

**BURNABY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD**

Minutes of a regular meeting held 2021 September 16 at 19:04h via Zoom.

PRESENT: Jeffrey Yu (Chair)  
Gene Blishen  
Surena Bains  
Sarah Bartnik  
Chris Dong  
Ernie Kashima  
Mandy Yang  
Councillor Johnston

ALSO PRESENT: Beth Davies (Secretary)  
Trish Mau  
Sharon Notarrigo  
Sarah Bjorknas  
Maja Suzberic  
Amy Girard  
Rashish Maple

REGRETS: Matt Foley

We would like to recognize we are on the ancestral and unceded homelands of the hə́nqəmiñə́m and Skwxwú7mesh speaking peoples, and to extend appreciation for the opportunity to hold a meeting on this territory.

**ACTION**

1. Agenda

**MOVED** by Ernie Kashima  
Seconded by Chris Dong

"That the agenda be received."

**CARRIED**

2. Minutes

**MOVED** by Surena Bains

"That the minutes of the regular meeting held 2021 July 15 be adopted as circulated."

Seconded by Mandy Yang

**CARRIED**

3. Reports

i) Board Chair

The Board Chair reported that he recently had the opportunity to have a conversation with the Mayor, during which the Mayor expressed his appreciation for

how well the Library has stepped up to help the community during the pandemic.

ii) Council Liaison

The Council Liaison echoed the Mayor's appreciation for the Library and how staff have been able to provide services as close to normal as possible during these times.

The Council Liaison also reported on the appointment of the City's new Chief Administrative Officer.

iii) InterLINK Representative

The InterLINK Representative reported that a facilitated training session that had been planned for September 9 has been rescheduled for October.

The InterLINK Alternate will be attending the meeting on September 28.

4. Items for Decision

i) Board Policy Review

The Chief Librarian spoke to the report and the recommendations.

After discussion, the Board agreed on the recommended schedule, as well as the practice that policies will be looked at in order to include an Indigenous world view and to remove exclusionary language as they are reviewed per the schedule.

The review will begin with B1 Intellectual Freedom and B2 Privacy, with the Board Chair and Trustee Bartnik volunteering for the working group. The working group will develop a process to guide Library staff in reviewing the policies, and staff will bring recommended changes back to the Board.

Working  
Group

ii) Trustee Recruitment

The Chief Librarian spoke to the report and revised document, asking for the Board's feedback as well as their thoughts on holding a virtual information session for prospective Library Trustees.

The Board felt that an information session would be helpful in the recruiting process by giving prospective Trustees a better idea on what's involved in being a Library Trustee.

**MOVED** by Surena Bains

"That the Library Board approve the revised Trustee Recruitment Information document and provide a public information session for prospective Trustees."

Seconded by Gene Blishen

**CARRIED**

## 5. Items for Information

### i) BPL Fine Free Initiative: 12-month Evaluation

The Chief Librarian spoke to the report, acknowledging the contribution by the Manager, Community Development on this initiative.

The Chief Librarian noted that although the data provided in the report may be obscured due to altered activity levels during the pandemic, feedback from staff has been overwhelmingly positive, and a considerable number of other libraries have also gone fine free in order to reduce barriers for patrons.

### ii) COVID-19 and Library Operations

The Chief Librarian spoke to the report, highlighting the news that all laid off staff have now accepted recall.

The Chief Librarian also expressed her appreciation for the 'Not Myself Today' Library staff team, who have become mental health ambassadors for the city-wide program by sharing resources, advice, and personal stories on the internal staff blog.

### iii) Retired Employees

The Chief Librarian spoke to the report, noting the significant amount of experience and expertise in the staff who retired during the first half of the year.

### iv) Cameron Community Centre and Library Project Approval of Schematic Design and Funding Request

The Chief Librarian noted that the report provides information on the progress of the Cameron development.

### v) Confederation Park Community Centre Project Approval of Schematic Design and Funding Request

The Chief Librarian noted that although the McGill Branch will not be directly impacted by the development at Confederation Park, the area around the branch will change significantly.

## 6. Other Business

### i) Manager, Community Development

The Chief Librarian reported that the Manager, Community Development is leaving Burnaby Public Library in order to become the new Chief Librarian for the New Westminster Library system.

**MOVED** by Gene Blishen

“That the Board express its thanks and appreciation to Jorge Cardenas, the outgoing Manager, Community Development, for his incredible work

at BPL in removing barriers, moving the library into the community, and looking at services through an equity lens.”

Seconded by Chris Dong

**CARRIED**

7. Adjournment

**MOVED** by Chris Dong

“That the regular meeting adjourn and that the Board resolve itself into an in camera meeting from which the public is excluded in order to consider personnel matters.”

Seconded by Surena Bains

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 20:10h.

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Jeffrey Yu (Chair)

Beth Davies (Secretary)

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