

Report to / Rapport au:

**Ottawa Public Library Board
Conseil d'administration de la bibliothèque publique d'Ottawa**

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Submitted by / Soumis par:

Danielle McDonald, Chief Executive Officer / Directrice générale

Contact Person / Personne ressource: Anna Basile, Division Manager, Governance, Communications, and Strategic Services / Directrice, Gouvernance, communications et services stratégiques.

(613) 580-2424 x 32335, Anna.Basile@BiblioOttawaLibrary.ca

File Number: OPLB-2018-0902

SUBJECT: Order of Friendship Nomination – Helen Tweddle (Posthumous)

OBJET: Nomination de l'Ordre de l'amitié – Helen Tweddle (à titre posthume)

REPORT RECOMMENDATION

That the Ottawa Public Library Board approve Helen Tweddle (posthumous) for the Order of Friendship in recognition of her devotion to volunteerism and outstanding commitment to the Ottawa Public Library via her work with the Friends of the Ottawa Public Library Association (FOPLA).

RECOMMANDATION DU RAPPORT

Que le Conseil d'administration de la Bibliothèque publique d'Ottawa approuve l'attribution de l'Ordre de l'amitié à Helen Tweddle (à titre posthume) en reconnaissance de son dévouement au bénévolat et travail exceptionnel vers la Bibliothèque publique d'Ottawa à travers son travail avec l'Association des Amis de la Bibliothèque publique d'Ottawa (AABPO).

BACKGROUND

As per Board Policy 019 OPLB – Order of Friendship, the Ottawa Public Library (OPL) Board recognizes exceptional volunteer contributions made to the OPL by individuals, groups, and / or institutions. Eligible contributions are those that help to improve the OPL's ability to deliver services to the community, furthering the OPL's mission.

The OPL Board Order of Friendship is awarded in the second and fourth years of the term, upon nomination by Trustees. The purpose of this report is to put forth a nomination for consideration.

DISCUSSION

Mrs. Helen Tweddle is nominated for the OPL Board Order of Friendship for her devotion to volunteerism and outstanding commitment through:

- a) Her role as a founding member of the Friends of the Ottawa Public Library Association (FOPLA);
- b) Her role as a founding member of the Cumberland FOPLA bookstore called the Bookworm;
- c) Her role as a true community builder and pioneer; and,
- d) Her overall support of the Ottawa Public Library.

Mrs. Tweddle was involved with the Cumberland Friends of the Ottawa Public Library Association for more than 25 years. She served on the Cumberland Library Board from 1991 to 1996 when she helped form the Friends of the Cumberland Library, serving as the group's president from 1996 to 2003.

In her role as representative of the Cumberland Friends of the Ottawa Public Library Association, Mrs. Tweddle was an energetic, friendly, involved, and welcoming volunteer. As an advocate of literacy, she started Bookworm (the used bookstore at the Cumberland branch). Through her commitment with Bookworm, she helped raised more than \$475K for FOPLA over 25 years.

She was a voracious reader who shared her favorite titles with others and encouraged reading. She had wonderful ideas on how to grow the bookstore in order to offer something better for customers, and trying out various approaches to generate funds. Helen was a great partner at the branch making other volunteers feel welcomed and appreciated for any time they could devote to the bookstore or the sorting process.

In addition to her work with FOPLA, she was an Assistant Editor/Editor/Typist/Writer (1968-2016) for more than 40 years of the – *Queenswood Newsliner* – a paper for the Queenswood community. She was an Executive Member of the Queenswood Heights Community Association (QHCA) and an active member of the Queenswood United Church. She also served as a Girl Guide and Brownie Leader. She lead the charge, alongside Lori Nash, also a recipient of the Order of Friendship, of documenting a book called *Queenswood Heights: Memories from Up the Hill*.

Mrs. Tweddle's selfless devotion to her community earned her recognition with the Queenswood Heights Community Association, Citizen of the Year in 1978, and a Long Service Award in 1991. With the Township of Cumberland, she was bestowed with a Certificate of Appreciation in 1982 and an Ontario Bi-Centennial Medal-Provincial Award in 1984. She was recognized by the former township of Cumberland as the Citizen of the year in 2000. When she could not physically volunteer in the bookstore, she stayed involved with Bookworm from home with support from her family. Mrs. Tweddle passed away on March 24, 2018 at the age of 79.

CONSULTATION

An Ad-hoc Committee was established in May 2016 composed of Trustees Begg and Higdon to review nominations and provide recommendations to the Board.

Trustees were asked to provide nominations by June 2018. Two nominations were received. The Order of Friendship Ad-Hoc Committee of the Board discussed the nominations and supports the recommendation outlined in this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications associated with this report.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk management implications associated with this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial expenditures associated with this Order of Friendship nomination (award, presentation) are provided through the OPL Board budget at approximately \$250.00.

ACCESSIBILITY IMPACTS

There are no accessibility impacts associated with this report.

TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS

There are no technology implications associated with this report.

BOARD PRIORITIES

This aligns with the OPL Board Strategic Directions and Priorities, specifically:
SUCCESS through learning, literacy, and innovation: Strengthen the Library's reach and value.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Document 1 – Nomination form (*Held on file with the Chief Executive Officer*).

DISPOSITION

Pending Board approval of the nomination, family and friends of Helen Tweddle will be notified of the Board's decision. A presentation will be made to the recipient's family at a future meeting of the OPL Board meeting. A webpage in the Board heading on OPL's website will be established. Mrs. Tweddle's name will be added to the list of recipients.