.

AND WHEREAS it is required to amend the bylaws relating to the transaction of the affairs of the Friends.

BE IT ENACTED as a bylaw of the Friends as follows:

SECTION 1 - GENERAL

1.01 Revocation

The bylaw dated April 19, 2023, being bylaws relating generally to the transaction of the affairs of the Friends are hereby revoked.

1.02 Definitions

In this bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires:

- a) "Board" means the Board of Directors of the Friends;
- b) The Guelph Public Library System shall hereinafter be referred to as “the Library”;
- c) The Guelph Public Library Board shall hereinafter be referred to as “the Library Board”;
- d) The Chief Executive Officer of the Guelph Public Library shall hereinafter be referred to as “the Library CEO”;
- e) "Bylaws" means this bylaw (including the schedules to this bylaw) and all other bylaws of the Friends as amended and which are, from time to time, in force;
- f) "Chair" means the Chair of the Board;
- g) "Friends" means the Friends of the Guelph Public Library that has passed these bylaws;
- h) "Director" means an individual occupying the position of Director on the Board of the Friends;
- i) "Member" means a member of the Friends;
- j) "Members" means the collective membership of the Friends;
- k) “Supporters” means volunteers, donors, former members and members of the broader FGPL community;
- l) "Officer" means an officer of the Friends (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer).

1.03 Interpretation

Words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa, and words importing one gender include all genders.

1.04 Severability and Precedence

The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this bylaw shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining provisions of this bylaw.

1.05 Execution of Contracts

Deeds, transfers, assignments, contracts, obligations and other instruments in writing requiring execution by the Friends may be signed by any two of its Signing Officers or Directors. In addition, the Board may from time to time direct the manner in which and the person by whom a particular document or type of document shall be executed. Any Director or Officer may certify a copy of any instrument, resolution, bylaw or other document of the Friends to be a true copy thereof.

1.06 Dissolution

Upon the dissolution of the Friends, and after the payment of all debts and liabilities, its remaining properties of the Friends shall be distributed or disposed of to charitable organizations which carry on their work solely in Ontario.

SECTION 2 - DIRECTORS

2.01 Election and Term

The Directors shall be elected by the Members. The term of office of the Directors shall be three years. A Director may be elected or appointed for a maximum of three consecutive three-year terms to a maximum term of nine years, after which the Director is not eligible for election or appointment until one full year has passed since the date of the Director's retirement.

2.02 Eligibility of Board Directors

Currently serving elected City of Guelph officials, appointed Library Board officials and Library employees of the City of Guelph shall not be permitted to serve on the Board, except that one Library Board member and the Library CEO shall be ex officio liaison representatives to the Board.

2.03 Vacancies

The office of a Director shall be vacated immediately:

- a) if the Director resigns office by written notice to the Chair or Secretary, which resignation shall be effective at the time it is received by the Chair or Secretary or at the time specified in the notice, whichever is later;
- b) if the Director dies or becomes bankrupt;
- c) if the Director is found to be incapable of managing property by a court or under Ontario law; or
- d) if, at a meeting of the Members, a resolution is passed by a majority of the votes cast by the Members removing the Director before the expiration of the Director's term of office.

2.04 Filling Vacancies

A vacancy on the Board shall be filled as follows:

- a) a quorum of Directors may fill a vacancy among the Directors;
- b) if there is not a quorum of Directors or there has been a failure to elect the minimum number of Directors set out in the bylaws, the Directors in office shall, without delay, call a special meeting of Supporters to fill the vacancy and, if they fail to call such a meeting, the meeting may be called by any Member;
- c) if the vacancy occurs as a result of the Members removing a Director, the Members may fill the vacancy by a majority vote and any Director elected to fill the vacancy shall hold office for the remainder of the removed Director's term; and
- d) the Board may fill any other vacancy by a majority vote, and the appointee shall hold office for the remainder of the unexpired portion of the term of the vacating Director. After that, the appointee shall be eligible to be elected as a Director.

2.05 Committees

Committees may be established by the Board as follows:

- a) The Board may appoint from their number a Managing Director or a Committee of Directors and may delegate to the Managing Director or Committee any of the powers of the Directors; and
- b) The Board may establish any committee (either Standing or Ad Hoc) it determines necessary for the execution of the Board's responsibilities. The Board shall determine the composition and terms of reference for any such committee. The Board may dissolve any committee by resolution at any time.

