

## Media Release

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### Marilyn and Charles Baillie Make \$1.5 million Gift to Library

Library Foundation surpasses \$10 million **re:vitalize** fundraising goal

**TORONTO** (January 17, 2012) – The Toronto Public Library Foundation announced today that Toronto philanthropists Marilyn and Charles Baillie have made a remarkable \$1.5 million gift in support of its **re:vitalize – Toronto Reference Library Campaign**. The gift helps the Foundation surpass its \$10 million fundraising goal in support of the \$34 million revitalization of the Toronto Reference Library.

“This is a landmark day at Toronto Public Library,” said Jane Pyper, City Librarian. “Thanks to the generosity of the Baillies, the Toronto Reference Library’s Special Collections will soon have an extraordinary new home and generations of learners will benefit from increased access to and enhanced preservation of the Library’s remarkable collections.”

The Baillies’ gift was made in support of the creation of a new Special Collections Centre, a key outcome of the Toronto Reference Library’s \$34 million revitalization program. Currently under construction, the new Special Collections Centre will bring the Library’s exceptional 1.9 million item Special Collections in Canadiana, Performing Arts and documentary art together under a new two-storey Rotunda and Reading Room to be located on the Library’s 5th floor. The Centre, to be named the **Marilyn & Charles Baillie Special Collections Centre**, will open in 2013.

“We are incredibly grateful to Marilyn and Charlie for this gift,” said Heather Rumball, President, Toronto Public Library Foundation. “Not only have they taken our **re:vitalize** fundraising campaign over the top, but through this gift the Baillies are affirming the vital importance of Toronto Public Library and its internationally-renowned Special Collections. Moreover, they are setting a wonderful leadership example of how personal philanthropy can help make great outcomes possible at Toronto Public Library.”

“We feel very fortunate to be in a position to help Toronto Public Library realize the creation of this wonderful new Centre,” said Charles Baillie, retired Chairman and CEO, TD Bank Group, and currently President of Authors at Harbourfront. “Marilyn and I are great believers in the importance of preserving and learning from Canada’s heritage and are delighted to be recognized in association with the Library’s world-class Special Collections.”

Among their many other endeavours, Marilyn is an award-winning children’s author, and Charles is a collector of antiquarian books.

Launched in May 2009 with a goal of raising \$10 million towards the \$34 million project, **re:vitalize – Toronto Reference Library Campaign** marks the first broad-based capital fundraising campaign in Toronto Public Library’s 125+ year history. Led by Honorary Chair Frank McKenna and a Campaign Cabinet consisting of Richard Boxer, Wendy M. Cecil, Lawson A.W. Hunter and Bill Linton, the **re:vitalize** Campaign has now raised \$10.6 million including leadership gifts from The Bluma Appel Community Trust and an anonymous donor. The Foundation continues to invite all Torontonians to make gifts in support of the **re:vitalize Campaign** – all funds raised in excess of goal will be directed to further capital enhancements at the Toronto Reference Library that were not accommodated in the original project budget.



## Toronto's Library. Absolutely Vital.

Funding for the Toronto Reference Library revitalization project is being realized through a capital budget contribution of \$14 million from the City's capital budget (2008 – 2012), a \$10 million investment from the Government of Ontario and an Infrastructure Stimulus Fund contribution from the Government of Canada secured in October 2009.

*The Toronto Public Library Foundation believes in the social benefits of a strong and healthy public library system. As a registered charity, the Foundation fosters relationships with people of vision to provide Toronto's Library with improved and expanded collections, enhanced programs and services, and revitalized community spaces.*

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