

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

Others Present: Starla Bayley (C15), Sonia Blair (VSB), Tom Digby (VPB), Julia McKnight (VPL), Ross Stewart, Jennifer Johnstone (CCF), Doug Hiller, Maryn Ashdown (VPL), Bill Hood

Staff: Suzette Amaya, Cynthia Low, Jacky Hughes, Marina Montiel (recording), Peter Odynsky, Jeremy Shier

Regrets: John Flipse, Collis Hunter, Jennifer Mitchell, Maddie Lafleur (VSB),

Location: Info Centre Conference Room and Zoom

CHAIR: Norm Leech

CALL TO ORDER: 6:03pm

TERRITORY HONORING: Norm Leech

1 ADDITIONS TO TOPICS Norm Leech

MOTION TO ADOPT AGENDA

1st: Craig Ollenberger

2nd: Nicki McGowan

Result: **Approved**

2 APPROVAL OF MINTUES Norm Leech [January Minutes Final](#)

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF:

Jan 14, 2026

1st: Naina Varshney

2nd: Brenda Kyle

Result: **Approved**

3 PARTNER'S REPORTS

3.1 Vancouver Park Board T. Digby

The Britannia Rink reopening is Feb16, 2026. The City is renewing the ActiveNet booking system for the city for the next 3 years. Staff has reviewed this software and the contract will go forward. Waiting for a draft of the capital plan. No clear dates, maybe a first draft in March. Suggestion from the board: Maybe ActiveNet could support online classes.

3.2 Vancouver Public Library J. McKnight

Event and programs received funding to support creative writing programming over the next year. Creative writing for English language learners on Feb 24. Sarah Green at VPL is offering Wednesday coffee time programming. Free coffee is served to provide connection with community and staff. Our partnership with 55+ continues with our bring your own book club. The Free Tax Clinic starts Feb 27 to May 9. Library provides space and Britannia provides the volunteers. Meeting room for Carvers on the weekends is going really well. VPL is part of The Alligator Pie Program which allows visits to preschools. OSC will start visiting the library. For The Women's Memorial March the Carnegie Library will provide a live stream of the downtown east side portion of the march which will be available to the public. Events and programs for Black History Month are available on the VPL site.

3.3 Vancouver School Board S. Blair

Today is a sad day today for all educators. The tragedy in Tumbler Ridge highlights the importance of communication channels and the collaboration that we share. Mental health and creating safe spaces for students and healthy adult connections. The importance of acceptance and recognizing culture shifts. Our hearts go out to that community.

The Bruins invitational - great community building event. The Britannia Girls placed 2nd. Basketball and ultimate are in full swing. Hockey academy will start when the rink reopens. Maddie Lafleur is working on connecting with our grade 7 classes. We hosted a grade 7 tour that was very successful and did an activity. It gave the students a taste of Britannia. Looking to admit 130 to 140 Grade Eights. Students are heading into course selection. Food Securities will be hosting an Elk Canning event with the elementary school. More info to come.

4 NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Central City Foundation J. Johnstone

Jennifer Johnstone is the CEO of Central City Foundation which is a foundation founded by a group of neighbours in Vancouver in 1907 to support the community. They work primarily in the downtown east side, but also work in other communities in British Columbia to support folks through grants and through investments in real estate, (Community Land Trust). CCF calls it social purpose real estate, and they provide space and place for community. Jennifer shared her knowledge about foundations and the relationship between foundations and societies.

5 OLD BUSINESS

5.1 Child Care Dept. Strategic Plan J. Hughes [Child Care Vision](#)

Child Care has been on a journey. We are close on finalizing our strategic plan. Previously working with 4 boards, 4 missions, 4 strategic plans. Now we one unit with one strategic plan. Next step is for the leadership team to break down action plan of next 3 years. Our goal to embrace the mission and vision in all departments and move forward in the same direction.

We are moving into bargaining discussions with BCGEU. Asset transfer agreement for Eagles was signed today. Grandview's agreement to be signed in the next few weeks.

MOTION THAT THE BRITANNIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVES THE CHILD CARE DEPARTMENT'S MISSION, VISION AND 3-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN, AS PRESENTED.

