

Minutes of the VPL Board Community Relations, Planning & Development Committee Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.

**Present:** Emily Lapper  
Kevin Lowe  
Harlan Pruden  
Karen Spears – Acting Chair  
Abeer Yusuf

**Absent:** Raji Mangat – Chair

**Management**

**Present:** 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 & Communications

**Guest:** Johnathan Dyer – Acting President, CUPE 391  
Jenny Marsh – Executive Director, VPL Foundation

**Recording**

**Secretary:** Chrysalyn Tolentino – Executive Assistant

**INTRODUCTORY REMARKS**

Acting Committee Chair Spears acknowledged that our work takes place on the unceded homelands of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations. She is grateful to the Nations for the care and commitment to these lands in the past and present.

**ADMINISTRATION:**

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

Moved Emily Lapper

*THAT the Committee approve the regular meeting agenda as received.*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 2. Minutes

The Chief Librarian & CEO presented the draft minutes of the Regular Meeting September 18, 2023 for approval by the Committee.

Moved by Harlan Pruden

*THAT the draft minutes of Regular Meeting held September 18, 2023 be approved as received.*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## PLANNING

### 3. Naming Opportunities for Children's Library and Oakridge

Carol Nelson, Director of Planning & Communications, presented a report seeking the Board's approval of spaces in the Children's Library and the new Oakridge Branch to make available for philanthropic naming. She noted that the number of spaces is based on the implementation guidelines approved by the Board in 2022, and that up to 50% of spaces can be given a philanthropic name. The intent of the list is to give the VPL Foundation the ability to provide choices to donors when fundraising.

Board Chair Lowe sought clarification on why we need to fundraise for Oakridge Branch. Staff replied that the VPL Foundation is not planning to actively fundraise for Oakridge but will be open to naming if an opportunity arises. He also sought clarification on the connection between naming of a space and the location where the funds are used, which staff clarified depends on the terms of the individual donation.

Trustees acknowledged the thoughtfulness that went into drafting the Indigenous Considerations section and tying the policy to the Article 13 of UNDRIP. Trustees also asked about the process for identifying nameable spaces. Chief Librarian & CEO de Castell explained the process of identifying nameable spaces and noted that staff do not prioritize the spaces, as any options may be provided to a donor, who could choose among them. VPL Foundation Executive Director Marsh added that two spaces in the Children's Library are already approved for naming by the VPL Board, from an earlier process.

Trustees sought clarification on the process and membership for the Naming Subcommittee and Chief Librarian & CEO de Castell noted that this would begin when the VPL Foundation has identified donors. She noted that in the implementation guidelines discussion, the Committee had identified that the Naming subcommittee would be comprised of the Chief Librarian & CEO, VPL Director of Planning & Communications, Executive Director of the VPL Foundation, and a member from the CRPD Committee, and that the Committee would need identify an individual, which could occur in June or at a later meeting. She noted that the Naming Subcommittee's recommendation(s) would go to the CRPD Committee and the Board.

The VPL Foundation is planning to start fundraising in April. At the conclusion of the discussion, the following motions were raised:

Moved by Harlan Pruden

*THAT the Committee recommend that the Board approve:*

- A. *THAT philanthropic naming recognition be made available for the following spaces in the Children’s Library in addition to the two previously approved, with a maximum of eight (no more than 50% of total 16 spaces) to receive philanthropic names:*

*Central Library – Children’s Library:*

*Hands-on Program Room (1)*

*Early Literacy Centre (1)*

*Children’s Nooks (4)*

*Sensory Space (1)*

*Parent Room (1)*

*Mountain Hut (1)*

*Snack Zone (1)*

*Stroller Parking (1)*

*Tree Cubbies (3)*

- B. *THAT a fundraising program be developed that will include recognition on a number of boughs/branches on the elevated tree structure in the Children’s Library.*

- C. *THAT philanthropic naming recognition be made available for the following spaces at the new Oakridge Branch, with a maximum of eight (no more than 50% of the total 16 spaces) to receive philanthropic names:*

*Oakridge Branch:*

*Multi-purpose Room (1)*

*Small Meeting Rooms (4)*

*Large Meeting Rooms (2)*

*Digital Creation Lab (1)*

*Teen Section (1)*

*Children’s Play Area (1)*

*Baby/Toddler Enclosure (1)*

*Parent Room (1)*

*Work Pods (4)*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **4. Facilities Redevelopment Overview**

Maryn Ashdown, Director of Neighbourhood & Youth Services, provided a report and highlighted the status of library-related capital projects including Oakridge, Marpole, Joe Fortes, Collingwood branch, and discussion of potential future library service in the East Fraser Lands (River District). She also provided information on the ʔəʔalməxw/lʔálmexw/Jericho Lands development, the Rupert and Renfrew area, the Children’s Library revitalization at Central Library, and the Central Library Master Plan update.

Trustees remarked on the number of projects and the progress, expressed appreciation for staff work and thanked staff for providing a comprehensive report. They asked about the timing of the Central Library Master Plan and feasibility study for Level 2/3, and whether the Master Plan will go to the Board. Staff noted that the high level parts of the Central Library Master Plan would go to the Board, and that the work would likely start in Q4 2024 for the Master Plan and Q2 2025 for the feasibility study for levels 2 and 3.

Moved by Emily Lapper

*THAT the CRPD Committee recommend that the Board receive the report for information.*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **GOVERNANCE**

### **5. CRPD Terms of Reference**

The Chief Librarian & CEO noted that the Terms of Reference are presented annually for the Committee to review the roles and responsibilities and as an opportunity to consider revisions or seek clarifications. The Committee did not identify any areas that required change or clarification.

Moved by Abeer Yusuf

*That the CRPD Committee receive the Terms of Reference for information.*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

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Karen Spears, Acting Chair

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Christina de Castell, Secretary