2.06 Remuneration of Directors

The Directors shall serve as such without remuneration and no Director shall directly or indirectly receive any profit from occupying the position of Director; subject to the following:

- a) Directors may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses they incur in the performance of their Directors' duties;
- b) Directors may be paid remuneration and reimbursed for expenses incurred in connection with services they provide to the Friends in their capacity other than as Directors, provided that the amount of any such remuneration or reimbursement is:
 - i. considered reasonable by the Board;
 - ii. approved by the Board for payment by resolution passed before such payment is made; and
 - iii. in compliance with the conflict-of-interest provisions of the bylaws; and
- c) Notwithstanding the foregoing, no Director shall be entitled to any remuneration for services as a Director or in other capacity unless the laws applicable to charitable corporations are complied with, including Ontario Regulation 4/01 made under the Charities Accounting Act.

2.07 Powers

The Directors of the Friends may administer the affairs of the Friends in all things and make or cause to be made for the Friends, in its name, any kind of contract which the Friends may lawfully enter into and, save as hereinafter provided, generally, may exercise all such other powers and do all such other acts and things as the Friends is by its charter or otherwise authorized to exercise and do.

Without in any way derogating from the foregoing, the Directors are expressly empowered from time to time, to purchase, lease or otherwise acquire, alienate, sell, exchange or otherwise dispose of shares, stocks; rights, warrants, options and other securities, lands, buildings and other property, movable or immovable, real or personal, or any right or interest therein owned by the Friends, for such consideration and upon such terms and conditions as they may deem advisable.

SECTION 3 - BOARD MEETINGS

3.01 Quorum

A majority of the directors shall form a quorum for the transaction of business.

3.02 Calling of Meetings

Meetings of the Directors may be called by the Chair or any two Directors at any time and any place on notice as required by this bylaw giving not less than five days notice to each Director, stating the time and place of the meeting.

3.03 Regular Meetings

The Board may fix the place and time of regular Board meetings and send a copy of the resolution fixing the place and time of such meetings to each Director, and no other notice shall be required for any such meetings.

3.04 Notice

Notice of the time and place for the holding of a meeting of the Board shall be given in the manner provided in Section 10 of this bylaw to every Director of the Friends not less than five days before the date that the meeting is to be held. Notice of a meeting is not necessary if all of the Directors are present, and none objects to the holding of the meeting, or if those absent have waived notice or have otherwise signified their consent to the holding of such meeting. If a quorum of Directors is present, each newly elected or appointed Board may, without notice, hold its first meeting immediately following the annual meeting.

3.05 Chair

The Chair shall preside at Board meetings. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair shall act as the Chair. In the absence of both the Chair and the Vice-Chair, the Directors present shall choose one of their number to act as the Chair.

3.06 Voting

Each Director has one vote, except the Chair. Questions arising at any Board meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes of those present and eligible to vote. In case of an equality of votes, the Chair shall have the casting vote.

3.07 Participation by Telephone or Other Communications Facilities

If all of the Directors of the Friends consent, a Director may participate in a meeting of the Board or of a committee of Directors by telephonic or electronic means that permits all participants to communicate adequately with each other during the meeting. A Director participating by such means is deemed to be present at that meeting.

SECTION 4 - FINANCIAL

4.01 Banking

The Board shall by resolution from time to time designate the bank in which the money, bonds or other securities of the Friends shall be placed for safekeeping.

4.02 Financial Year

The financial year of the Friends ends on March 31st in each year or on such other date as the Board may from time to time by resolution determine.

4.03 Books and Records

The Board shall see that all necessary books and records of the Friends required by the bylaws of the Friends or by any applicable statute or law are regularly and properly kept.

4.04 Borrowing

The Directors may from time to time:

- a) borrow money on the credit of the Friends; or
- b) issue, sell or pledge securities of the Friends; or
- c) charge, mortgage, hypothecate or pledge all or any of the real or personal property of the Friends, including book debts, rights, powers, franchises and undertakings, to secure any securities or any money borrowed, or other debt, or any other obligation or liability of the Friends; or
- d) the borrowing power of the Friends pursuant to any bylaw passed shall be limited to borrowing money for current operating expenses, provided that the borrowing power of the Friends shall not be so limited if it borrows on the security of real or personal property.

From time to time the Directors may authorize any director, officer or employee of the Friends or any other person to make arrangements with reference to the moneys borrowed or to be borrowed as aforesaid as to the terms and conditions of the loan thereof, and as to the securities to be given therefore, with power to vary or modify such arrangements, terms and conditions and to give such additional securities for any moneys borrowed or remaining due by the Friends as the directors may authorize, and generally to manage, transact and settle the borrowing of money by the Friends.

