GREATER VICTORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
GVPL Central Branch, 735 Broughton Street
Community Meeting Room & MS Teams
February 24, 2026

A hybrid meeting of the Greater Victoria Public Library Board was held on the above date. The following individuals were in attendance:

Board Members:

Trustee A. Appleton
Trustee K. Boehnert
Trustee D. Cavens (Chair)
Trustee S. Donaldson
Trustee D. Grove
Trustee R. Henderson
Trustee S. Kim
Trustee S. Khair
Trustee S. Lansdowne
Trustee G. Lemon
Trustee R. McClure
Trustee M. Morley
Trustee G. Newton
Trustee T. Phelps Bondaroff
Trustee K. Roessingh
Trustee R. Stromberg
Trustee M. Wey

Regrets:

Trustee R. Ranjan
Trustee N. White (Vice- Chair)

Staff:

M. Sawa, CEO/Board Secretary
M. Collyer, Director Marketing & Communications
D. Fergusson-Hirmer, Director, People & Culture
J. Gingera, Director, System Integration, Resource Management and IT
S. Harrison, Acting Assistant Director, Service Design
D. Joyce, Executive Director, Library Services
R. Rogers, Acting Assistant Director, Collections and Technical Services
E. Russell, Recording Secretary
S. Shojaei, Assistant Director Safety Security, Facilities, & Risk Management
R. Baugniet, CUPE 410

1. CALL TO ORDER

D. Cavens called the meeting to order at 12:02 pm.

2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

D. Cavens provided the Indigenous Acknowledgement.

3. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Move items 4.5.1 – 4.5.3 from the consent agenda to New Business 8.3

Moved by Trustee K. Roessingh; Seconded by Trustee D. Cavens

THAT items 4.1 & 4.2 be approved, and items 4.3 & 4.4 be received for information.

4.1. Approval of Agenda
4.2. Approval of Minutes – January 27, 2026
4.3. Chair Report
4.4. CEO Report

MOTION CARRIED

5. CHAIR'S REMARKS

D. Cavens expressed gratitude to staff for the successful resumption of service on Sundays, noting that three branches are now open and have been well attended

Planning is underway for the spring board retreat and trustees are encouraged to respond to the poll so a date can be selected. The proposed agenda will be discussed further in today's meeting.

6. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

6.1. L. Herriot & F. Herriot- Unaccompanied Children in GVPL

Dr. Lindsay Herriot, Finnegan Herriot, and Isabeau Boulanger-McPherson addressed the board, reading letters regarding unaccompanied children in the library.

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

7.1. Board Committees

7.1.1. 2026 Board Committee Memberships

D. Cavens confirmed the board committee memberships have been finalized and are included in attachment 7.1.1.

7.1.2. 2026 Committee Meeting Schedule

D. Cavens reminded trustees that the 2026 schedules for the Planning and Policy Committee, and Finance Committee have been circulated.

7.1.3. 2026 Committee Priorities

D. Cavens highlighted that committee priorities will be determined at each committee's inaugural meeting.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1. 2026 Board Retreat

D. Cavens reviewed topics to be covered:

- GVPL's 2025-2027 Strategic Plan
- GVPL's Regional Service Delivery Plan Future Trends and Opportunities

8.2. Canadian Urban Libraries Council (CULC) National Impact Study

M. Sawa provided an overview of the outcomes of the CULC National Impact Study that was released in January, 2026.

8.3. Correspondence

4.5.1 Email from Patron received January 24, 2026
4.5.2. Email from Patron received February 13 2026
4.5.3. Email from Patron received February 17 2026

K. Roessingh enquired about the two items of correspondence received in February regarding unaccompanied children in the library.

M. Sawa advised that a procedure had been developed to provide staff with direction regarding the interpretation of GVPL Policy 1.8 Responsibilities of Library Users, specifically the expectations regarding supervision of young children in the library.

Action: Current GVPL protocols and procedures relating to unattended children in the library will be brought forward to the Policy and Planning Committee at the committee's March meeting. Following a full review, the committee will bring forward recommendations to the April 28 board meeting.

9. IN CAMERA

Moved by Trustee K. Roessingh; seconded by Trustee Grove

THAT the Board of Trustees move in camera
MOTION CARRIED

10. NEXT MEETING DATE:

March 24, 2026; 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

11. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Roessingh; Seconded by Trustee Grove

THAT the February 24, 2026, Regular Board Meeting be adjourned.
MOTION CARRIED

Board Chair

Board Secretary