

Aurora Public Library Board

MEETING

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

7:00 p.m.

Via video conference

AGENDA

1.	Adoption of Agenda				
2.	Declaration of Conflict of Interest				
3.	Resolution to Move into Closed Session .1 A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of real property				
4.		tes of: October 19, 2022 Meeting	(enclosure)		
5.	Repo .1		(enclosure)		
6.		s for Consideration Library Value Calculator Demonstration			
7.	Libra .1	ry CEO Updates CEO Updates	(verbal report)		
8.		ral Business Information/Questions APL Updates ATS Stakeholder Update (November)	(enclosure) (enclosure)		
9.	Mem	ber Announcements			
10.Date of Next Meeting: <u>Wednesday, December 14, 2022</u>					
11.Adjournment					
** Please advise Maida Rae of regrets for attendance, by noon on November 16 th by emailing <u>mrae@aurorapl.ca</u> .					

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87017632252

Meeting ID: 870 1763 2252 Passcode: 302177 One tap mobile +15873281099,,87017632252# Canada +16473744685,,87017632252# Canada

Dial by your location +1 587 328 1099 Canada +1 647 374 4685 Canada +1 647 558 0588 Canada +1 778 907 2071 Canada +1 780 666 0144 Canada +1 204 272 7920 Canada +1 438 809 7799 Canada Meeting ID: 870 1763 2252 Find your local number: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kdtWMzmDFb</u>



Aurora Public Library Board

MINUTES of MEETING

Wednesday, October 19, 2022

The Aurora Public Library Board held its regular meeting on Wednesday, October 19, 2022 via video conference.

Present: Tom Connor (Chair), John Clement, Councillor Sandra Humfryes, Adam Mobbs (Vice Chair), Marie Rankel, Ken Turriff

Regrets: Councillor John Gallo

Chief Executive Officer: Bruce Gorman

Staff: Mario Baleno, IT Manager; Mary Ann Gruppuso, Manager, Collections and Access; Reccia Mandelcorn, Manager, Community Collaboration; Jodi Marr, Manager, Customer Opportunity; Maida Rae, HR Coordinator/EA (recorder); Julie Rocca, Business Manager

The Chair called the meeting to order at 07:03 p.m.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION: **22.07.51** Moved by: A. Mobbs Seconded by: K. Turriff CARRIED **THAT** the agenda be approved

2. Disclosure of Interest

3. Approval of Minutes

.1 Regular meeting of September 21, 2022

MOTION: **22.07.52** Moved by: J. Clement Seconded by: M. Rankel CARRIED **THAT** the Minutes of the regular meeting dated September 21, 2022 be approved

4. <u>Reports</u>

.1 Third Quarter Operations Report SR2022.22

A staff report was issued prior to the meeting.

.2 Third Quarter Use Indicators Report SR2022.23

A staff report was issued prior to the meeting.

Councillor Sandra Humfryes joined the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

.3 Financial Statement for period ending September 30, 2022 SR2022.24

A staff report was issued prior to the meeting.

MOTION: **22.07.53** Moved by: M. Rankel Seconded by: A. Mobbs CARRIED **THAT** the Aurora Public Library Board receives the third quarter reports numbered SR2022.22 -SR2022.24 as information

5. <u>Items for Consideration</u>

.1 Library Service Hours Report SR2022.25

A staff report was issued prior to the meeting.

MOTION: **22.07.54** Moved by: J. Clement Seconded by: A. Mobbs CARRIED **THAT** the Board approve the following change to the Library service hours as follows: 1. Closed December 24 and December 31, 2022

.2 2023 Library Board Meeting Schedule Report SR2022.26

A staff report was issued prior to the meeting.

MOTION: **22.07.55**

Moved by: K. Turriff Seconded by: M. Rankel CARRIED **THAT** the 2023 Library Board Meeting Schedule be approved

.3 Electronic Monitoring Policy Report SR2022.27

A staff report was issued prior to the meeting.

MOTION: 22.07.56

Moved by: J. Clement Seconded by: M. Rankel CARRIED **THAT** the Library Board approve the Aurora Public Library Electronic Monitoring Policy dated October 19, 2022

6. Library CEO Updates

.1 CEO Updates

A verbal report was provided at the meeting.

Staff Development Day is confirmed for Monday, November 7th, 2022. The Library will be closed to the public to enable all staff to attend this professional development day. There are sessions focused on teamwork and communications, with an overall focus on wellness.

Aurora Town Square

B. Gorman attended a media event with senior Town officials for the Town Square room launch.

The Yonge Street entrance will be opening later this month. The pick up window and Church Street Library entrance had to close due to grading of the sidewalk on Church Street. It is anticipated this work will take approximately four weeks.

Library staff met with Town Staff on the room scheduling software and are finalizing details on the MOU for room usage, with Magna and Lebovic rooms exclusively booked for Library use until the end of 2022.