SECTION 5 - OFFICERS

5.01 Officers

The Board shall appoint from among the Directors a Chair and may appoint any other person to be Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Secretary at its first meeting following the annual meeting of the Friends. The office of Treasurer and Secretary may be held by the same person and may be

known as the Secretary-Treasurer. The Board may appoint such other Officers and agents as it deems necessary, and who shall have such authority and shall perform such duties as the Board may prescribe from time to time.

5.02 Office Held at Board's Discretion

Any Officer shall cease to hold office upon resolution of the Board.

5.03 Duties

Officers shall be responsible for the duties assigned to them and they may delegate to others the performance of any or all of such duties.

5.04 Duties of the Chair

The Chair shall perform or delegate, where permitted, the duties described in sections 3.04 and 9.05, the duties described in Schedule A, and such other duties as may be required by law or as the Board may determine from time to time.

5.05 Duties of the Treasurer

The Treasurer shall perform or delegate, where permitted, the duties described in Schedule B and such other duties as may be required by law or as the Board may determine from time to time.

5.06 Duties of the Secretary

The Secretary shall perform the duties described in Schedule C and such other duties as may be required by law or as the Board may determine from time to time.

SECTION 6 - PROTECTION OF DIRECTORS AND OTHERS

6.01 Protection of Directors and Officers

No Director, Officer or committee member of the Friends shall be liable for the acts, neglects or defaults of any other Director, Officer, committee member or employee of the Friends or for joining in any receipt or for any loss, damage or expense happening to the Friends through the insufficiency or deficiency of title to any property acquired by resolution of the Board or for or on behalf of the Friends or for the insufficiency or deficiency of any security in or upon which any of the money of or belonging to the Friends shall be placed out or invested or for any loss or damage arising from the bankruptcy, insolvency or tortious act of any person, firm or Corporation with whom or which any moneys, securities or effects shall be lodged or deposited or for any other loss, damage or misfortune whatever which may happen in the execution of the duties of his or her respective office or trust provided that they have complied with the Friends' bylaws.

6.02 Indemnity

Every director and officer of the Friends and his/her heirs, executors and administrators and estate and effects, respectively shall from time to time and at all times be indemnified and saved harmless out of the funds of the Friends from and against all times be indemnified and saved harmless out of the funds of the Friends from and against:

- a) all costs, charges and expenses whatsoever that such director or officer sustains or incurs in or about any action, suit or proceeding that is brought, commenced or prosecuted

against him for or in respect of any act, deed, matter or thing whatsoever made, done or permitted by him/her in or about the execution of the duties of his/her office; and

- b) all other costs, charges and expenses that he/she sustains or incurs in or about or in relation to the affairs of the Friends except such costs, charges or expenses as are occasioned by his/her own willful neglect or default.

6.03 Validity of Actions

No act or proceeding of any Director or Board shall be deemed invalid or ineffective by reason of the subsequent ascertainment of any irregularity in regard to such act or proceeding or the qualification of such Director or Board.

6.04 Director's Reliance on Financial Reviewers

Directors may rely upon the accuracy of any statement or report prepared by the Friends' financial reviewers and shall not be responsible or held liable for any loss or damage resulting from acting upon such statement or report.

SECTION 7 - CONFLICT OF INTEREST

7.01 Conflict of Interest

A Director who is in any way directly or indirectly interested in a contract or transaction, or proposed contract or transaction, with the Board shall make the disclosure. No such Director shall attend any part of a meeting of Directors or vote on any resolution to approve any such contract or transaction.

7.02 Charitable Corporations

No Director shall, directly or through an associate, receive a financial benefit, through a contract or otherwise, from the Friends unless the provisions of the law applicable to charitable corporations are complied with.

SECTION 8 – MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS

8.01 Members

Membership in the Friends shall consist of such persons who are Board members and Honorary Life members.

8.02 Membership

A membership in the Friends is not transferable and automatically terminates if the Member resigns or such membership is otherwise terminated.

8.03 Disciplinary Act or Termination of Membership for Cause

Upon 15 days' written notice to a Member, the Board may pass a resolution authorizing disciplinary action or the termination of membership for violating any provision of the bylaws.

The notice shall set out the reasons for the disciplinary action or termination of membership. The Member receiving the notice shall be entitled to give the Board a written submission opposing the disciplinary action or termination not less than 5 days before the end of the 15-day period. The

Board shall consider the written submission of the Member before making a final decision regarding disciplinary action or termination of membership.

8.04 Supporters

Supporters shall include all individuals who are interested in and participate in Friends' activities.

