



REPORT TO THE LIBRARY BOARD

MEETING DATE: APRIL 22, 2010

Session:	Public Session
Subject:	2011 LPL Budget Guiding Principles
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Purpose of Report:	Approval <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Guiding Principles for the 2011 London Public Library Budget be approved.

Issue/Opportunity

The London Public Library (LPL) budget serves as the annual financial plan for the Library and for achieving its *Vision, Mission, Service Excellence Model* and *Strategic Plan*.

The purpose of this report is to provide preliminary information and the Guiding Principles for the development of the 2011 budget.

Background & Review

LPL Operating Budget Target

On June 3, 2009, Board of Control approved the Operating Budget Targets for 2010. The Library's 2010 target was 0% and the projected targets for the four following years were 2% in 2011 and 2.5% in 2012, 2013 and 2014. The Library's 2010 budget was approved on March 2, 2010 with a 0.6% increase over 2009.

As part of the 2010 budget process, the Library projected that a 6% increase would be required for 2011. At that time, it was anticipated that approximately 2.5% would be needed for operating expenses associated with the new Northeast branch; 0.5% for unsustainable reductions made in order to meet the 2010 target; and 3.0% for operating expenditure increases due to collective agreement obligations, inflationary pressures etc.

Budget Guiding Principles

- Flat line, reduce costs and seek efficiencies wherever possible;
- Reallocate resources to cover areas of highest need (such as increases to fixed/mandatory costs);
- Seek revenue opportunities;
- Maintain quality service to the public as LPL's top priority, although current service may have to be adjusted to align with the target;
- Endeavour to preserve and deploy staffing levels in order to meet community expectations and increased demand for services, LPL strategic priorities, and operational requirements; and
- Provide staff with ongoing training and professional development opportunities.

Next Steps

The process and timelines will be similar to those for the 2010 budget, although there will be some changes to the budget format. Budget targets will be set in consultation with the Boards and Commissions and approved by London City Council in mid May. Budget guidelines will be issued in late June with final submission of the budget to City staff by September.

A report to the Library Board in May will address the Library's 2011 budget target and timelines.