

Friends of the Mississauga Library System
2024 Annual General Meeting
November 25, 2024

President's Report

- Renovations to the Hazel McCallion Central Library were completed, and the Friends book sale returned at last to the Library in January of 2024. The book sale area is considerably reduced from what we had earlier. That fact, coupled with the reduced area in our basement storage, will make it a challenge to return to pre-renovation revenue levels, when one half of our total revenue came from Central sales alone.
- During the closure of Central, we received occasional inquiries from the public about donating books to the Friends. We have been able to receive and process donations since July, and have received some very good quality books.
- The two ranges of shelving that we have for the sale has limited the topics and quality of books that are being put out for the continuing sale. We are still experimenting to see which topics will have enduring popularity and how much of each topic to display.
- To supplement revenue from the continuing sale, we scheduled two special book sales to be held in the Atrium of Central on November 9 and December 7. These sales will feature some higher quality books that have been selected from our donations. The November sale was well received, and generated almost as much revenue in one day as we had received from the previous month at Central.
- The special sales also allowed us to renew acquaintances with many of our long-term volunteers who worked with us at the old Central. It was great to see them, and some returning customers as well!
- Funding for two specially-designed Parent+Child Study Carrels was donated by the Friends as a special purchase for the renovated Central Library. These items can be seen in the Children's Department on the first floor.
- In the past year, the Friends have provided funding to the Library to support the Grade 4 Read to Succeed program, bussing to the Grade 4 event at Celebration Square and support for the TD Summer Reading Club. The Friends also provided grants to three information science

students through the Jim Wilde Library Education Award and we funded prizes for the Spelling Bee of Canada's Mississauga event.

- The Friends would like to acknowledge the benefits of our City Registered Group status:
 - Rooms for monthly meetings and AGM
 - Group-liability insurance
 - City liaison
 - Permission to apply for use of City by-ways to advertise
- Thanks to Veroy Clarke, our new liaison with the Library. Vee has been helping us to navigate our way through life at the new Central.
- Congratulations and best of luck to Caroline Derouet, who left the Executive in September to take on a one-year project overseas. We look forward to welcoming Caroline back in a year's time.
- Thanks to all my fellow members of the Executive: Shanaz Fancy, Margo Harvie, Ashok Sagar, Caroline Derouet and Rabia Fatima. We made it through Covid and the renovations to begin the next chapter in the history of the Friends.
- Thanks to all of our members and volunteers. Please drop by to see us when you can!

Submitted by Michael Jones, President, Friends of the Mississauga Library System