B. Gorman met with +VG Architects to review their modified plans based on feedback from Library management. The next step will be pricing and a presentation to the Library Board as a component of the Capital Plan.

Architects – modified plans, sent them additional notes, BG meeting Thurs afternoon to

Business Manager J. Rocca will participate in the working group with Town staff on the financial ARP system.

R. Mandelcorn and L. Frechette recently presented at the OLA Stronger Libraries virtual conference. APL partnered with the York Region Social Planning Council to produce a four-episode podcast on housing in York Region.

There has been great feedback on the return to in-person programming at APL, including Storytime in the living room, hands on tools in the Creative Studio, and working with two classrooms on Lego League projects. Chinese dancing will be featured in the living room on Saturday.

Board members commended Library staff on the recent virtual events, including the All Candidates Meeting and An Evening with Jan Wong.

7. <u>General Business Information/Questions</u>

.1 APL Updates

Articles and photographs and a project update were issued prior to the meeting.

MOTION: **22.07.57** Moved by: M. Rankel Seconded by: J. Clement CARRIED **THAT** the Library CEO Updates and APL Updates be approved

8. <u>Resolution to Move Into Closed Session</u>

.1 Labour relations or employee negotiations

MOTION: **22.07.58** Moved by: K. Turriff Seconded by: A. Mobbs CARRIED **THAT** the Board move into Closed Session to discuss labour relations or employee negotiations

At 8:05 p.m. the Board moved into Closed Session.

MOTION: **22.07.59** Moved by: A. Mobbs Seconded by: M. Rankel CARRIED **THAT** the Board return to Open Session

At 9:47 p.m., the Board returned to Open Session.

MOTION: **22.07.60** Moved by: K. Turriff Seconded by: M. Rankel CARRIED **THAT** the Library Board confirms the CEO receives the recommended step increase after completing the fourth year of service at Aurora Public Library

9. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 16, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

10. Adjournment

MOTION: **22.07.61** Moved by: M. Rankel Seconded by: A. Mobbs CARRIED **THAT** the meeting be adjourned at 9:53 p.m.

T. Connor Chair B. Gorman Chief Executive Officer



Aurora Public Library Board

REPORT SR2022.28

SUBJECT: REVISED Personnel Provisions for Non-Union and Management Staff Report

FROM: Bruce Gorman, C.E.O.

DATE: November 16, 2022

RECOMMENDATION

That the Library Board approve the revised Personnel Provisions for Non-Union and Management Staff Policy dated November 16, 2022.

BACKGROUND

The non-union Library group includes administrative and management staff. Personnel policies for this employee group were updated in September 2022. Prior to that time, they had not been formally reviewed or compiled since 2004. With the introduction of the Human Resources Information Software (HRIS) in 2021, a current reference for employee vacation and benefit information is required.

The revision corrects sick leave benefits for this employee group to remain consistent with practice and the unionized CUPE 905.02 APL Unit. To be consistent with unionized staff, 1260 hours or 180 working days of sick time may be banked, not six months of regularly scheduled time as previously reported.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The non-union staff group is comprised of nine employees, and the employer paid benefit improvements are incorporated into the current Library operating budget. The updated vacation provisions reflect what has been negotiated for recent management group hires, so the financial implications are also factored into the current budget framework.

CONCLUSIONS

The recommended updates to this personnel policy reflect current Library practices and will assist in providing the updated documentation for implementing human resource services.

Assisted by: Maida Rae, HR Coordinator/EA

Bruce Gorman Chief Executive Officer



Aurora Pubic Library

Personnel Provisions

NON-UNION and MANAGEMENT STAFF

<u>General</u>

Non-union personnel are entitled to but not limited by the rights and privileges included in the Union Contract.

Sick Leave

As outlined in the Union Contract (1.5 days per month pro-rated based on a 35 hour full time work week). Sick time banks may accumulate up to 1260 hours or 180 working days. six (6) months of regularly scheduled time. There is no pay out for unused sick time upon termination.

Vacation

As outlined in the Union Contract unless negotiated otherwise in an individual employment contract.

Vacation (Management Group Only)

One full year or more:	20 working days (4 weeks)
Four full years or more:	23 working days
Six full years or more	24 working days
Eight full years or more	25 working days (5 weeks)
Ten full years or more:	27 working days
Twelve full years or more	28 working days
Sixteen full years or more:	30 working days (6 weeks)

Extended Health Care and Dental Benefits

Library Non-union and Management staff are eligible for the same extended health and dental benefits outlined in the CUPE 905.02 union contract.

Membership in Professional Associations / Organizations

Personal membership in professional associations is the choice and responsibility of the employee. The employer will support this facet of professional development through the granting of time to attend conferences and workshops hosted by relevant professional organizations.

