

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2022****5:30PM - 8:30PM**

Meeting held via Zoom videoconference

Board Present:

Jordan Oye, Chair  
Caty Liu, Vice Chair  
Chaslynn Gillanders  
Denise Hui  
Diane Cousar  
Nabeel Abrahani  
Rachel Ling  
Sherine Merhi

Staff Present:

Anne Bechard  
Charles Leung  
Iris Lee  
Linden Jessome  
Shaneena Rahman  
Victor Lai

Guests:

Helen Varga, CUPE 718-05  
Alan Hill, Richmond Multicultural  
Community Services

Friends of the Library:

Betsy Blair, Chair

Susan Walters, Chief Librarian and  
Secretary to the Board

Regrets:

Linda McPhail, Council Representative

**1. Call to Order and Welcome**

The meeting was called to order at 5:34pm with J. Oye providing the welcome.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

MOVED: THAT, the agenda be approved as presented.

R.Ling/D. Hui.....CARRIED

**3. Business Section****(a) Approval of Meeting Minutes**

S. Merhi noted a spelling correction to page 4 of the previous month's minutes.

MOVED: THAT, the minutes of the regular meeting of April 27, 2022 be approved as amended.

S. Merhi/D. Hui.....CARRIED

**(b) Business Arising**

None.

**(c) Correspondence**

- i. March 31, 2022 – Letter from Mari Martin, Director, Ministry of Municipal Affairs re: COVID-19 Relief and Recovery Grant Award

**4. Presentation****(a) Richmond Multicultural Community Services (RMCS): Harmony in Diversity**

The Richmond Community Protocol has been developed by Richmond Resilience BC which is a subcommittee of the Richmond Community Collaboration Table.

The protocol is a living document that provides a step-by step, easy to use guide designed to help community members and stakeholders react promptly and effectively whenever discrimination or a hate motivated incident occurs. The protocol also offers referral to relevant resources and a list of key terms and their definitions.

In response to a question from C. Gillanders regarding community partnerships that represent Indigenous community, A. Hill expressed that the RMCS is in conversation with the Musqueam Nation and have extended an invite for future development of the proposal.

S. Merhi posed a similar question. A. Hill explained that RMCS is also in conversation with the BC Muslim Association and are exploring other relationships with community partners.

A. Hill noted that this document is still undergoing changes, but if adopted, responsibility for yearly updates will be the joint responsibility of the organizations who endorse the protocol.

J. Oye recommended that prior to considering a motion to adopt the protocol, the board would like to see additional inroads and resources developed with the communities mentioned above and also that the board have a better understanding of what their support of the protocol means for external organizations and communities. Staff will work with the RMCS to ensure these expectations and deliverables are outlined clearly in the protocol document.

## **5. Community**

### **(a) Councillor's Report**

No comments or questions raised on this report.

### **(b) Friends of the Library (FOL) Report**

B. Blair shared her thanks to D. Hui for helping expedite the signing of the authorization letter. The required paperwork has gone through and she is hopeful the building permit will arrive soon.

The Cambie Branch will be hosting a mini-sale this coming weekend (May 28-29, 2022).

### **(c) Summary of Customer Comments**

No comments or questions on this report.

## **6. Board – Items for Decision and/or Discussion**

### **(a) Proposed 2022 UBCM Resolution: Provincial Funding for Public Libraries**

In 2009, provincial funding for public libraries was cut from \$17.6 million to \$14 million. Since 2010, annual provincial funding has remained stagnant. Public library advocacy coordinated by the BC Library Partners has yielded one-time funding for specific initiatives - \$3 million for Digital Initiatives (2020) and \$8 million for COVID-19 Relief and Recovery (2022) – but this has not resulted in a permanent, sustained increase to provincial funding for BC public libraries. The Association of BC Public Library Directors has drafted a UBCM resolution for library boards to review before requesting municipal council support.

The board were invited to provide any feedback or edits they would like to see in this resolution.

C. Gillanders highlighted a clause in the resolution regarding libraries advancing truth and reconciliation with Indigenous communities and stressed the importance of libraries staying true to their intention of advancing these efforts.

J. Oye requested that library staff investigate ways to increase Indigenous representation on staff and use of library services, providing an update to the board on this work and the current status of the Indigenous Services Plan at the September meeting.

MOVED: THAT, the Richmond Public Library Board requests Richmond City Council to consider a resolution to the Union of BC Municipalities to appeal for increased provincial support for public libraries.

R. Ling/D. Hui.....CARRIED

(b) Draft 2021 Annual Report

The draft report was shared via the board blog. J. Oye invited trustees to share any feedback they have by Monday, May 30, 2022, by emailing L. Jessome.

**7. Standing Items**

(a) Roundtable Discussion

S. Merhi thanked library staff for their great teamwork during the recent Ramadan event hosted at the library. The event was well-received by staff and community alike.

J. Oye shared insights from the recent launch of the new Hamilton StoryWalk. He shared his thanks to the library staff involved and invited trustees to check out the new StoryWalk if they are in the area.

D. Hui shared that the LetsTalkRichmond survey for the Form and Character phase of the concept design of the Steveston Community Centre and Branch Library closes on June 7, 2022.

(b) InterLINK Report

A meeting is scheduled for next week.

(c) Fund Development Committee

The committee met to discuss Canada Helps and how it can be tailored to the goals of the committee.

The committee will continue to work with the Governance Committee and share any recommendations on how the fund development policies can be updated.

(d) Governance Committee

J. Oye noted a meeting will be scheduled in the coming weeks.

**8. Chief Librarian's Report**

(a) Highlights from the CULC Meeting of May 16-17, 2022

Included for information purposes, no comments or questions on the highlights provided.

On the BC library advocacy front, S. Walters shared that the BC Library Partners will be presenting the need for increased annual provincial funding to the Select Standing Committee on June 7, 2022.

The UBCM convention is being held in Whistler from September 12-16, 2022. S. Walters noted the BC Library Partners will be hosting a session for provincial delegates and city councillors that showcase the various services public libraries offer to their communities.

While the partners' advocacy has been successful in achieving one-time funding, there may be an opportunity to strengthen the ask for increased annual funding with the support of consultants.

In response to a question from D. Hui, S. Walters explained that she would bring a recommendation to the Finance Committee and then the library board if there are opportunities to support strategic initiatives at a provincial (ABCPLD) or national (CULC) level.

In response to a question from C. Liu, S. Walters confirmed that a number of the highlights from the CULC spring meeting would influence our strategic planning process.

## 9. Operations

### (a) Collections and Customer Service Delivery

In response to a question from D. Hui, S. Rahman explained the updates to the Collection Development Strategy, noting that the intent is for this to be a public-facing document with additional guidelines established to support staff in their execution of this strategy.

S. Walters noted that this strategy will align with a corresponding board policy on collections.

### (b) Community Development and Service Design

In response to a question from D. Hui, A. Bechard explained that the library continues to move forward with the launch of the hiking ExplorePACKS. Once the Mayor's attendance is confirmed, the invitation to participate will be shared with the library board.

### (c) Innovation and Learning Development

No comments or questions on this report.

### (d) Information Technology Operations

No comments or questions on this report.

### (e) Marketing and Public Relations

No comments or questions on this report.

## 10. Items Included for Information

### (a) Anti-Racism Initiatives

Included for information purposes.

## 11. Other Business

None.

## Next Meeting

The next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, June 29, 2022 at 5:30pm.**

## Adjournment

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 6:34pm.

CHAIR



CHIEF LIBRARIAN

