

**BURNABY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD**

Minutes of a regular meeting held 2022 September 15 at 1913h in the Children's Program Room at Tommy Douglas Library and via Zoom.

PRESENT (in person): Sarah Bartnik (Meeting Chair)  
Surena Bains  
Chris Dong

PRESENT (via Zoom): Ernie Kashima (joined at 1930h)  
Councillor Johnston

ALSO PRESENT: Beth Davies (Secretary)  
Heidi Schiller  
Linton Harrison  
Sarah Björknas  
Maja Suzberic  
Amy Girard  
Sharon Notarrigo  
Maria Anicic  
Caelin Crosby  
Ashley Dunne (left @ 1950h)

REGRETS: Mandy Yang  
Hakam Bhaloo  
Gene Blishen  
Caroline White

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

Ashley Dunne and Caelin Crosby shared an abbreviated version of their presentation on transgender inclusion work at BPL, originally created for the Public Library Association Conference earlier this year. The presentation focused on creating a road map for libraries to tackle transgender inclusion issues in communities. The presenters also shared past goals and activities of the Trans Inclusion Working Group, along with challenges faced and insights.

The presentation was well received and stimulated significant engagement amongst conference attendees. Likewise, the Board provided supportive feedback and thanked Ashley and Caelin for their presentation and their ongoing work towards trans inclusion at the Library.

Ashley will provide Trustees with a digital copy of the full presentation which will also include the speaking notes.

Trustee Bains suggested that BPL's Trans-Inclusion Working Group provide regular, formal reports to management to track their progress and accomplishments.

1. Agenda

The Meeting Chair informed the Board that an additional motion for decision was added under Agenda Item 4.ii regarding the National Day of Mourning on Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

**MOVED** by Surena Bains

"That the agenda be received with the addition."

Seconded by Chris Dong

**CARRIED**

2. Minutes

**MOVED** by Dan Johnston

"That the minutes of the regular meeting held 2022 July 21 be adopted as circulated."

Seconded by Surena Bains

**CARRIED**

3. Reports

i) Board Chair

The Meeting Chair reported that she attended two Summer Reading Club wrap-up parties. The Chair expressed their excitement and commented on the success of the smaller party format. They also noted the enthusiastic disposition of staff, medal recipients, spectators and conveyed gratitude to BPL staff who made the occasion both fun and significant to medal recipients. The Meeting Chair added that the Mayor and councillors also attended the event.

Trustee Kashima attended one of the parties and reiterated the success of the affair and praised Library staff for sharing their infectious enthusiasm and for supporting the children's reading achievements.

ii) Council Liaison

The Council Liaison reported that the City is preparing for elections, and that the Mayor has been acclaimed as no one is running against him. The Council Liaison also indicated that they will not be running for the next election and therefore the next Library Board meeting will be their final meeting.

The Trustees thanked the Council Liaison for their past three years of service to the Library Board.

iii) InterLINK Representative

InterLINK did not have a regular meeting this month, therefore no update. The InterLINK representative thanked the Council Liaison for their work on the Library Board.

4. Items for Decision

i) National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

**MOVED** by Ernie Kashima

“That the Library Board approve closure of all library branches on September 30 for the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.”

Seconded by Chris Dong

**CARRIED**

ii) National Day of Mourning

**MOVED** by Ernie Kashima

“That library branches remain open on September 19 with reduced hours to observe the National Day of Mourning.”

Seconded by Chris Dong

5. Items for Information

i) Provincial COVID-19 Relief and Recovery Grant

The Chief Librarian provided information regarding the four initiatives chosen for the grant of \$122,000. The initiatives are: to increase wifi hot spots, to establish a water and snack pilot project as a community harm-reduction initiative, to support staff training in mental health first aid, harm reduction and emergency preparedness, and to increase BPL’s ebook and audiobook collection.

Discussion occurred regarding the pilot program. The Chief Librarian confirmed the scope of work would include establishing program parameters and community engagement to adopt logical and respectful ways to proceed.

ii) Metrotown Renovations/Restoration

The Chief Librarian indicated that the Bob Prittie Metrotown Library will re-open to the public on September 19. The opening will include the availability of the entire collection for browsing/borrowing and public computer use. Temporary washrooms will be situated outside the building as construction on current washrooms has been delayed. Overall, construction has been slow but recent joint efforts from City Facilities Management, architects and contractors are progressing to get back on track. Construction completion date has moved to the first half of 2023. Construction and the noise associated has been difficult for staff. There has been an overflow of public traffic and staff traffic at other branches which has caused disruption at other branches. The Automated Materials Handling System has arrived. Installation is behind schedule.

Fire restoration is almost complete. There is a great volume of work being done by staff to prepare for the September 19<sup>th</sup> opening.

City piping project and related repairs are almost complete.

The Chief Librarian credited staff for coping and for their perseverance through these simultaneous projects.

6. Next Library Board Meeting

The Meeting Chair confirmed that the October meeting will be held via Zoom, noting that in-person meetings will not yet resume on a regular basis.

7. Adjournment

**MOVED** by Chris Dong

“That the regular meeting be adjourned.”

Seconded by Surena Bains

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 20:07h

---

Sarah Bartnik (Meeting Chair)

Beth Davies (Secretary)

ma