



Halifax Regional Library Board
Special Meeting - Agenda
Zoom
June 9, 12:00-1:00pm

Present

Ayo Aladejebi
Sue Murtagh
Laura Godsoe
Killian McParland
Mary-Ann Rowlston
Christian Browne
Laura White
Jan Jensen

Regrets – Tony Mancini

Staff

Asa Kachan, CEO & Chief Librarian
Alison Lucio, Manager Governance & Risk
Mairead Barry, Director of Strategy
Cathy Maddigan, Director, Human Resources
Hannah Colville, Senior Service Manager, Western District
Kathleen Morris, Director, Central District
Janice Fiander, Senior Service Manager, Basin District
Cynthia Gatto, Senior Service Manager, Eastern District
Kevin Crick, Manager, IT

Union Representatives – Kassondra Torraville & Rose Gillam

**As this is a specially called meeting, the minutes from the May 8, 2025 meeting will be reviewed for approval at the next full meeting of the Board.*

1.0 Call to Order

Board Chair Ayo Aladejebi called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to this special meeting to review and approve the Strategic Plan.

Ayo requested that Kassondra Torraville introduce incoming union representative, Rose Gillam.

2.0 Approval of the agenda and minutes

Mary-Ann Rowlston put forward a motion to approve the agenda as circulated. This motion was seconded by Laura Godsoe.

Motion approved.

3.0 Chair's Message

Board Chair Ayo Aladejebi shared his reflection of gratitude for everyone who has touched the development of the Strategic Plan; this has been an incredible effort. Ayo shared that he belongs to the Nation of Yoruba and gratitude is seen as path or a force, attracting lessons and strengthens our spirits. When we express appreciation, we open doors to endless possibilities, and this is what he sees in the Strategic Plan.

Ayo thanked the staff for their diligence and care with the development of the Strategic Plan.

4.0 Strategic Plan Review

Chief Librarian & CEO Åsa Kachan shared with the Board that this Strategic Plan has been in development for a period time, and this thoughtfulness is reflected throughout. Åsa shared with the Board her thanks for the thought and care that everyone has shown with the development of the Plan; the plan and all collateral was created internally and in-house with Library staff. This reflects our voice.

Mairead Barry, Director of Strategy provided an overview of the evolution of the plan. The main successful concepts have been carried through from the last two plans. This is also in recognition of the work that we've done so far. This plan represents an evolution. Mairead provided a detailed overview of the plan, including the Five Areas of Focus. Mairead provided specific thanks to Kashmala Khan, who did the vast majority of writing for this plan; it's an excellent representation and uses the right voice.

As next steps, the Library Board will receive quarterly updates on priorities, including quantitative and qualitative measurement, along with associated risks and mitigation. The Planning & Performance Committee will work on how we will want to do the reporting for this plan, ensuring that we advance our work with the plan. Mairead provided thanks to all of the Marketing & Communications staff who worked on the project, especially to graphic designer Erin Lee who make sure the plan will resonate with all ages. Mairead also thanked the Planning & Performance Committee for their continued guidance and support.

Board members shared their appreciation for the work of staff. The plan resonates and it is easy to see everyone reflected in the plan. The team did an amazing job, and Board members shared that they are proud of this plan. Well done and thank you!

Mary-Ann Rowlston put forward the following motion:

THAT the Halifax Regional Library Board approve the Strategic Plan as presented.

This motion was seconded by Jan Jensen.

Motion approved.

5.0 In Camera Session

At this time, Ayo Aladejebi moved to an incamera session.

6.0 Adjournment

With no further business, Ayo Aladejebi adjourned the meeting.