Organizational membership in a professional association may be appropriate in some situations. Such memberships will be considered by the CEO/HR on a case by case basis.

DLR: September 2022

Aurora Town Square *Updates*



November 2022

Activities Since Last Update

- Softscape plantings installed within the north Library laneway, patio, reading garden, and west edge elevation of the School addition.
- Refrigeration and plumbing lines installed for the skating loop/splash pad and a base layer of sand has been rolled/compacted overtop.
- All amphitheatre seating and stairs installed and backfilled.
- The north parking stripped to sub-grade and a survey has been conducted to layout the future infrastructure.
- Curtain wall installations are ongoing throughout the addition to the Church Street School.
- Interior partitions and stud walls continue to be installed, while acoustic drop ceiling assembly framing has started to be hung at the basement level.
- Framing for the entrance vestibules is in place, and custom metal stairs are awaiting installation.

Activities For Next Period

- Continue curtain wall installations.
- Continue interior partition and stud wall installation, as well as acoustic drop ceiling assembly framing.
- Undertake a land survey to determine if the existing residential fence line at the north boundary of the site is encroaching on Town property.
- Ongoing coordination of the structural support system for the Church Street School addition.

The latest construction schedule provided by Chandos is as follow:

- Library façade and connecting spaces October 2022
- Schoolhouse, Bridge and Outdoor Square Spring 2023
- New Addition Summer 2023



Figure 1 – Amphitheater seating poured and stripped within the square.



Figure 2 – Donofrio backfilling the now repaired sanitary line within the square.



Figure 3 – Panoramic of the square, looking east from the Library roof.



Figure 4 – Pedestal and Paver system installed within the Library's reading garden. Planters being placed with soil.

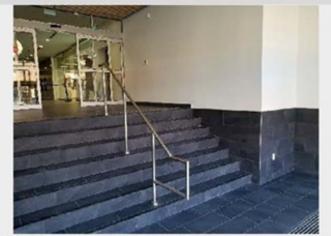


Figure 5 – West vestibule of the Library, stainless steel handrail at wall removed and to be replaced as part of ongoing deficiency work.



Figure 6 – Pre-cast concrete panels installed throughout the NCC at ground level.



Figure 8 - Fence section at north property line



Figure 7 – Formwork being placed adjacent the NCC Maintenance Garage for cast-in-place concrete steps.



Figure 9 - Performance hall w/ ongoing mech and elec rough-ins



Dancing, author's talk close the book on One Book One Aurora

The program aims to leave a positive legacy and always keeps an eye on what books might continue to unite the community through the written word, says Aurora library manager of community collaboration

Brock Weir, Local Journalism Initiative reporter a day ago



The York Chamber Ensemble and soloist Joyce Lai perform the Butterfly Lovers Concerto as part of the One Book One Aurora at the Aurora Public Library. LJI photo

Listen to this article 00:04:43

Over the course of 2022, book lovers across Aurora have been enjoying *Swimming Back to Trout River*, the debut novel of Linda Rui Feng.

The story follows five-year-old Junie in the wake of China's Cultural Revolution.

Taking readers from the present, to the past, and back again, the evocative story has sparked a community-wide dialogue, with events ranging from An Evening with Jan Wong, live performances in the library's Living Room space, writing and photography contests, writing workshops and more.

Now, the program is set to culminate this month with further cultural performances and a virtual event with the author herself.

"The Cultural Revolution is the backdrop to the novel and the fall programming [at the end of September] was An Evening with Jan Wong, an award-winning journalist and bestselling author speaking about her experiences in China and her work as a foreign correspondent with China in the late '80s and early '90s," says Reccia Mandelcorn, manager of community collaboration for the Aurora Public Library, who also spearheads the One Book One Aurora (OBOA) campaign.

"It was fascinating to hear what it was like to witness the 1989 massacre at Tiananmen Square. She was watching from the balcony and to hear her perspective on current political relations, including the detention of the two Michaels...the audience was very well-informed and they asked fabulous questions that really sparked an amazing conversation."

Partnerships have been "essential" to the OBOA campaign, she said, and one such key partnership was with the York Chamber Ensemble, which performed earlier this month at the library with the orchestra and soloist Joyce Lai taking on the Butterfly Lovers Concerto.

"Our living room was packed and the audience was absolutely transformed by the magic of the performance," says Mandelcorn. "What I loved was seeing all the children, many of whom were enjoying their first experience of classical music. There was one little boy who was underneath the staircase dancing. Who would expect somebody would be dancing to a classical performance?"

When you invite a community to go down a common literary path, perhaps the unexpected is the only thing that can be expected as each reader will have different takeaways from what is on the page.

"Going Back to Trout River offered rich opportunities for programming with its themes of politics, immigration, family and music," says Mandelcorn, adding that programming will continue Saturday, Oct. 15, with The Art of Chinese Dance, performed by The Mellow Sisters & Tian Shu Art Group, a non-profit art group that supports Chinese culture and promotes multiculturalism, with this set of artists sharing cultural experience through both dance and vocals.

