

Britannia BOARD MEETING MINUTES - December 10, 2025

Directors Present: Adrienne Bale, Adrienne Denham, Brenda Kyle, Norm Leech, Christine McCallum, Nicki McGowan, Sean Miles, Jennifer Mitchell, Craig Ollenberger, Terumi Squibb, Naina Varshney

Others Present: Tom Digby (VPB), Julia McKnight (VPL)

Staff: Cynthia Low, Marina Montiel (recording), Peter Odynsky, Jeremy Shier

Regrets: Suzette Amaya, Starla Bayley (C15), Sonia Blair (VSB), John Flipse, Pat Hogan, Jacky Hughes, Collis Hunter, Maddie Lafleur (VSB)

Location: Info Centre Conference Room and Zoom

CHAIR: Nicky McGowan

CALL TO ORDER: 6:01 PM

TERRITORY HONORING: Adrienne Bale

1 ADDITIONS TO TOPICS N. McGowan

**MOTION TO ADD THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:
UPDATES TO COMMITTEE LISTS AND 2026 BUDGET DISCUSSION, REMOVE FEE INCREASES**

1st: Craig Ollenberger

2nd: Sean Miles

Result: **PASSED**

2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES N. McGowan [November 2025 Minutes Final](#)

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF:
NOVEMBER 12, 2025**

1st: Christne McCallum

2nd: Brenda Kyle

Result: **PASSED**

3 PARTNER'S REPORTS

3.1 Vancouver Park Board T. Digby

No fee increases to recreation centres which was a last-minute change. Layoffs to City and Parks Board staff has started. Much respect to staff going through a difficult time.

3.2 Vancouver Public Library J. McKnight

The Britannia Branch is taking a programming break. Mid to late January programming will resume. We are making enhancements to our Early Learning space. There is a leak coming from the school is coming through the roof from the classroom above, but it is being fixed. The meeting room has been opened to carvers on Sundays all day. We are hoping to start a partnership with the Aboriginal Health Society in the New Year.

3.3 Vancouver School Board S. Blair

Not present - no report

4 NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Appoint Committees C. Low [Committees](#)

Discussion on what defines a committee and its composition. Are there up to date terms of reference for each of the committees? Some committees have voting members and some committees function as community discussion groups. Board members will reach out to community members to see if they want to join their committee.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE MEMBERSHIP OF BOARD DEVELOPMENT, CHILD CARE, FINANCE AND FUND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEES WITH THE ADDITION OF JENNIFER MITCHELL

1st: Craig Ollenberger

2nd: Brenda Kyle

Result: **PASSED**

4.2 2026 Budget J. Shier

Forecasting a budget under 12.5 million. Three priorities were passed in 2025 and two additional priorities for 2026. How are we going to pay for all these priorities? Looking at discretionary reserves - does not quite cover all the costs of the priorities. Looking at Version 3 of the City Budget, how are we meeting these proposed cuts? Moving administrative costs to Child Care which should be covered by the Province, closing the Info Centre on the weekends, reducing front office AUX staff, reducing special event PAs, transfer Child Care janitorial and insurance to the Province. Our current revenue target is lower than actuals. We also factored in the proposed fee increases which have now been rescinded. We may need to make that up in our revenue targets. We are hoping to as close to the budget cut target \$50,000. Version 3 will go to the finance committee for approval and then back to the board in January for final approval. We will also be approaching partners who currently use our facilities for free to pay a reduced rental fee.

5 OLD BUSINESS

5.1 2026-2030 Strategic Plan C. Low [Strat Plan](#)

MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVES THE BRITANNIA 2026-2030 STRATEGIC PLAN AND DIRECTS STAFF TO DEVELOP AN IMPLEMENTATION PLAN AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK.

