

Vancouver Public Library

BOARD REPORT

Date: April 18, 2018

Author: Amanda Card, Board Trustee

Meeting Date: April 25, 2018

TO: Library Board

FROM: Amanda Card, InterLINK Liaison

SUBJECT: InterLINK Report, April 2018

SUMMARY

This report constitutes the regular update from the InterLINK liaison.

PURPOSE

This report is for information.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board receive this report for information.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

The VPL 2020 Strategic Plan includes a focus on Sharing & Collaboration and seeks to foster a community that shares information, ideas & stories. The VPL board's liaison roles, while part of our standard governance practice, also support this initiative.

BACKGROUND

Until February 2017 this report was provided verbally. In an effort to increase the efficiency of board meetings the Governance Committee agreed to having the monthly updates on BCLTA and InterLINK provided via written report.

DISCUSSION

April 3, 2018 InterLINK Meeting Summary

Trustee Rhonda Sherwood (InterLINK alternate) attended the meeting on behalf of VPL.

2017 InterLINK Audited Statements

R. Shimoda, Finance Committee Chair, introduced the 2017 audited statements and walked the Board through them. He noted that the statements are generally consistent year to year and that the auditor did not raise any significant issues regarding InterLINK finances. In response to a question, R. Shimoda noted that financial updates are provided throughout the year, but that an explanatory note to provide information on significant year over year changes could be included for the board in the future.

Board Skills Inventory

M. Burris spoke to the Board skills inventory process, noting that matrix was approved by the Board at the February meeting and the skills matrix was subsequently sent to Board members. 13 responses were received. Skills areas ranked highest (most knowledge/experience) were Advocacy, Strategic Planning and Library Knowledge. The lowest rankings were for Finance, Youth Perspective and Fundraising. In response to the rankings there was discussion of InterLINK's role regarding fundraising. It was noted that the information exchange that occurs at board meetings, which often includes information of fundraising activities in member libraries, was beneficial. It was recommended that representatives from the Youth Services Committee (YSC) attend a future Board meeting to speak to youth services in general and the role of the YSC specifically and also that a session on finances be scheduled for Board members.

Autism Awareness Workshop

M. Burris informed the Board that he is working with the Pacific Autism Family Network (PAFN) to deliver a workshop on "autism awareness" to member libraries. PAFN has been delivering awareness training to first responders and are very excited to work with libraries. The Library Directors are very supportive of this initiative.

Executive Director Job Description and Development Plan

These documents had been reviewed the Executive Committee, which recommended their approval by the Board. After review and discussion, the Board moved approval.

Around the Table

A number of renovation projects, strategic planning, volunteer appreciation in Richmond, the North Shore Writer's Festival, the search for new directors in Vancouver and Sechelt, the new director in Port Moody (Marc Saunders) beginning his tenure, Coquitlam's wine and cheese event for the municipal council, Surrey's new Clayton branch and Squamish's new inclusive welcome sign were among the topics shared by Board members.

FINAL REMARKS

InterLINK provides important services to uphold strong staff, patron, and board networks among its 18 member libraries. The revised InterLINK Agreement and budget ensure good governance and suitable financial resources to conduct its work to support public libraries through resource sharing and collaborative programs.