



REPORT TO THE LIBRARY BOARD
MEETING DATE: MARCH 26, 2009

Session:	Public Session
Subject:	Friends of the London Public Library Donation
Prepared By:	Margaret Mitchell
Presented By:	Susanna Hubbard Krimmer
Purpose of Report:	For Decision: Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Approval <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Recommendation

It is recommended that the donation of \$85,800 from the Friends of the London Public Library be allocated as outlined in Appendix 1 of this report.

BACKGROUND

Each year, the Friends of the London Public Library donates funds from the book sale and other revenue generating initiatives to support non-core service enhancements and other items that are not addressed in the Library's operating budget.

PROPOSED ALLOCATIONS

The recommended allocations, as outlined in Appendix 1 of this report, were presented to the February meeting of the Friends' Executive. The Friends of the London Public Library have generously responded to the Library's request. The Library is grateful for this support for ongoing programs as well as new initiatives, such as the Visiting Library Services bag project and the replacement of the book and audiocassette literacy kits.

We extend a heartfelt thank you to the Friends' Executive members who work tirelessly in so many ways to support the work of the London Public Library.

APPENDIX 1

Item	Funding Allocation
<p>R.E.A.D. Program Support The newly expanded R.E.A.D. program is now being operated at seven Library locations to provide one-on-one reading assistance to children from 7 to 12 years of age. A temporary, part-time Literacy Facilitator was hired in 2008 on a 2-year contract to support the work done at 3 of the 7 locations. Funds are required to maintain support of this position for the 2nd year of this position. In addition, the Literacy Facilitators who coordinate the program and the volunteers who work with these children require a collection of beginning readers, workbooks, games and other reading-related materials to support their work.</p>	<p>\$10,000 \$2,800</p>
<p>TD Summer Reading Club The TD Summer Reading Club continues to be one of most successful and engaging programs that we offer for children of all ages. We build our program around a nation-wide theme adding many elements designed to foster a love of reading, to encourage children of all ages to read and use the library throughout the summer, to act as a reading bridge between school years, to be flexible enough to be tailored to meet the needs of individual locations, and to be fun. In 2008, we had 5371 children register for the program with 19,057 books read and 8,113 book reports written. The Friends' donation for the last several years has allowed us to provide many of the enhancements to the program such as reading incentives, laminated game boards, collections and outreach supplies. The Friends' donation will be acknowledged in all publicity.</p>	<p>\$7,000</p>
<p>Summer READ, Teen Extreme Reading Machine Each year the Library applies for government funding to hire summer interns to assist with the Summer Reading Program, Summer READ, Teen Extreme Reading Machine and other literacy programs for hundreds of children during the summer months. The Friends' donation will provide matching funds for this initiative.</p>	<p>\$16,000</p>
<p>Book and CD literacy kits (CD Read-alongs) Book and audiocassette kits have been very popular with students and with literacy and ESL customers who improve their reading and pronunciation skills by combining reading with listening to unabridged versions of the text. Usage has dropped off in the last 3 years because the audiocassette format is outdated. Funding is required to replace the previously well-used book and audiocassette kits with book and CD kits. Estimated cost: 55 titles x 11 locations x approx. \$50 per kit = \$30,000</p>	<p>\$30,000</p>
<p>Bags for Visiting Library Services Visiting Library Services enables over 1,000 shut-ins to continue to enjoy reading and listening to library materials. Currently plastic bags are used to transport materials and they are only usable for one or two trips. Canvas bags are environmentally friendly (lasting up to five years) and are made locally.</p>	<p>\$10,000</p>
<p>Rotary Reading Garden Support The Friends' donation will enable the Library to continue to contract professional landscape maintenance services for the Reading Garden and expand these services to other branch locations. East London is identified as a location needing some basic gardening support.</p>	<p>\$10,000</p>
<p>Sub –Total for April 2009</p>	<p>\$85,800</p>