

Toronto Public Library Foundation announces \$1.25 million unrestricted donation from Shawn Kimel and Kate Schatzky

Thursday, December 22, 2022 (Toronto, ON) – One year ago, the Toronto Public Library Foundation received a donation from Shawn Kimel and Kate Schatzky for \$1.25 million. What was so unique about this generous gift was that it was made with no conditions. Shawn and Kate’s extraordinary unrestricted donation empowered Toronto Public Library to invest the funds into areas where they were most needed.

“It’s hard to ignore how many people are struggling in our city, particularly those who were severely impacted by the pandemic. The City of Toronto is facing real challenges and Toronto Public Library plays an important role in getting to the root cause of many social issues by offering the support individuals and families need. We are proud to play a small part in the work TPL does to make Toronto a more inclusive and resilient city.” - Shawn Kimel and Kate Schatzky

One year later, the TPL Foundation is proud to share that several new initiatives have launched as a direct result of the donation:

- **Social Service Teams** are providing access and connection to social service and mental health supports to address challenges faced by our city’s most vulnerable residents.
- **Community Librarians** are meeting people at their point of need by working directly in Black and Indigenous-focused agencies and delivering critical services to families and individuals.
- **A Financial Empowerment Service Program** is underway, offering equity-deserving individuals and those living on low incomes access to financial counselling in select branches.

“Shawn and Kate are a couple who give back to many worthy organizations, and we are grateful that they believe in the important work Toronto Public Library does to help the residents of this city,” commented Will Scott, CEO at the Toronto Public Library Foundation. “They trusted us with their generous gift and already we are seeing their investment make such a positive difference in the lives of Torontonians.”

About the Toronto Public Library Foundation

The Toronto Public Library Foundation (TPLF) is a registered charity that enhances Toronto Public Library’s aspiration to be the world’s leading library, making us all more resilient, knowledgeable, connected and successful. Since its inception in 1997, TPLF has raised over \$100 million thanks to generous donors, volunteers and corporate partners. Learn more at tplfoundation.ca/impact.

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