

## BPL Board Minutes

Minutes of a regular meeting held January 16, 2025, at 6:00pm at the Boardroom, Bob Prittie Metrotown Branch.

### Attendance

**Board:** Mandy Yang (Meeting Chair)

Anna Lu

Caroline White

Gene Blishen

Hakam Bhaloo

Maita Santiago

Raj Hundal

Sangeeta Subramanian

Sarah Bartnik

**Staff:** Beth Davies (Secretary)

Elizabeth Davies

Noreen Ma

Trish Mau

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

### 1. Agenda

**That** the agenda be received as presented.

Moved by Hakam Bhaloo  
Seconded by Sangeeta Subramanian  
**Carried.**

### 2. Minutes

**That** the minutes of the regular meeting held December 12, 2024 be adopted as circulated.

Moved by Sarah Bartnik  
Seconded by Raj Hundal  
**Carried.**

### 3. Election of Officers

Sarah Bartnik nominated Sangeeta Subramanian for the position of Co-Chair. Hakam Bhaloo seconded. Sangeeta Subramanian was acclaimed.

Sarah Bartnik nominated Caroline White for the position of Co-Chair. Anna Lu seconded. Caroline White was acclaimed.

Sangeeta Subramanian nominated Gene Blishen for the position of InterLINK representative. Hakam Bhaloo seconded. Gene Blishen was acclaimed. Sarah Bartnik nominated herself as the alternate InterLINK representative and was acclaimed.

Picard Trust Adjudication Committee: Anna Lu, Caroline White, and Raj Hundal volunteered and were acclaimed.

### 4. Reports

#### 4.1 Board Chair

The outgoing Co-Chairs expressed gratitude to all trustees for their support and look forward to serving on the Board in their new roles.

#### 4.2 Council Liaison

Maita Santiago information from the first council meeting of the year, including a Council motion to include climate mitigation in the Official Community Plan.

#### 4.3 InterLINK Representative

InterLINK representative Gene Blishen presented the 2025 InterLINK budget and shared information about the loss of IRCC funding for InterLINK's New to BC program.

### 5. Items for Decision

#### 5.1 Branch Closure

The Chief Librarian presented the request to close the Bob Prittie Metrotown and Tommy Douglas branches to facilitate incident response training on March 5 and 6, 2025.

Trustees had questions about communication with the public. The Chief Librarian explained that signage at the library and news items online on BPL's website will communicate this information.

**That** the Board approve in principle a full-day closure of the Metrotown and Tommy Douglas branches, for one day each, to facilitate incident response and de-escalation training.

Moved by Hakam Bhaloo  
Seconded by Raj Hundal  
**Carried.**

### 6. Items for Information

#### 6.1 Strategic Plan Report Q4

The Chief Librarian highlighted some of the library's fourth quarter activities. This included the renovation of the lobby at the McGill branch, along with installation of a new automated materials handling (AMH) machine at the branch. She also highlighted an increase in programming for families in languages other than English, with storytimes and other programs being delivered by staff or in partnership with community organizations.

The Chief Librarian also reported on some of the challenges and number of incidents in 2024 at the Bob Prittie Metrotown branch. She acknowledged the toll taken on staff members and thanked them for their work.

6.2 Strategic Plan Staff Communication

The Chief Librarian highlighted how staff are informed of the strategic plan throughout recruitment, onboarding, and in general, and how staff incorporate strategic plan goals and values into their daily work.

6.3 Requests for Reconsideration

The Director of Collections and Technology presented on requests for reconsideration of materials in 2024 and 2023. She also explained the process of deciding whether ratings are needed for materials.

7. Other Business

Trustees thanked the outgoing co-chairs for their work . The incoming co-chairs said that they are looking forward to working with the Board in their new roles.

8. Adjournment

- 8.1 **That** the regular meeting adjourn and that the Board resolve itself into an in camera meeting from which the public is excluded to consider patron bans.

Moved by Hakam Bhaloo

Seconded by Anna Lu

**Carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:20pm.

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Mandy Yang (Meeting Chair)

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Beth Davies (Secretary)