



Office of the Mayor

Town of Oakville

1225 Trafalgar Road
Oakville, Ontario L6H 0H3
Tel: 905-338-4173
Fax: 905-815-2001
mayor@oakville.ca



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Oakville Public Library

On behalf of the Town of Oakville and members of Council, it is with great pleasure that I extend my congratulations to Oakville Public Library on the occasion of celebrating the 125th anniversary.

While the name Oakville Public Library was first used in 1895, the library's history began in 1827 on the site of the current Central Branch where the first Meeting Hall was built. Used as both a church and school, the space became the site of Oakville's first library when Oakville's first school master opened a public reading room in 1836. The reading room and local Mechanics' Institute then merged in the 1860s and was housed in the tower of Oakville Common School, located just to the north of Central Branch.

Though named the Oakville Public Library, membership was based on an annual fee. In 1922, the Town of Oakville enacted By-law No. 664 which authorized "the appointment of a Public Library Board and the establishment of a Public Library under The Public Libraries Act, 1920." Under the new Library Board, membership fees were eliminated, and the Public Library was free for all to join. The rest, as they say, is history.

Over the last 125 years, Oakville Public Library has played an important and integral role in our community, offering multiple branches and resources to our residents and consistently adapting to and integrating new technology to the collection.

As an invaluable resource to our community we thank the OPL for their dedication to our community and wish them continued success.

Sincerely yours,

Rob Burton, Mayor
TOWN OF OAKVILLE