1st: Craig Ollenberger

2nd: Christne McCallum

Result: **Approved**

5.2 BAG Operation Guide S. Amaya [BAG Operating Guide](#)
Grateful to VPL Julia McKnight for working together with consultant and myself to create the BAG Operational Guide. We are looking to contract a Cultural Connector and reopen the gallery in June in a good way. Gallery is currently open to the community groups until we hire a Cultural Connector. The Operational Guide is still under review. There will be a public facing document that will be more comprehensive for potential artists and partnerships. How can we have a gallery that is accessible to everyone? The gallery has grown into a multi use space. We must consider that the space is used for other purposes than just a viewing space. Users of the space are young and old from different backgrounds; some have experienced trauma. We need to provide art that is safe for everyone with no disclaimers. Some displays are not safe for community or VPL staff. We need to be proactive and not reactive.

5.3 Host Nations Advisory Circle S. Amaya [HN Advisory Circle](#)
Are we ready to build a relationship with the host nations? They are sovereign governments of their own and do they want to build a relationship with us. This provides context when approaching the Host Nations, what would the ask be? The Host Nations don't want anything performative - they want a long standing relationship with organizations. Who is building the relationships and who will maintain them. Is the relationship advisory? Economics based? Governance? We need intention. Q. What kind of authority can we give to the advisory committee? That will be decided by management and the board. Does the board understand how Indigenous governance works? Get to know the people we want to build relationships with. The aspiration is to build a strong relationship with each nation. They also like to support large developments. The relationship needs to be with the whole society and not just one person. Once we determine the ask we need to provide council a briefing note with action items. Before the next meeting a working group will be formed.

6 ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

6.1 Executive Director C. Low [No Report](#)
Priority to continue to on Governance pathway. Prepping for the bylaw changes passed in September. The working group will put forth some recommendations to the board in regard to governance. Sponsorship pkg for the gala will be ready soon.

6.2 Manager of Administrative Services J. Shier [Admin Report](#)
Main focus preparing for year end audit. We are currently wrapping up 2025 with the city. Financially 2025, we will find the year in a good place with decent surplus and an increase in reserves. We are entering 2026 is good place. A number of board priorities have not been funded, in regard to upgrading our facilities. There may be an ask to direct some of the surplus towards to the upgrades.

6.3 Manager of Child Care J. Hughes [CC Report](#)
See report.

6.4 Manager of Organizational Change S. Amaya [MOC Report](#)

Denise Johnson had her last day last Thursday and maintains a strong relationship with Britannia. Suzette Amaya has taken on many of the programming duties, maintaining programming and relationships. The UPIP funding ends in March 2026 so Denise Johnson moved on to other opportunities.

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

Performance reviews from last year have been completed. Anne is back at the 55+. With the Rink reopening we are lucky to have Stephanie Sue in acting position of rink programmer. The Budget for 2026 is underway. Thank you to Stephanie and Helen for their hard work in their acting roles. Scaffolding still up outside the pool entrance until the deficiencies are fixed.

7 CONSENT ITEMS

7.1 Anti Racism Anti Oppression [No Report](#)

ARAO started during Covid. If you would like to attend there is a meeting tomorrow night. Currently working on terms of reference and restructuring the mandate - what is our purpose.

7.2 Arts & Culture [A&C Com Report](#)

Feb 16- Black History Month Celebration at the 55+, Marina will share the poster with the board. The Arts and Culture Committee invites you to come a meeting and join the committee!

7.3 Executive [Executive Com Report](#)

7.4 Finance [Finance Com Report](#)

7.5 GWFC [GWFC Report](#)

7.6 Volunteer [Volunteer Com Report](#)

MOTION TO ACCEPT CONSENT ITEMS AND MANAGEMENT REPORTS

1st: Craig Ollenberger

2nd: Sean Miles

Result: **Approved**

8 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJORN

1st: Craig Ollenberger

2nd: Naina Varshney

Result: **Approved**

9 IN-CAMERA

MOTION TO GO IN CAMERA

1st: Craig Ollenberger

2nd: Naina Varshney

Result: **Approved**

MOTION TO GO OUT OF CAMERA

1st: Craig Ollenberger

2nd: Naina Varshney

Result: **Approved**