

The Pauline and Gordon Hinch Memorial Award for Staff Development at the Toronto Public Library Foundation

Named in memory of Pauline and Gordon Hinch, this award recognizes Pauline's contribution to the Library, through her outstanding career as well as her contribution to the profession of librarianship. The Award supports Toronto Public Library staff who are pursuing a career in public librarianship.

Pauline Hinch was born in Thunder Bay Ontario. Following high school graduation, she had an early career in radio. In mid-life, Pauline went back to school, obtaining her Masters in Library Science in 1975. She joined the North York Public Library, Collection Development Department soon after graduating. With the opening of the new central library in 1987, she was appointed Manager of Language, Literature and Fine Arts. By her retirement in 1990, she was in charge of the Canadiana and Society and Recreation departments. standards to which she adhered earned her the respect and admiration of all her colleagues. Working in a world she loved, Pauline sought to nurture this same affection of libraries and its users among everyone with whom she worked.



This award also recognizes Pauline's husband, Gordon, and his unwavering dedication to Staff Development at the Library and to the growth and longevity of this invaluable award.

The Award

- Provides partial or full funding (as resources permit) for a one-year tuition scholarship to Library staff members pursuing a career as a librarian and completing their Masters of Library/Information Science degree in an accredited library science program.
- Is administered and its recipients chosen through the Foundation by ***The Pauline and Gordon Hinch Memorial Award Committee***, set up for the sole purpose of administering the award.

There will be up to two awards distributed in 2025. **One award with a value of \$5,000 and one award with a value of \$2,500.** A completed application will be considered for both awards. (Please note, a single applicant cannot be the recipient of both awards)

Depending on the funds available for disbursement from the **Pauline and Gordon Hinch Endowment Fund** and any additional funding available, one or more awards will be distributed annually.

Eligibility Information

Qualified candidates for the award will:

- Be permanent Library staff members who have completed or are in the process of successfully completing a minimum of 4 courses (8 half courses) towards a Master's of Library Science degree and are committed to completing another 4 courses/8 half courses (and/or completing their degree) at an accredited school within the three-year period following the receipt of the award.
- Have successfully completed the application process for the award.
- Use the award to support their tuition costs

Application Information

1. Complete all of the sections of this application. All information must be typed directly on the application form or on additional paper. Handwritten applications will not be considered.
2. References must accompany the application. Please do not supply more than two letters of reference. One reference **must be** from (or approved by) your current Library Service Manager or Area Manager.
3. Applications must be received no later than **Wednesday, May 21, 2025**.
4. Please submit completed applications via email to rsogren@tpl.ca using the subject line: **"2025 Hinch Award Application"**. The entire application with all components (application, references and transcript) **must** be submitted in one email or one package. If submitted electronically, attachments **must** be saved as pdfs.

Completed applications can also be sent in one package to:

Toronto Public Library Foundation,
789 Yonge Street, Toronto, ON M4W 2G8
Attn: Rhonda Sogren, Manager, Legacy Gifts

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure the completed application form and supporting documentation are received by the Toronto Public Library Foundation on or prior to the deadline date.

5. The successful applicant will be notified **the week of July 28, 2025**. A shortlist of candidates will be called for a personal interview with the Award Committee in June or July. This interview may take place in person or via an online platform.
6. The successful applicant may be required to show proof of successful completion of the 4 courses/8 half courses (and/or completion of their degree) following the receipt of the award. If the applicant is unable to provide the necessary proof, the award may be revoked.

Award Criteria

- Applicant fulfills eligibility requirements as listed under Eligibility Information above
- Applicant can demonstrate a passion for public librarianship
- Consideration will be given to academic standing and financial need.

Dates and Deadlines

Application Deadline: Wednesday, May 21, 2025

All completed applications will be reviewed. A shortlist of candidates will be contacted for a personal interview with the Committee in June of July 2025.

Notification Date: Week of July 28, 2025

Announcement of Award

If possible, the award will be formally distributed at the annual Staff Recognition Event (usually held in November). The successful candidate will make every possible effort to be present at this event.

For more information

For more information, please contact
Rhonda Sogren, Manager, Legacy Gifts
416-393-6263 or rsogren@tpl.ca

Appendices

Application Form, Reference Form