

Literary Circle

2022 Membership Report



Together, we are making Toronto a more inclusive and resilient city

In the wake of a difficult couple of years for so many residents, the Library has an increasingly important role in re-building and creating social change in our city. TPL levels the playing field by connecting people to the information and resources they need to live, learn, work and play. No other public institution has the reach, physical and technical infrastructure, talent and community presence to empower Torontonians the way Toronto Public Library does.

As a donor at the Literary Circle level, you help amplify the library's work to strengthen our economy. TPL programs coach and train young people and newcomers and fill essential gaps in city services; providing the most vulnerable in our communities with the vital ingredients they need to thrive.

Thank you for being a part of a community who shares a love of the Library and our city. Your membership empowers TPL to invest funds into areas where they are needed most; providing critical resources that impact and change lives in meaningful ways.

Literary Circle members believe in the vital work of TPL. **We are grateful for your continued and generous support.**

Strength in Membership A Year of Impact

Last year, the Foundation celebrated its 25th anniversary and surpassed \$100 million raised in support of TPL. Here are some of the many high priority library projects Literacy Circle members helped make possible in 2022.



Career Coaches in Residence
Nearly **1,900** younger adults have received mentorship, career advice and job search assistance through this program.

Internet Connectivity Kits

Since its launch in 2020, over **900** individuals and families across the GTA have received a free laptop, data plan and Wi-Fi - a lifeline through pandemic recovery, and beyond.



Community Librarians Seniors' Project

Last year, TPL staff reached **2,430** seniors at their point of need, providing digital literacy support to boost their skills, independence and social connectedness.

Did You Know?

Your gift could go even further!

Make your annual donation through a gift of securities and eliminate capital gains tax.

Learn how: tplfoundation.ca/securities



Toronto Public Library Foundation
789 Yonge Street
Toronto, Ontario M4W 2G8

Here's what donor support of Financial Empowerment programming has made possible:



882 one-on-one appointments, drop in visits and walk ins



161 TPL customers connected with agencies for virtual appointments and information requests



203 users attended FE programming and outreach, including open houses at TPL branches, workshops and tax clinics

How Donations Help: New Financial Empowerment Pilot

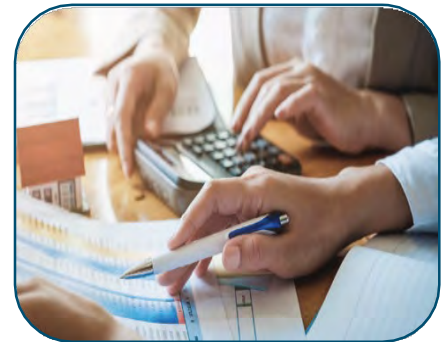
In the midst of a profound period of financial uncertainty following the pandemic, access to personal finance information and financial empowerment support is critical for many, in particular, for low-income individuals and families.

With the support of our generous Library supporters, TPL launched its **Financial Empowerment (FE) Services Initiative** last fall at Downsview and Riverdale branches, bridging the digital divide in these high-needs neighbourhoods.

In partnership with community agencies, WoodGreen, North York Community House (NYCH), and Prosper Canada, this program provides TPL customers with trained staff who can help manage their financial circumstances and meet their goals. **More than 1,200 individuals have already benefited from this essential new service.**

Library users can book one-on-one appointments in-person or virtually, and walk in for drop-in sessions, and support ranges widely depending on individual needs. In 2022:

- 41% received support communicating with government agencies
- 37% gained access to government benefits
- 12% received help with debt and credit management
- 9% learned about budgeting and personal finance planning



“A single mother and her young daughter arrived in Canada as a refugee claimant. With Ontario Works as her only source of income, she was not familiar with filing income tax or the related benefits until she met with FE staff at a Toronto Public Library branch. The FE advisor helped her file her taxes and complete the application for Child Care Benefits. They also explained other federal and provincial benefits she was eligible to receive. In addition to this crucial financial support, the mother registered for a library card and signed up for children’s programs.”

- TPL Financial Empowerment Case Study

Thank you for making this work possible.

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