The 2022 One Book One Aurora campaign will conclude next Saturday, Oct. 22, with a virtual question and answer session with Rui Feng over Zoom. The talk is set to begin at 2 p.m.

"Guests will meet the author and get a fascinating glimpse into the events that shaped this powerful book," says Mandelcorn. "Come online and meet Linda. She's fascinating, she's an academic, storyteller, novelist, and to talk about the book... I know that many people are anxious to meet her because they loved this book, but I think this will be an experience for people who haven't read the book, because they will leave with something positive."

And, in the end, that's what it is all about: leaving a positive legacy and always keeping an eye on what books might continue to unite the community through the written word.

"The OBOA project is supported by the library but it is owned by the community and every year we invite book clubs to sign on to receive copies of the book to discuss at their meetings and what was really exciting this year is the number of book clubs has grown from a couple when we first started to nine this year, and each has between five and 25 members. This is not including the casual book clubs but registered book clubs that are reading. That was very exciting.

"This year's selection, *Going Back to Trout River*, it offered rich opportunities for programming with its themes of politics, immigration, family, music. If anyone has a great title in mind for next year's selection, I hope [the community] will contact me at rmandelcorn@aurorapl.ca. Authors have to be in commuting distance to Aurora. We hope that we will be back to an in-person format next year. The book needs to have themes we can draw upon to enlarge the reading experience through programming and contests. I'm looking for ideas."

For more information on this weekend's performances, to register for next Saturday's book talk, or take part in ongoing virtual programming, visit onebookoneaurora.com.

Brock Weir is a federally funded Local Journalism Initiative reporter at The Auroran



Dancing with the Easter Seals Stars raises more than \$100,000 for kids

No Power, No Problem Engineered to circulate air through natural convection,

the Valor Smart Fire is a highly efficient Fireplace without

a fan – providing reliable heat, even during a power failure Burn Clean Engineered Green

WOOD • GAS • FIREPLACES • STOVES

1324 Wellington St. W., King City

905-727-2392

BY BROCK WEIR EDITOR LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Community leaders from across Aurora and Newmarket learned some new grooves and busted a move as part of Dancing with the Easter Seals Stars 2022 this month and, in the process, raised more than \$100,000 for children in need.

Held at the Royal Venetian Mansion, and partnered with professionals from Aurora's Artistica Ballroom Dance Studios, rug-cutters this year were coach and advocate Viv Agretsi, Aurora Minor Hockey's Joe Bentolila, business owner and TV host Kasie Colbeck, realtor and business owner Wasim Jarrah, realtor Julien Laurion, restaurateur Jennifer McLachlan, Christine Seidman of Upper Canada Mall, and Aurora Historical Society president Patricia Wallace.

All received instruction from and took to the floor with Artistica co-owners Patrick Derry, Kelly Stacey, and Anastasia Trutneva.

This year's event took on a 1950s theme as dancers embraced the music and looks

of the 1978 John Travolta-Olivia Newton-John musical, Grease, and began the event with a group dance that included several young Easter Seals ambassadors.

"We would like to thank Magna International for sponsoring our opening number, which this year had four of our Easter Seals children participate, which was phenomenal and started the night off absolutely perfectly," says Easter Seals' Andrea Peterson. "I don't think you could have gotten any other feeling than seeing the kids up there doing the hand-jive; the

Continued on page 20







ONE BOOK ONE AURORA – The Aurora Public Library hosted the Mellow Sisters & Tian Shu Art Group with The Art of Chinese Dance. It was the penultimate event in the One Book One Aurora program, which concludes this Saturday, October 22, with an author talk with Linda Rui Feng who wrote this year's selection, "Swimming Back to Trout River." For more, visit onebookoneaurora.com. Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger



Programming now underway in first components of Town Square project



Inspecting the newly opened Town Square spaces last week at the Aurora Public Library were Operations Manager Robin McDougall, Councillor-Elect Michael Thompson, Mayor-Elect Tom Mrakas, CAO Doug Nadorozny, and Town Square Project Manager Phil Rose. Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger

BY BROCK WEIR EDITOR LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Residents and visitors are now able to get their first glimpses of some of the new public spaces created as part of the Aurora Town Square redevelopment and, most importantly, make use of them.

Last week, the first formal tours of the newly-completed spaces at the Aurora Public Library (APL) were conducted and community groups are already booking times to make the most out of the new facilities.

Several new meeting rooms are now ready for occupancy, along with a new reading garden for library patrons' enjoyment, and a new Yonge Street entrance to the building, which offers improved accessibility for visitors of all abilities.

