

BURNABY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

AGENDA

Regular Meeting

DATE: 2021 June 17 (Thursday)

PLACE: via Zoom

TIME: 19:00h (7:00pm)

Our dream is:

A welcoming community where all people can explore, learn and connect.

To realize our dream:

We empower the community to engage with and share stories, ideas and information.

We would like to recognize we are on the ancestral and unceded homelands of the hə́nqəmíə́m and Skw̓xwú7mesh speaking peoples, and to extend appreciation for the opportunity to hold a meeting on this territory.

PAGE NO.

1. **Motion** to receive agenda

2. **Minutes**

i) **Motion** to adopt the minutes of the regular meeting held 2021 May 20 as circulated

ENCLOSED

ii) **Motion** to adopt the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held 2021 March 18 as circulated

ENCLOSED

3. **Reports**

i) **Board Chair** (*verbal*)

ii) **Council Liaison** (*verbal*)

iii) **InterLINK Representative** (*verbal*)

4. **Items for Information**

i) **Indigenous Initiatives Working Group**
(*presentation by Group Lead Mariah Gastaldo*)

ii) **Indigenous Territory Acknowledgement Update**

5. Other Business
6. Next Library Board Meeting – 2021 July 15 at 7:00pm via Zoom.
7. Adjournment

Motion that the regular meeting adjourn and that the Board resolve itself into an in camera meeting from which the public is excluded to consider financial matters.



TO: CHAIR AND TRUSTEES
BURNABY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

FROM: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, PUBLIC SERVICE
BURNABY PUBLIC LIBRARY

DATE: 2021 JUNE 17

SUBJECT: INDIGENOUS TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT UPDATE

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Library Board review the following update regarding the Library's Indigenous territory acknowledgement.

REPORT

Background

Burnaby is located on ancestral, unceded, and shared Coast Salish territory, including the Katzie, Kwantlen, Kwikwetlem, Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations. These are hən̓q̓əmiñəm speaking communities, with the exception of Squamish who speak Skwxwú7mesh.

In September 2019, BPL staff began using the following territory acknowledgment at the beginning of formal meetings, events, and programs:

“Before we start, I would like to take a moment to recognize we are on the ancestral and unceded homelands of the hən̓q̓əmiñəm and Skwxwú7mesh speaking peoples, and to extend appreciation for the opportunity to hold a meeting on this shared territory.”

The acknowledgment was developed by Burnaby Village Museum staff who worked closely with local Nations on the wording.

Update

Earlier this year, the word “shared” was removed from the acknowledgement’s wording after further consultation with local Nations. The reason for this change is to respect the entirety of territory areas for each Nation. While Nations historically moved through the territories of other Nations on a seasonal round of hunting, harvesting and visiting relations, it is important when recognizing unceded territory to understand the land base

of each Nation as whole and complete, even when recognized boundaries overlap. This concept is supported by Action #47 of the TRC 'Calls to Action', which states "*We call upon all levels of government to repudiate concepts used to justify European sovereignty over Indigenous peoples and lands*".

At the same time, the acknowledgment became part of official staff email signatures. It is also now included in both internal and external library documents such as the strategic plan, annual report, 'welcome to the library' brochures, the new website and other external facing promotional material.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heidi Schiller". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Heidi Schiller
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, PUBLIC SERVICE
BURNABY PUBLIC LIBRARY