

**Surrey Public Library Board Regular Meeting
September 21, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
Strawberry Hill Branch**



Present: Trustees Herrmann (Chair), Dhesa, Gillies, Gurm, Hearty, Maze, Powell, Saran, Smith, Sohal, Werring
Regrets: Councillor Kooner, Trustees Cuenca
Staff: Surinder Bhogal, Chief Librarian
Michael Ho, Director, Administrative Services
Jenny Fry, Director, Programs and Partnerships
Kristen Andrews, Director Public Services
Seline, Director, Communications and Advancement
Nav Gill, Administrative Coordinator
Guest: David Kerr, Manager Community Connections

M I N U T E S

1. CALL TO ORDER & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The September 21, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Surrey Public Library Board was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Trustee Herrmann began the meeting with a land acknowledgment and expressed appreciation working on the traditional territories of the Semiahmoo, Katzie, Kwikwetlem, Kwantlen, Qayqayt, Musqueam and Tsawwassen First Nations.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: "That the Board adopts the agenda for its regular meeting scheduled for September 21, 2023."

Trustee Gurm moved and Trustee Maze seconded –

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Minutes of July 27, 2023, Regular Meeting of the Surrey Public Library Board
- b) Financial Statement for the period ending August 31, 2023
- c) Correspondence from InterLINK regarding net lender credit
- d) Correspondence to InterLINK for net lender credit
- e) Mayor's Literacy Month Proclamation from September 11, 2023 Council Meeting

MOTION: "That the documents, reports and items be received."

Trustee Maze moved and Trustee Werring seconded –

CARRIED

4. STAFF PRESENTATION

David Kerr, Manager Community Connections, presented on Lowering Barriers to Service. He outlined the Library's efforts in being more inclusive through initiatives such as outreach to Indigenous communities, children and youth, and offering story times in different languages.

5. NEW BUSINESS/DISCUSSION

- a) Surrey Libraries 2024-2028 Strategic Plan

MOTION: "To approve the Strategic Plan."

Trustee Smith moved and Trustee Hearty seconded –

CARRIED

- b) Budget 2024 Proposal

MOTION: "To approve the 2024 Operating Budget for submission to the City of Surrey."

Trustee Gurm moved and Trustee Smith seconded –

CARRIED

- c) Board Self-Evaluation process

MOTION: "To approve the addition of proposed questions to the Board's self-evaluation survey."

Trustee Saran moved and Trustee Hearty seconded –

CARRIED

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

- a) **Reports**

None

- b) **Verbal Updates**

- i. Committees:

Executive: Trustee Herrmann reported that the committee is meeting in mid-November.

Governance: Trustee Dhesa reported the committee is meeting in October.

- ii. BCLTA: Trustee Maze reported the new BCLTA Executive Director is interested in meeting all local boards, and a strategic planning retreat is scheduled in November.

- iii. InterLINK: No update

- iv. Staff updates:

1. Director Public Services: January 2024 there will be an increase to service hours at branches. 3 branches will be opening early on Sunday and 7 branches will return to close at 9 pm Monday to Thursday.

2. Director, Programs and Partnerships: With 89 outreach visits that reached 31000 children and teachers, the Summer Reading Club hit the highest registration ever recorded in Surrey Libraries history. At 17,000 it's the highest registration in BC. On September 5, Surrey Libraries was voted in as a full member of the Surrey Urban Indigenous Leadership Committee.
3. Director, Communications and Advancement: Surrey International Writers Conference contacted Surrey Libraries to collaborate on how to provide more funding for more Surrey youth to attend the conference. They are planning on hosting an event in November to fundraise for this initiative. Once confirmed, more details will be provided to the Board via email.

7. IN CAMERA MEETING

MOTION: "To move in camera pursuant to policy 1.2 Library Board Meetings."

Trustee Gurm moved and Trustee Powell seconded –

CARRIED

8. NEXT LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

October 26, 2023, 6pm, Cloverdale Branch

Note: the October Board meeting was cancelled by the Chair via email due to limited agenda items.

9. MOTION TO ADJOURN

The Surrey Public Library Regular Board Meeting of September 21, 2023 was adjourned at 6:48 pm.

Trustee Maze moved and Trustee Werring seconded –

CARRIED