"On Tuesday we opened up officially," said Town Square Project Manager Phil Rose. "Now we have occupancy for all the new spaces that are connected to the Library. On the second floor, that means we have two new programming rooms, a board room and a reading garden. Downstairs, we have renewed access to the Magna and Lebovic Rooms and the new façade and main entrance to the community to get a tour of

way for the Aurora Public Library on Yonge Street is now open and that includes accessibility improvements specifically the installation of a new elevator that provides access to the first and second floor of the Library.

"On the second floor, there's a new corridor which connects the program rooms and will eventually be the connection to the bridge over to the new addition at the Cultural Centre and Museum. Looking forward, we anticipate the bridge will be complete by the spring as well as the outdoor square."

Since the first portions of the project were opened, Rose says there has been a steady demand. Staff were able to get a feel for the rooms with their own internal meetings. Community groups such as the PROBUS Club have booked spaces and, beginning next month, the spaces will be used for programming from both the Aurora Cultural Centre and the Town's Parks & Recreation Department.

This week, new members of the community will be able to get a feel for the space as well as the Library is a stop-off on a Newcomer Bus Tour on October 28.

"It's an opportunity for newcomers

the Town and a lot of the different municipal facilities," says Rose. "One of the stops next Friday will be the Library and they will have a chance to go to the Library, understand how to get a library card, how the library works, but there is also a chance for our staff to have them come in, sit down, and talk about some of the resources and services and programs that are available to them. They will go to places like Town Hall and the new fire hall as well. That is another type of program we will be able to host in the new space next week.

"There seems to be quite a bit of demand. We have been taking a wait list from community groups so now that we officially have occupancy, we will be able to go back and reach out to them to find out what is a good time to program their space. If there are community groups or individuals looking for information on how to rent these rooms then by all means reach out to the Town or myself directly."

Project Manager Phil Rose can be reached at prose@aurora.ca.

Luxury & Location In Perfect Harmony



New Release Of Spectacular 52' And **One-Of-A-Kind Residences Now Available**

At every turn, Allegro is the height of architectural and design



THE HAUNT IS ON – The Diana family of 40 Carlyle Crescent are putting the finishing touches on their popular Outdoor Halloween Haunt. Paul and Su have been transforming their home based on a Stranger Things theme and Halloween revellers are invited to come by October 29, 30, and 31, from 6 – 9 p.m. for some thrills and chills. Free admission but donations to the Aurora Food Pantry are encouraged. Auroran photo by Glenn Rodg

excellence in downtown Aurora's most prestigious new home locale.

Superb craftsmanship and luxurious finishes include 4- and 5-bedrooms, soaring 10' main floor ceilings, gourmet-inspired kitchens with serveries, and optional private elevators.



geranium.com f 🎔 💿 🖬 🦻 🛗 눭 Prices and specifications are subject to change without tice. Brokers protected. E.&O.E. Septer

Contact us today to arrange a dedicated Model Home experience. allegroaurora.com 905-503-6300

52' & ONE-OF-A-KIND EXECUTIVE **HOMES FROM THE MID \$2 MILLIONS**

Sales Centre and Model Homes 36 Klees Crescent, Aurora, ON L4G 3W8 Monday-Wednesday: 12pm-6pm Thursday & Friday: Closed Saturday & Sunday: 11am-5pm

GERANIUM



FREE ESTIMATES \$0 DOWN 100% FINANCING OAC

WWW.KEMPENFELTWINDOWS.COM





PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

One |One Book |Aurora



Winning entries in the annual One Book One Aurora photo contest hosted by the Aurora Public Library and The Auroran were announced virtually Saturday as the One Book One Aurora program came to an end with a talk by author Linda Rui Feng. Photographers were asked to submit photos depicting the power of music and shutterbugs didn't disappoint.

Winners in the Adult category were (Top Left) Brenda Snape, whose euphoric shot from an Imagine Dragons concert took first place, while (Bottom Left) Greg King secured second place with this image captured at Newmarket's Riverwalk Commons.

In the Youth category, top honours went to (Top Right) Assal Lekaa and (Bottom Right) Calen Panhuyzen.

Congratulations to the winners and thank you to all participants.





Who does what in our community



TOWN OF AURORA

NOTICE BOARD October 27, 2022



Council & Committee Meetings

Date	Time	Location	Meeting
Week of October 24	No meetings		
Week of October 31	No meetings		
Tuesday, November 8	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Council
Thursday, November 10	7 p.m.	Video Conference	Committee of Adjustment

*General Committee, Public Planning and Council meetings are available to the public in-person and via live stream on the Town's YouTube channel.

Online Skylight Gallery Exhibition

Featured Artist: Mary Morganelli - Windows to the World

For the month of October, you are invited to visit the exhibition Windows to the World by artist Mary Morganelli. The artist has compiled a selection of paintings that evoke the wonderful feelings you get when traveling. Take pleasure in a little more travel in your life without having to go far. Explore a different country, taste new foods, try new experiences, and indulge in a little decadence. Enjoy touring this month's Skylight Gallery exhibit, available for in-person or online viewing opportunities.