1st: Christne McCallum

2nd: Naina Varshney

Result: **PASSED**

5.2 2026 Priorities C. Low [2026 Priorites Draft](#)

MOTION THAT THE BOARD APPROVES THE 2026 PRIORITIES AS PRESENTED AND DIRECTS STAFF TO PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS ON FUNDING STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FOLLOWING UNFUNDED PRIORITIES;

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS \$150,000

YOUTH LEADERSHIP \$40,000

ALL NATIONS ELDERS CIRCLE \$40,000

1st: Craig Ollenberger

2nd: Adrienne Bale

Result: **PASSED**

5.3 50th Gala Update

C. Ollenberger [Gala Update](#)

Last year the board approved \$80,000 for Fund development and we hope to use some of those funds to finance this event. Discussion on the proposed budget. Suggestion that budget comes to the Finance committee to go over the numbers and confirm the estimates and provide feedback in January. Detailed sponsorship packages are coming out soon to help secure more funding.

MOTION THAT THE BOARD DIRECT THE FUND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AND GALA WORKING GROUPS TO PROCEED WITH PLANS TO HOST A 50TH ANNIVERSARY GALA FUNDRAISER AS PER THE PROPOSAL PRESENTED AND TO REPORT BACK TO THE BOARD IN MARCH, MAY, JUNE AND SEPT 2026, AND; THAT BOARD MEMBERS WILL COMMIT TO SUPPORT THE FUND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE WITH THE GALA GOALS AND OBJECTIVES AS NEEDED AND THAT THE FULL BUDGET IS PRESENTED TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE IN JANUARY AND FINANCE COM REPORTING BACK TO THE BOARD IN THE FEBRUARY.

1st: Sean Miles

2nd: Norm Leech

Result: **PASSED**

5.4 ReconciliAction

N. Leech

At the Host Nations lunch, the Squamish Nation indicated that they are interested in engaging with Britannia and hopefully the other two nations will follow. The Allies Circle met yesterday and we also had the Reconciliation End of Year Lunch. Suzette was present at all the events. All leading up to the 50th on multiple fronts. VPL, VSB ad PB contacted Britannia about the possibility of renaming the Centre. We will be meeting with City Indigenous relations on Friday. Suzette followed up with Musqueam and Tsleil Waututh and they would like to invite Britannia to their Nations to continue relationship building.

5.5 Board meeting rotating chair

N. McGowan

January - Christine M, February - Adrienne B, March - Norm L

6 ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

6.1 Executive Director

C. Low

[ED Report](#)

See linked report and Review of Cynthia's year end report.

6.2 Manager of Administrative Services

J. Shier

[Admin Report](#)

Covered October 2025 Financial Statements. YTD surpluss on par with last year. Chance that we may go into a deficit on City Budget due to rink closure. Budget package to go out on January 3rd, with questions back on the 5th.

6.3 Manager of Child Care

J. Hughes

[CC Report](#)

We are closer to completing merger by the end of the year.

6.4 Manager of Organizational Change

S. Amaya

[MOC Report](#)

All Nations Elders Circle is coming together in addition to Host Nations relationship building. Reconciliation Circle will continue to be Indigenous only as our cultural safely on site is not where we want it to be. WCT and Indigenous programming will be rolled into regular recreation programming.

6.5 Community Recreation Coordinator P. Odynsky [Recreation Report](#)

Rink opening on Family Day Feb 16, 2026. Concrete poured next Tuesday Dec 16, 2026. Registration for Winter programs began yesterday.

- BREAK -

7 CONSENT ITEMS

- 7.1 Board Development [Board Dev Com Report](#)
- 7.2 Child Care Committee [CC Com Report](#)
- 7.3 Executive [Executive Com Report](#)
- 7.4 Finance [Finance Com Report](#)
- 7.5 Fund Development [Fund Dev Com Report](#)
- 7.6 RIA [RIA Report](#)
- 7.7 SEA Committee [SEA Report](#)
- 7.8 Volunteer [Volunteer Com Report](#)

MOTION TO ACCEPT CONSENT ITEMS

1st: Craig Ollenberger

2nd: Naina Varshney

Result: **PASSED**

8 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJORN

1st: Craig Ollenberger

2nd: Christine McCallum

Result: **PASSED**

9 IN-CAMERA

MOTION TO GO IN CAMERA

1st: Craig Ollenberger

2nd: Christine McCallum

Result: **PASSED**

MOTION TO GO OUT OF CAMERA

1st: Craig Ollenberger

2nd: Christine McCallum

Result: **PASSED**