



REPORT TO THE LIBRARY BOARD
MEETING DATE: APRIL 16, 2008

Session:	Public Session
Subject:	Employment Resources Centres: Service Agreement
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Presented By:	Margaret Mitchell
Purpose of Report:	For Receipt and Information Only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Library Board receive this report.

Issue / Opportunity

The London Public Library receives funding from the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities for the provision of employment services through six Employment Resources Centres located at Central, Beacock, Pond Mills, Crouch, Jalna and Westmount branches.

The Library has had service agreements, first with the federal government and now the provincial government, since 1994. A recent amendment to the current contract (which began in June 2006) has been signed to extend ERC services from March 31 2008 to September 2009. The total contribution for the approximately 3-year contract is \$2,175,650.

In the next 18 months, the ERC's will serve approximately 80,000 clients. The funding supports direct costs such as 10.5 FTE's, capital purchases, collections, professional development, and supplies as well as organization infrastructure costs. Client satisfaction with our services is very high.

The transition of funding from the federal to the provincial government is a result of the labour-market agreements that have been signed recently between Canada and Ontario. Over the next 12 months, the funding models for the services offered through Employment Ontario are being re-designed in order to ensure that community-based employment services are available to as many clients as possible. London is considered an excellent model of collaborative and cooperative community engagement in meeting the full spectrum of employment needs of Londoners.