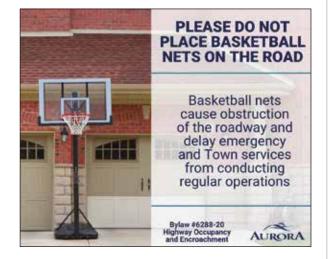
All work is for sale, please contact Shelley Ware at sware@aurora.ca if you are interested in purchasing a piece. View this online gallery at aurora.ca/skylightgallery.



Pylon signage

The Town of Aurora is upgrading and replacing our facility entrance pylon signs. The photo above is the Yonge Street sign that is currently being reconstructed. The new pylon signs will all have a uniform, modernized look with a digital board that can display key events and messages to residents.

For more information on the pylon sign project, please email avento@aurora.ca.



Fall 2022 Program Guide

Registrations are open for Recreation and Aquatic programs. To register online, go to aurora.ca/recguide and view our online guide. Once you have selected the program you wish to register for, simply click on the code # and you will automatically be directed to our e-PLAY online registration system. You can also visit the A.F.L.C. or S.A.R.C. to pay in-person.

Aurora Family Leisure Complex pool leisure swimming

Take in a leisurely swim at our AFLC Pool available on Mondays and Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. Visit our Aquatics webpage for full details at aurora.ca/aquatics.

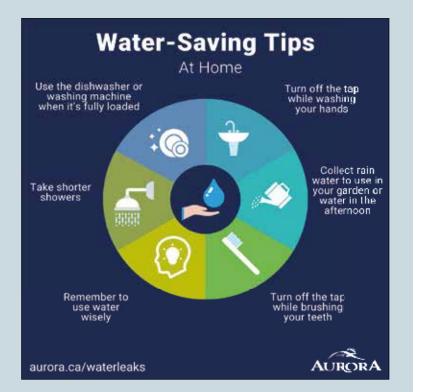
Curbside giveaway

On Saturday, October 29, residents can place their unwanted, gently used items to the curb marked "Free" for others to take.

This initiative helps divert unwanted items out of the landfill. All uncollected items should be removed

What's Happening





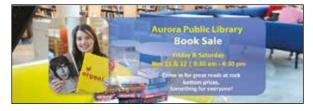


Construction update

Effective Friday, October. 21, the Church Street entrance, book drop & holds pick-up window at the Aurora Public Library is temporarily closed due to Town construction.

Entrance to the Library is via Yonge Street. There is an elevator at the entrance for accessibility.

Materials can be returned after hours at the GO



APL's Book Sale is back! Come in for great reads at rockbottom prices. There is something foreveryone! For more information, visit aurorapl.ca

from the curb after 5 p.m. For more on our waste events, visit aurora.ca/wasteevents.



Have you lost your pet or found a lost pet?



animalservices@aurora.ca

6 AURORA

School Safety Reminders for Drivers

Please be aware of the following when dropping children off to school

- No stopping zone means you cannot stop your car or load/unload children in this area
- School bus loading zone is designated for buses only and is intended to keep busses away from traffic
- All fire routes are to be kept clear for firetrucks and ambulances
- No parking zone means you cannot park in that area and wait for children

Let's all work together to keep our children safe.





Aurora Town Hall

100 John West Way, P.O. Box 1000, Aurora, ON, L4G 6J1 905-727-1375 • info@aurora.ca • aurora.ca

Accessible Formats

SCHOOL ZONE

905-727-3123 ext. 4212 accessibility@aurora.ca





One Book One Aurora 2022 closes with grand finale author talk

BY BROCK WEIR EDITOR LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

In her debut novel, Swimming Back to Trout River, author Linda Rui Feng paints a vivid and intimate portrait of the Chinese Cultural Revolution in prose that provided a feast for the senses – and inspired creativity.

The book, which was selected by the

Aurora Public Library as the basis of their One Book One Aurora campaign, which aims to start a community conversation around a single novel, inspired myriad activities for the whole family, from spectacular dances illustrating Chinese heritage, to photo contests asking readers to capture the magic of music, and writing workshops to get the creative juices flowing.

All of these came together at the end





Above: Councillor Sandra Humtryes, Mayor Tom Mrakas, Hailey Reiss, MPP Dawn Gallagher Murphy, Councillor Rachel Gilliland, and Sandra Ferri of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce. *Right*: Hailey Reiss and Mayor Mrakas

Supportive Steps provides mental health services for people of all ages and abilities. Appointments are flexible, including times, week days, evenings and weekends – online, on the phone, or in-person. They employ a wide range of therapeutic methods suited for a variety of problems and ages, from children to adults. Check them out: call 416-508-1780 or visit their website www.supportivesteps.ca. **Auroran photos by Glenn Rodger**



of October as the Library hosted Linda Rui Feng in a virtual conversation as the grand finale of One Book One Aurora 2022.

