

Smithers Public Library Board Minutes

Wednesday, May 22, 2024, 6:30 p.m., at the Library

Item	Responsible	Action
Call to Order 6:30 p.m.	Christine	Present: Sandy (phone), Christine Tessier, Jim Pojar, Shaunna Moore, Nancy Shanmugaveloo, Amy Burgess, Charmaine O’Coffey, Nathan Cullen Regrets: Calvin Elliott
Territorial Acknowledgement	Wendy	
Check-in	Christine	If you could run any large company in the world, which one would it be?
Adopt Agenda	Christine	CO Motion: To adopt the agenda with the addition of Minister Cullen Seconded: AB Carried
Adopt Consent Agenda	Christine	JP Motion: To adopt the minutes of the April 17, 2024 regular meeting, the May 2024 Library Report, and the April 2024 financials. Seconded: SM Carried
Correspondence	Christine	None
Guest: Minister Nathan Cullen, MLA	Minister Cullen	New Library Minister Cullen does not feel confident that there is a strong possibility of provincial funding for a new library in the next several years. He would like us to consider a partnership model that already has funding for various facets: a daycare, student housing and the college (as an underutilised building). He recommends creating a committee to explore this possibility. He could identify provincial funding pots for the various parts of the project. Architectural drawings would be needed to come up with ways to make everything fit. If we are interested, Nathan could speak informally with the Mayor and College President in the next month to see what their thoughts are about this idea. Christine will pursue and explore this possibility and report back to the Board.
Business Arising from Minutes Town Council Notes New Library Strategic Priorities	Calvin Christine Wendy/Sh Shaunna/ Charmaine	Deferred The Board prepared a letter for our MLA updating him on the status of a new library and requesting his support. Wendy conveyed the letter. TRC Calls to Action audit of the Library & plan for comment. AB Motion: To approve and adopt the TRC Calls to Action audit and plan. Seconded: CO Carried

New Business Community-Led libraries Workshop	Christine/ Charmaine	Conversational format. The speaker posed the question: What can we do for those people we are not serving? How can we work towards serving them?
BCLTA Board as Employer Workshop	Christine	Poll following the workshop showed that 88% of responding BC public libraries do not involve Board members in the hiring or firing of any employees except the Chief Librarian.
Library Lease	Jim	Draft of new lease not yet received.
2023 Audit Update	Wendy	The Library's SOFI was prepared and submitted to the province by the Town of Smithers. Draft 2023 audited financial statements were approved by the Board via email. SMc Motion: To approve the financial statements, with the amendments stated in Jim and Wendy's emails (below). Seconded: Charmaine O'Coffey Carried <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add Larry Cosman to the list of 2023 Board members • c) on page 5: public libraries are currently under the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. • Date at top of page 17 ("20223") • Page 17: Jim Pojar is Vice-Chair of the Board
Northwest Library Federation	Sandy	The Federation still has some of the provincial Enhancement Grant. The NWLF Conference is September 20 & 21 in Kitimat. Book rooms at the Microtel Inn. Robin Stevenson toured the Federation. Science World and Story Theatre will be coming to Smithers and other Federation libraries. Ryan Dowd Homelessness Training and Library Juice Academy are free for NWLF members. Kaitlyn shared her Emergency Planning training with the member libraries and at the BCLA conference.
Friends of the Library	Nancy	Friends AGM was May 8 with 13 attendees. They will hold one book sale this year, likely at St. Joe's School again.
Director's Vacation	Christine	Approved for August 22-31.
Holiday Closures	Wendy	SMc Motion: When a statutory holiday falls on a Friday, Sunday or Monday, the library will also be closed on a Saturday. Staff regularly scheduled on the Saturday will receive their usual pay. Seconded: SM Carried with 1 abstention
Adjournment 7:59 p.m.	Christine	
Next Meeting	Christine	Wednesday, June 19, 2024 at the Library 6:30 p.m.