SECTION 9 - MEMBERS' MEETINGS

9.01 Annual Meeting

The annual meeting shall be held on a day and at a place in Ontario at a location fixed by the Board. Any Member, upon request, shall be provided, not less than 14 days before the annual meeting, with a copy of the approved financial statements, financial reviewers' report and other financial information required by the bylaws.

The business transacted at the annual meeting shall include:

- a) receipt of the agenda;
- b) receipt of the minutes of the previous annual and subsequent special meetings;
- c) consideration of the financial statements;
- d) report of the Treasurer;
- e) reappointment or new appointment of the financial reviewers for the coming year;
- f) election of Directors; and
- g) such other or special business as may be set out in the notice of meeting.

No other item of business shall be included on the agenda for annual meeting unless a Member's proposal has been given to the Secretary prior to the giving of notice of the annual meeting, so that such item of new business can be included in the notice of annual meeting.

9.02 Special Meetings

The Directors may call a special meeting of the Members. The Board shall convene a special meeting on written requisition of not less than one-tenth of the Members for any purpose connected with the affairs of the Friends, within 21 days from the date of the deposit of the requisition.

9.03 Notice

Written notice at least 21 days before any annual Member's meeting and at least 10 days before any special Members' meeting shall be given in the manner specified in the bylaws to each Member. Notice of any meeting where special business will be transacted must contain sufficient information to permit the Members to form a reasoned judgment on the decision to be taken. Notice of each meeting must remind the Member of the right to vote by proxy.

9.04 Quorum

A quorum for the transaction of business at a Members' meeting is a majority of the Members entitled to vote at the meeting, whether present in person or by proxy. If a quorum is present at

the opening of a meeting of the Members, the Members present may proceed with the business of the meeting, even if a quorum is not present throughout the meeting.

9.05 Chair of the Meeting

The Chair shall be the chair of the Members' meeting; in the Chair's absence, the Vice-Chair shall act as chair; in the absence of both the Chair and the Vice-Chair, the Members present at any Members' meeting shall choose another Director as chair and if no Director is present or if all of the Directors present decline to act as chair, the Members present shall choose one of their number to chair the meeting.

9.06 Voting of Members

Business arising at any Members' meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes unless otherwise required by the bylaw provided that:

- a) each Member shall be entitled to one vote at any meeting except the chair of the meeting, who shall not have a vote;
- b) votes shall be taken by a show of hands among all Members present;
- c) an abstention shall not be considered a vote cast;
- d) before or after a show of hands has been taken on any question, the chair of the meeting may require, or any Member may demand, a written ballot. A written ballot so required or demanded shall be taken in such manner as the chair of the meeting shall direct;
- e) if there is a tie vote, the Chair of the meeting cast the deciding vote; and
- f) whenever a vote by show of hands is taken on a question, unless a written ballot is required or demanded, a declaration by the chair of the meeting that a resolution has been carried or lost and an entry to that effect in the minutes shall be conclusive evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of votes recorded in favour of or against the motion.

9.07 Adjournments

The Chair may, with the majority consent of any Members' meeting, adjourn the same from time to time and no notice of such adjournment need be given to the Members, unless the meeting is adjourned by one or more adjournments for an aggregate of 30 days or more. Any business may be brought before or dealt with at any adjourned meeting which might have been brought before or dealt with at the original meeting in accordance with the notice calling the same.

9.08 Persons Entitled to be Present

The only persons entitled to attend a Members' meeting are the Members, the Directors, and the financial reviewers of the Corporation. Any other person may be admitted if invited by the Chair of the meeting or with the majority consent of the Members present at the meeting.

9.09 Meetings of Supporters

From time to time, the Board will call a meeting of Supporters to seek their input.

SECTION 10 - NOTICES

10.01 Service

Any notice required to be sent to any Member or Director or to the financial reviewers shall be provided by telephone, delivered personally, or sent by prepaid mail, facsimile, email or other electronic means to any such Member or Director at their latest address as shown in the records of the Board and to the financial reviewers or the person who has been appointed to conduct a review engagement at its business address, or if no address be given then to the last address of such Member or Director known to the secretary; provided always that notice may be waived or the time for the notice may be waived or abridged at any time with the consent in writing of the person entitled thereto.

10.02 Computation of Time

Where a given number of days' notice or notice extending over any period is required to be given, the day of service or posting of the notice shall not, unless it is otherwise provided, be counted in such number of days or other period.

10.03 Error or Omission in Giving Notice

No error or accidental omission in giving notice of any Board meeting or any Members' meeting shall invalidate the meeting or make void any proceedings taken at the meeting.

