

## **BURNABY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD**

Minutes of a regular meeting held 2022 January 20 at 19:03h via Zoom.

PRESENT: Sarah Bartnik (Chair)  
Mandy Yang  
Surena Bains  
Hakam Bhaloo  
Gene Blishen  
Chris Dong  
Ernie Kashima  
Caroline White  
Councillor Johnston

ALSO PRESENT: Beth Davies (Secretary)  
Trish Mau  
Jamie McCarthy  
Christie Menzo  
Sharon Notarrigo  
Sarah Bjorknas  
Maja Suzberic  
Amy Girard

We would like 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 territory.

New Trustees Hakam Bhaloo and Caroline White were welcomed, and introductions were made among the Board and Library staff who were present.

### 1. Election of Officers

The 2021 Board Vice Chair took the chair for the election of the 2022 Board Chair and declared the elections open.

Surena Bains nominated Sarah Bartnik for the position of Chair of the Burnaby Public Library Board for the year 2022. Chris Dong seconded this nomination. There being no further nominations, Sarah was declared elected by acclamation and took the chair.

Gene Blishen nominated Mandy Yang for the position of Vice Chair of the Burnaby Public Library Board for the year 2022. Chris Dong seconded this nomination. There being no further nominations, Mandy was declared elected by acclamation.

InterLINK and committee appointments were deferred to the February meeting. The Human Resources Coordinator will send information on Board roles and committees to the Trustees.

**ACTION**

HR  
Coordinator

2. Agenda

“2023 Provincial Budget: Proposed UBCM Resolution” was added to the agenda under Items for Decision.

**MOVED** by Councillor Johnston

"That the agenda be received as amended."

Seconded by Surena Bains

**CARRIED**

3. Minutes

**MOVED** by Gene Blishen

“That the minutes of the regular meeting held 2021 December 9 be adopted as circulated.”

Seconded by Mandy Yang

**CARRIED**

4. Reports

i) Board Chair

The Board Chair reported that she was looking forward to working with the Board in her new role, noting that she will take a cooperative approach to leadership, sharing duties and responsibilities with the Vice Chair.

ii) Council Liaison

The Council Liaison reported that the first Council meeting of 2022 will take place the following Monday evening.

iii) InterLINK Representative

The Chief Librarian provided a brief overview of InterLINK for the new Trustees.

i) Provisional 2022 InterLINK Budget

Trustees discussed the InterLINK Budget. A decision regarding the budget was deferred to the February meeting.

5. Items for Decision

i) Board Policy Reviews

The Chief Librarian spoke to the revision in the proposed timeline.

**MOVED** by Ernie Kashima

“That the Library Board approve changes to the policy review timeline as outlined in the report.”

Seconded by Surena Bains

**CARRIED**

ii) 2023 Provincial Budget: Proposed UBCM Resolution

The Chief Librarian spoke to the report and the timeline of next steps.

**MOVED** by Caroline White

“That the Library Board approve a resolution for consideration at the May 2022 Lower Mainland Local Government Association (LMLGA) Annual General Meeting, and for subsequent consideration at the September 2022 Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Convention.”

Seconded by Surena Bains

**CARRIED**

6. Items for Information

i) 2021 Statistical Snapshot

The Chief Librarian spoke to the report, noting that both 2021 and 2020 were unusual years due to COVID-19’s impact on activity levels.

When comparing 2021 to 2020, there were increases in those metrics associated with patrons being in-branch, such as physical circulation, computer sessions and patron questions. Digital circulation also continued to increase, reflecting a greater investment in that collection.

The Chief Librarian noted the following in regards to the statistics:

- Home Library and Accessible Service was one of the first services the Library reinstated during the pandemic.
- The measurement of Wi-Fi users is inaccurate, so it has been decided to stop including those numbers in statistics reporting until their accuracy can be confirmed.
- Computer use has not rebounded to pre-pandemic levels – possibly because many patrons have since adjusted to using their own technology.
- The new service model, along with inconsistencies in practice, has made measuring reference questions more challenging on a daily basis. Staff will instead be focusing their efforts on measuring one-week periods 3-4 times throughout the year.

Trustee White wondered if the significant drop in 2021 in-person visits when compared to 2019 is the new normal. She noted it was important to know why patrons aren’t coming into the library. The Board Chair suggested that once the province is at a more stable, post-pandemic state, patrons may need encouragement to come back into library spaces.

ii) Strategic Plan Report: Fourth Quarter 2021

The Chief Librarian noted the following highlights:

- Teen Services worked with MOSAIC to organize an after-hours film screening of youth-made documentaries at the Metrotown Branch – a partnership that demonstrates the value of persistence and relationship building. The event also highlights the opportunity that not having branches open late every night can provide in planning for events such as these.
- Community Librarian Mariah has been developing a relationship with the North Fraser Métis Association, and recently, a Métis knowledge keeper has asked for her help in planning and running a Métis Capote making workshop.
- Although limited-attendance in-person storytimes began in the fall, current restrictions have necessitated pulling back on offering any more at this time.
- Lists of the year's top 10 checked out items in various categories and formats were included in the report.
- Using a process that considered the best balance between effort level and providing the best user experience and futureproof plan, the McGill Branch was able to shift their multilingual collection to the front of the library within three days. Patron response has been very positive, and the collection has room to grow within its new location.

iii) Operating Plan 2021 and 2022 Progress

The Chief Librarian spoke to the report, noting that senior staff will be discussing what items to focus on in 2022. A final 2022 Operating Plan will be brought to the Board at the February meeting.

The Chief Librarian reported that the Operating Plan will only include items that need to follow a formal project plan. Other items that do not need a formal project plan will be operationalized.

iv) Picard Trust

The Chief Librarian spoke to the report, noting that its purpose was to bring information decided by the Board in camera to the public forum.

v) Retired Employees

The Chief Librarian reported on staff members who had retired in the last half of 2021, noting that two of them also celebrated milestone years in 2021 and were able to take part in the City's Long Service Awards.

7. Adjournment

**MOVED** by Ernie Kashima

"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 financial and personnel matters."

Seconded by Chris Dong

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 20:11h.

---

Sarah Bartnik (Chair)

Beth Davies (Secretary)

sn