Policy Type: **Governance**

Policy Number: GOV - 08

Policy Title: **Board advocacy**

Policy Approval Date: April 2012

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SEVERN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Board must ensure that the community is aware of the importance of the Library and that funding bodies fully understand the important role which the Library plays in the community. Through its advocacy work, the Board seeks to promote the profile of the Library and enhance its importance to the community. This policy sets out the advocacy responsibilities of the Board.

1. The Board Chair (or delegate) shall be the official spokesperson for the Severn Township Public Library on issues approved by the Board.
2. In pursuing its advocacy activities, the Board shall :
    a. Inform council of the needs of the community, the development of library services, plans and achievements by means of reports, letters, phone calls and visits
    b. Meet with council when necessary to review progress and discuss funding needs
    c. Participate regularly in activities that build relationships with individuals and organizations that share interests with those of the Severn Township Public Library
    d. Identify and respond to issues, concerns and government policies that may directly or indirectly affect the Severn Township Public Library and ensure that government decision-makers at all levels are aware of the value of the Library and its benefits to individuals and to the community.