SECTION 11 - ADOPTION AND AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

11.01 Amendments to bylaws

The Members may from time to time amend this bylaw by a majority of the votes cast. The Board may from time to time pass or amend this bylaw other than a provision respecting the transfer of a membership or to change the method of voting by members not in attendance at a meeting of members.

Passed by the Board on the ____ day of _____, 20__ and confirmed by the members at a meeting of the members duly called for that purpose the ____ day of _____, 20__.

Ian Findlay, Chair

Tara Signorelli, Secretary

SCHEDULE A

CHAIR

Position Description of the Chair

Role Statement

The Chair provides leadership to the Board, ensures the integrity of the Board's process and represents the Board to outside parties. The Chair co-ordinates Board activities in fulfilling its governance responsibilities and facilitates co-operative relationships among Directors and between the Board and senior management, if any, of the Friends. The Chair ensures the Board discusses all matters relating to the Board's mandate.

Responsibilities

Agendas

Establish agendas aligned with annual Board goals and preside over Board meetings. Ensure meetings are effective and efficient for the performance of governance work. Ensure that a schedule of Board meetings is prepared annually.

Direction

Serve as the Board's central point of communication with the senior management, if any, of the Friends; provide guidance to senior management, if any, regarding the Board's expectations and concerns. In collaboration with senior management, develop standards for Board decision-support packages that include formats for reporting to the Board and level of detail to be provided to ensure that management strategies and planning and performance information are appropriately presented to the Board.

Performance Appraisal

Lead the Board in monitoring and evaluating the performance of senior management, if any, through an annual process.

Work Plan

Ensure that an Board work plan is developed and implemented that includes annual goals for the Board and embraces continuous improvement.

Representation

Serve as the Board's primary contact with the public.

Reporting

Report regularly to the Board on issues relevant to its governance responsibilities.

Board Conduct

Set a high standard for Board conduct and enforce policies and bylaws concerning Directors' conduct.

Mentorship

Serve as a mentor to other Directors. Ensure that all Directors contribute fully. Address issues associated with underperformance of individual Directors.

Succession Planning

Ensure succession planning occurs for senior management, if any, and Board.

Committee Membership

May serve as ex officio member on any Board committee.

VICE-CHAIR

Role Statement

The Vice-Chair takes on the role of the Chair in the Chair's absence or by request of the Chair.

SCHEDULE B

TREASURER

Position Description of the Treasurer

Role Statement

The Treasurer works collaboratively with the Chair and senior management, if any, to support the Board in achieving its fiduciary responsibilities.

Responsibilities

Custody of Funds

The Treasurer shall have the custody of the funds and securities of the Friends and shall keep full and accurate accounts of all assets, liabilities, receipts and disbursements of the Friends in the books belonging to the Friends and shall deposit all monies, securities and other valuable effects in the name and to the credit of the Friends in such chartered bank or trust company, or, in the case of securities, in such registered dealer in securities as may be designated by the Board from time to time. The Treasurer shall disburse the funds of the Friends as may be directed by proper authority taking proper vouchers for such disbursements, and shall render to the Chair and directors at the regular meeting of the Board, or whenever they may require it, an accounting of all the transactions and a statement of the financial position, of the Friends. The Treasurer shall also perform such other duties as may from time to time be directed by the Board.

Board Conduct

Maintain a high standard for Board conduct and uphold policies and bylaws regarding Directors' conduct, with particular emphasis on fiduciary responsibilities.

Mentorship

Serve as a mentor to other Directors.

Financial Statement

Present to the Members at the annual meeting as part of the annual report, the financial statement of the Friends approved by the Board together with the report of the financial reviewers.

SCHEDULE C

SECRETARY

Position Description of the Secretary

Role Statement

The Secretary works collaboratively with the Chair and senior management to support the Board in fulfilling its fiduciary responsibilities.

Responsibilities

Board Conduct

Support the Chair in maintaining a high standard for Board conduct and uphold policies and the bylaws regarding Directors' conduct, with particular emphasis on fiduciary responsibilities.

Document Management

Keep a roll of the names and addresses of the Members. Ensure the proper recording and maintenance of minutes of all meetings of the Friends, the Board and Board committees. Attend to correspondence on behalf of the Board. Have custody of all minute books, documents, and ensure that they are maintained as required by law. Ensure that all reports are prepared and filed as required by law or requested by the Board.

Meetings

Give such notice as required by the bylaws of all meetings of the Friends, the Board and Board committees. Attend all meetings of the Friends, the Board and Board committees, as required.