"In 1981, five-year-old Junie, born without legs, is sent to live with her grandparents in a small village called Trout River," the Library describes the book. "Her father, Momo, has left China for America to seek a better future, with her mother, Cassia, due to follow. The novel traces the adults' attempts to seek reconciliation within themselves and with each other. Feng moves fluidly back and forth through time, vividly portraying the experience of living in China during Mao's rule as well as the pressures of being a new immigrant.

"The interweaving of character and setting, past and present are told from multiple points of view—with just the right amount of historical reference so that the reader gets a glimpse into the social environment during and after China's Cultural Revolution."

Hosted by Reccia Mandelcorn, the Library's Manager of Community Collaboration, the author talk was a chance to hear from the writer herself and for readers to pose questions of their own.

One such reader asked the author to elaborate on her approach to creating such a vivid world on paper.

"You have a symphony of sense in your writing," the reader said. "We can hear, see, smell, feel, and touch the elements in your narrative and it really brings it to life. Was this a deliberate writing process, or is this how you experience the world?"

Linda Rui Feng responded that everyone sees the world in different ways – including herself.

"But most of it is because it comes with envy of other people with different jobs," she joked. "As a writer, I mostly sit in front flavours they create.

"I spend a lot of time wishing that I had those jobs and that kind of envy seeps into my writing because I do care about how our senses take us back to the past and how we understand our world through hearing with music but also smell. One not terribly significant scene involves a dead whale and the putrid smell that comes with that. When I wrote it, I hadn't thought too much about scent and smell but since that draft of the novel came out on the page, I have started to think more about the history of smell and scent and the importance of all of that in our lives."

Describing herself as a "slow writer", Rui Feng shared she is hard at work on her next book. To some degree it focuses again on the immigrant experience but through the eyes of younger characters: millennials, in a story partially set in San Francisco.

"I continue to find fascination in music and other arts; it seeps in and drives what I do next," she said. "It is still very much in the early stages. The things I say are amorphous as they are on the page, but I am interested in intergenerational relationship between three millennials and a woman who was their caretaker and kind of a younger generation trying to understand an older woman with a very different life history. I am still thinking understanding immigration, about understanding when someone's life changes in the middle, in a very drastic way. I am interested in looking at younger people's perspectives on it. I am still thinking about the how, who and why of this picture.

"I wanted to convey [in Swimming Back to Trout River] ...a universal connection with readers, whether they speak Chinese or not. The ideal scenario is when someone is from a very different linguistic, or cultural background and find echoes of their childhood, their life, their parents, their friends, their children in this book. That is always my dream. If they have similar experiences as the characters in the novel, I hope they will use it to reflect on their experiences, whether they are happy or painful, and find some solace."

NOW OPEN hru Saturday, December 24!

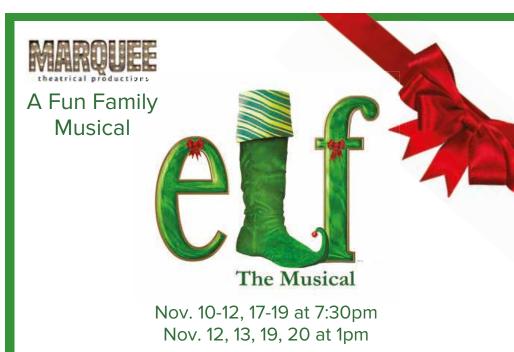
An Exclusive Christmas Experience!

Featuring The Sisters 'One-of-a-Kind' Hand-Painted Ornaments Festive Accessories Gourmet Holiday Bakery Illuminated Decor Christmas Linens & so much more! Store Hours: Thursdays: 10 AM - 7 PM Fridays: 10 AM - 7 PM Saturdays: 10 AM - 6 PM Sundays: 11 AM - 4 PM Dec. 19 - 23: 10 AM - 7 PM

Sat. Dec. 24: 10 AM - 3 PM

Caledon King Townline S + Bolton ON

14155 Caledon King Townline S. • Bolton, ON For more information CALL: 905-859-8077 • www.thesisterstoc.com



NewRoads Performing Arts Ctr - Newmarket

Tickets - https://marqueetp.com/tickets

Presenting sponsor UPPER CANADA

of the computer or with a piece of paper, something, and I mostly live in my head. I spend a lot of time in my head. I am tremendously envious of people who create out in the world, engaged with the senses. I am envious of dancers who speak so powerfully through their gestures and their bodies, or chefs who tell us where they come from and the stories of their childhood with their meals and the

For more, visit onebookoneaurora.com.



