

VPL BOARD

Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 22, 2022

Minutes of the VPL Board Meeting held on Wednesday, June 22, 2022 at 5:40 p.m. at the Level 8 Morris J. Wosk Boardroom, 350 West Georgia St., Vancouver, BC.

Present:	Tim Bottomer		
	Kurt Heinrich	—	Vice Chair
	Victor Huang		
	Kevin Lowe	—	Chair
	Stuart Mackinnon	—	Vancouver Park Board Commissioner
	Karen Spears		
	Abeer Yusuf		
Absent:	Clr. Pete Fry	—	Vancouver City Councillor
	Zahra Hussein		
	Melody Ma		
	Raji Mangat	—	Vice Chair
	Barbara Parrott	—	Vancouver School Board Trustee
	Harlan Pruden		
Management Present:	Christina de Castell	—	Chief Librarian & CEO
	Maryn Ashdown	—	Incoming Director, Neighbourhood & Youth Services
	Kay Cahill	—	Director, Information Technology & Collections
	Julie Iannacone	—	Director, Neighbourhood & Youth Services
	Dawn Ibey	—	Director, Central Library & Public Service
	Julia Morrison	—	Director, Corporate Services & CFO
	Balwinder Rai	—	Director, Human Resources
Staff:	Erin Watkins	—	Manager, Programming & Learning
	Patricia Chong	—	Manager, Policy & Planning
Guests:	Liza Saayman	—	President, CUPE Local 391
	Jenny Marsh	—	Executive Director, VPL Foundation
	Lana Bradshaw	—	Co-Chair, Friends of VPL
Recording Secretary:			
	Chrysalyn Tolentino	—	Executive Assistant

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Board Chair Kevin Lowe acknowledged National Indigenous Peoples Day as an opportunity to celebrate Indigenous culture and learn about the history, cultures, contributions, and strength of Indigenous people. He observed that we also need to reflect on the privilege of living on their lands, and how we have benefitted from colonial structures. We need to continue calling for structural reforms and we need to fight the fight every day.

Trustee Mackinnon added that the Vancouver Park Board opened a new park at Smithe and Richards streets. This is the first park in Vancouver to be gifted a name by the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations, sθəqəlxenəm ts'exwts'áxwi7, meaning “rainbow”. The name was chosen for this place because the land where the park now sits was once forested with large trees and had many sources of water, including a marsh where the sun and mist would form rainbows, and because it is a reflection of the neighbourhood.

PRESENTATION

1. Retirement: Julie Iannacone

On behalf of the Board, Chair Kevin Lowe congratulated Julie Iannacone, Director of Neighbourhood & Youth Services on her retirement, thanked her for her significant contributions, and noted the Board’s appreciation for her amazing 46 years of service at VPL.

ADMINISTRATION

2. Consent Agenda - Removal of Items and Approval

Moved by Kurt Heinrich and seconded by Stuart Mackinnon

THAT the following Board reports be approved on consent:

- Draft Minutes – June 13, 2022 CRPD Committee Regular Meeting
THAT the Library Board receive the draft minutes for information.
- Civic Election Candidate Orientation
THAT the Library Board receive the report for information.
- Letter from Minister Cullen to Library Board Chair
THAT the Library Board receive the correspondence for information.
- Letter from Friends of VPL to Chief Librarian & CEO re: Friends 2022 Grant
THAT the Library Board receive the correspondence for information.
- Letter from VPL Board Chair to Friends of VPL in response to June 1, 2022 letter
THAT the Library Board receive the correspondence for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Tim Bottomer and seconded by Kurt Heinrich

THAT the Board approve the regular meeting agenda as received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Minutes

The draft minutes of the Regular Meeting held May 25, 2022 were presented to the Board for approval.

Moved by Kurt Heinrich and seconded by Abeer Yusuf

THAT the draft minutes of the Regular Meeting held May 25, 2022 be approved as received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

➤ CUPE Local 391

Liza Saayman, President of CUPE 391 noted that she is happy to attend as the newly elected President of CUPE 391, and that Union members also elected five new executive members. The Executive Committee will be setting goals for this year and they are looking forward to working with VPL on shared goals. The Union is happy that Fine Free has gone full spectrum as it has made a huge difference to our patrons, and staff will continue to build positive relationships with members of the public and reduce barriers. Members are also happy working with employers on Goal 4.2 in increasing equity and diversity at VPL. The Union is also happy with the Board's decision to recognize the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation on September 30 by closing branches except for Carnegie and náća?mat ct Strathcona Branch.

Board Chair Lowe congratulated Liza on her appointment. Chief Librarian & CEO de Castell commented that staff at Carnegie Branch had shared that people are bringing back books without the shame previously experienced. Vice Chair Heinrich inquired about the availability of materials since we removed fines. Chief Librarian & CEO de Castell replied that based on the experience of other library systems, people do bring back books and there is still an incentive to return materials since they will be blocked from borrowing if they don't return the materials. She will resend the Fine Free FAQ to trustees.

➤ Friends of VPL

Lana Bradshaw, new Co-Chair of Friends of VPL, noted that she is happy to attend her first Library Board meeting. Board Chair Lowe congratulated Lana on her appointment.

➤ **VPL Foundation**

Jenny Marsh, Executive Director of the VPL Foundation, introduced Anne Byczko as the new Manager of Philanthropy. The VPL Foundation will hold a series of summer after work cocktail fundraisers entitled “Rooftop Remix” on Level 9 on July 21, August 18 and September 8. These fundraising events are sponsored by Deloitte and Jarislowsky Fraser. Jenny will send the invitation to Chrysalyn to send to the Library Board and encouraged trustees to attend. She added that the VPL Foundation Board will meet this week to review the list of fundraising priorities.

ITEM FOR DISCUSSION

5. Draft Interim Naming Policy

CRPD Committee Chair Kurt Heinrich introduced the report noting that the Committee had a fulsome discussion and provided feedback, which was incorporated in this iteration. The Committee referred the interim policy for Board discussion and consideration for approval, noting that the VPL Foundation is ready to actively fundraise for Central Library and is waiting for an approved policy. He noted that the discussion of percentage allocation of naming would wait until the policy is approved. Chief Librarian & CEO de Castell shared that the City of Vancouver is developing a comprehensive commemoration and naming policy, and is working with the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations on a process. This process will take some time and VPL will adjust the interim policy to follow the approach that arises from that work for Indigenous language names.

Trustee Mackinnon sought clarification around section 5 of the interim policy, and asked if philanthropic naming of branches is permitted. He also asked if VPL will be working with the City and Park Board on commemorative naming. Chief Librarian & CEO de Castell referred to the item in the policy indicating that branches will not be available for philanthropic naming, and shared that VPL is following the work on the City-wide commemoration policy and contributing where appropriate. Trustee Mackinnon noted that Arts, Culture and Community Services and Parks and Recreation staff gave a joint presentation on commemorative naming at this week’s Vancouver Park Board meeting, and he will forward the presentation to trustees for information.

Trustees reviewed, sought clarification and provided specific editorial changes, removing the reference to legal counsel, and modifying the section about proposing review of names. Trustees expressed support for the approval of the interim policy as amended. At the conclusion of the discussion, the following motion was raised:

Moved by Abeer Yusuf and seconded by Tim Bottomer

THAT the Board approve the Interim Naming Library Spaces policy as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURN

Moved by Kurt Heinrich and seconded by Stuart Mackinnon

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Kevin Lowe, Chair

Christina de Castell, Secretary