

Minutes of the VPL Board Meeting held on Wednesday, October 25, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at the Level 8 Morris J. Wosk Boardroom, 350 West Georgia St., Vancouver, BC.

<b>Present:</b>	Tim Bottomer		
	Victor Huang		
	Emily Lapper		
	Kevin Lowe	—	Chair
	Melody Ma		
	Karen Spears		
	Ziming Yang		
<b>Board Liaisons:</b>	Victoria Jung	—	Chair, Vancouver Board of Education
<b>Absent:</b>	Clr. Peter Meiszner	—	Vancouver City Councillor
	Raji Mangat	—	Vice Chair
	Harlan Pruden		
	Abeer Yusuf		
<b>Management Present:</b>	Christina de Castell	—	Chief Librarian & CEO
	Maryn Ashdown	—	Director, Neighbourhood & Youth Services
	Kay Cahill	—	Director, Information Technology & Collections
	Dawn Ibey	—	Director, Central Library & Public Service
	Julia Morrison	—	Director, Corporate Services & CFO
	Carol Nelson	—	Director, Planning & Communication
	Balwinder Rai	—	Director, Human Resources
<b>Staff:</b>	Erin Watkins	—	Manager, Programming & Learning
<b>Guests:</b>	Gary Jarvis	—	Executive Steward, CUPE Local 391
	Eleonore Shaffer	—	Member-at-Large, CUPE Local 391
	Jenny Marsh	—	Executive Director, VPL Foundation
<b>Recording Secretary:</b>	Chrysalyn Tolentino	—	Executive Assistant

## INTRODUCTION

### 1. Land Acknowledgement

Board Chair Lowe acknowledged that our work takes place on the unceded, ancestral and current lands of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations. He shared that he had the opportunity to speak about the Board's role in Reconciliation to the Public Library Leaders program of the Canadian Urban Library Council, as part of VPL hosting the program, and his hope that VPL's work will impact the work of other libraries in Canada.

## ADMINISTRATION

### 2. Consent Agenda - Removal of Items and Approval

Moved by Emily Lapper and seconded by Tim Bottomer

*THAT the following Board reports be approved on consent:*

- Draft Minutes – Oct18/23 SFHR Committee Regular Meeting  
*THAT the Board receive the report for information.*
- September 30, 2023 (Q3) Financial Operating Results  
*THAT the Board receive the report for information.*
- Enterprise Risk Management Framework  
*THAT the Board receive the report for information.*
- Accessible BC Act Update  
*THAT the Board receive the report for information.*
- Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two Spirit Response  
*THAT the Board receive the verbal update for information.*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### 3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Melody Ma and seconded by Ziming Yang

*THAT the Board approve the regular meeting agenda as amended.*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### 4. Minutes

The draft minutes of the Regular Meeting held September 27, 2023 were presented to the Board for approval.

Moved by Tim Bottomer and seconded by Karen Spears

*THAT the draft minutes of the Regular Meeting held September 27, 2023 be approved as received.*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

### ➤ **Vancouver School Board**

Victoria Jung distributed a bookmark created by the VSB Anti-Racism and Equity department. She introduced an award-winning book titled “*Little Girl*” by H. Pham-Fraser, a VSB staff member, and shared personal experience about how the book resonated for her.

### ➤ **CUPE 391**

Gary Jarvis, Executive Steward and Eleonore Shaffer, Member-at-Large of CUPE 391 shared that members of the Executive Committee are attending the CUPE National Convention in Quebec and that issues being discussed include cost of living, wages, safety in the workplace, and systemic racism. He also reported that Johnathan Dyer was appointed Co-Chair of the CUPE National Indigenous Council. He noted that Kelsey Reimer is acting President, and that CUPE 391 is currently in bargaining.

### ➤ **Friends of VPL**

Friends of VPL were not present.

### ➤ **VPL Foundation**

Jenny Marsh, Executive Director of the VPL Foundation, provided a written report read by the Chief Librarian & CEO, sharing that the Foundation has published their annual report, available at [vplf.ca](http://vplf.ca), and that the fall campaign will roll out in early November starting with an appeal to monthly donors to increase their gift giving, and that will invite loyal supporters to become monthly sustainers.

### ➤ **InterLINK**

Trustee Melody Ma encouraged trustees to attend the InterLINK Digital Licensing & Copyright for Public Libraries workshop on Monday, October 30 being delivered by Chief Librarian & CEO de Castell and Director Cahill. The purpose of this workshop is to inform trustees about the current environment and challenges facing libraries, considering increased digital use and the impact of pricing on how we build our digital collections. The workshop will also talk about advocacy efforts to find solutions for Canadian libraries.

**ADJOURN**

Moved by Melody Ma and seconded by Emily Lapper

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

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Kevin Lowe, Chair

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Christina de Castell, Secretary

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