FOND FAREWELL – Lori Hoyes, President of the Aurora Legion, embraces Major Brian Bishop of the Salvation Army's Northridge Community Church last month after Brian and Glenda Bishop passed the pastoral baton after more than 21 years serving the community. As padre of the Aurora Legion, Bishop was a familiar face at the community's Remembrance services. Now leading Northridge are Fred and Carolyn Reid.

Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger

TOWN OF AURORA

NOTICE BOARD





Council & Committee Meetings

Date	Time
Tuesday, November 8	7 p.m.
Thursday, November 10	7 p.m.
Tuesday, November 15	7 p.m.
Wednesday, November 16	7 p.m.
Wednesday, November 16	7 p.m.
Week of November 21	No meetings
Week of November 28	No meetings

Location **Council Chambers** Video Conference **Council Chambers** Video Conference Video Conference

Meeting

Council Committee of Adjustment Council Inaugural Aurora Cultural Centre Board Aurora Public Library Board

*General Committee, Public Planning and Council meetings are available to the public in-person and via live stream on the Town's YouTube channel.

Online Skylight Gallery Exhibition

Featured Artist: Aurora's Royal Canadian Legion, Col. Fred Tilston VC Branch 385 **Remembrance Day Exhibit**

For the month of November, you are invited to see how students in our community have reflected on Remembrance Day. The exhibition will showcase a variety of student artwork which revolve around the theme: "What Remembrance Day Means To Me". We often see poppies pinned on our hearts to honour those that have given their lives to this country. Take a moment of reflection to view works of art that not only represent poppies and other symbols in meaningful ways, but also convey deep emotion, sacrifice and bravery. Enjoy touring this month's Skylight Gallery exhibit, available for in-person or online viewing opportunities.

All work is for sale, please contact Shelley Ware at sware@aurora.ca if you are interested in purchasing a piece. View this online gallery at aurora.ca/skylightgallery.



Pylon signage

The Town of Aurora is upgrading and replacing our facility entrance pylon signs. The photo above is the Yonge Street sign that is currently being reconstructed. The new pylon signs will all have a uniform, modernized look with a digital board that can display key events and messages to residents.

For more information on the pylon sign project, please email avento@aurora.ca

Fall 2022 **Program Guide**

Registrations are open for **Recreation and Aquatic** programs. To register online, go to aurora.ca/recguide and view our online guide.



Once you have selected the program you wish to register for, simply click on the code # and you will automatically be directed to our e-PLAY online registration system. You can also visit the A.F.L.C. or S.A.R.C. to pay in-person.

Aurora Family Leisure Complex pool leisure swimming

What's Happening



Saturday, November 26 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Travelling south on Yonge Street from Orchard Heights Boulevard to Murray Drive.

Please enjoy the parade only from the sidewalk, not on the road.

Enjoy marching bands, decorated floats and Santa. Explore the local eateries and retail shops along the route.

aurora.ca/santaparade 905-726-4762 | #AuroraSantaParade



Please note, we reserve the right to cancel, amend or change activities.



Take in a leisurely swim at our AFLC Pool available on Mondays and Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. Visit our Aquatics webpage for full details at aurora.ca/aquatics.

TOYS FOR TICKETS



Aurora has once again partnered with York Regional Police for their annual Toys for Tickets campaign.

This year you can pay your municipal parking ticket at Town Hall (100 John West Way) with a toy, gift card or food donation of equal or greater value to the penalty on your parking ticket. This option will be valid for any parking ticket issued from November 22 to December 16.

All toys, gift cards and food donations will be collected for the York Regional Police Holiday Heroes campaign. For more information, visit aurora.ca/parking.



Construction update

Effective Friday, October. 21, the Church Street entrance, book drop & holds pick-up window at the Aurora Public Library is temporarily closed due to Town construction.

Entrance to the Library is via Yonge Street. There is an elevator at the entrance for accessibility.

Materials can be returned after hours at the GO Station.

Preschool drop-in at the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex

Have fun with your preschooler (newborn to 5 years) during one of our Saturday drop-in times. Visit our Preschool webpage for full details at aurora.ca/preschool.

Town of Aurora special events

The Town of Aurora has many fun and exciting special events happening this season. Check out a list of upcoming special events at aurora.ca/specialevents.

School Safety Reminders for Drivers

Please be aware of the following when dropping children off to school

- No stopping zone means you cannot stop your car or load/unload children in this area
- School bus loading zone is designated for buses only and is intended to keep buses away from traffic

• All fire routes are to be kept clear for firetrucks and ambulances



SCHOOL ZONE

Let's work together

AurorA

WINTER PARKING BYLAW IN EFFECT



No street parking from 2 a.m. and 6 a.m.

aurora.ca/winterparking



Aurora Town Hall

100 John West Way, P.O. Box 1000, Aurora, ON, L4G 6J1 905-727-1375 • info@aurora.ca • aurora.ca

Accessible Formats

905-727-3123 ext. 4212 accessibility@aurora.ca



to keep our children safe.