

DISTRICT OF NORTH VANCOUVER COUNCIL WORKSHOP

Minutes of the Council Workshop for the District of North Vancouver held at 6:01 p.m. on Monday, June 20, 2022 in the Council Chamber of the District Hall, 355 West Queens Road, North Vancouver, British Columbia.

Present: Mayor M. Little
Councillor J. Back
Councillor M. Bond
Councillor M. Curren
Councillor J. Hanson
Councillor L. Muri

Absent: Councillor B. Forbes

Staff: Mr. D. Stuart, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. D. Milburn, General Manager – Planning, Properties and Permits
Ms. S. Walker, General Manager – Corporate Services
Mr. A. Wardell, General Manager – Finance and Chief Financial Officer
Mr. J. Gordon, Manager – Administrative Services
Ms. A. Reiher, Council Liaison / Support Officer
Ms. K. Hebron, Confidential Council Clerk
Ms. S. Clarke, Committee Clerk

Also in

Attendance: Ms. J. van Dyck, North Vancouver District Public Library
Ms. V. Dong, North Vancouver District Public Library
Mr. J. Mitchell, North Vancouver District Public Library

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1.1. June 20, 2022 Council Workshop Agenda

MOVED by Councillor MURI

SECONDED by Councillor BACK

THAT the agenda for the June 20, 2022 Council Workshop is adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1. April 19, 2022 Council Workshop

MOVED by Councillor MURI

SECONDED by Councillor HANSON

THAT the minutes of the April 19, 2022 Council Workshop are adopted.

CARRIED

3. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL OR STAFF

3.1. North Vancouver District Public Library Council Presentation File No.

Ms. Valerie Dong and Mr. James Mitchell, Library Services, provided an introduction to the Council Workshop, noting that they would be presenting to Council on behalf of the 2022 Library Board. They noted the North Vancouver District Public Library (NVDPL) has three locations in Lynn Valley, Parkgate and Capilano, along with the new Lions Gate Community Recreation Centre. They discussed changes in library usage during the COVID-19 pandemic, stating that there was a slight decrease in attendance, however, circulation has remained steady throughout the past few years, along with the increase in usage of digital resources. They highlighted the importance of libraries as communal spaces for all residents throughout the community, referring to libraries acting as safe and accessible spaces for all residents. They highlighted changes that were made to make the libraries more accessible, including increasing hours of operation and eliminating overdue fines, and implementing measures in order to work towards reconciliation. They noted the increase in digital services, along with the popularity of teen programs, which are continuing to gain recognition and engagement. They commented on upcoming renovations to enhance indoor spaces, along with continuing to work with local partners to reinforce diversity, equity and inclusion.

They discussed the importance of libraries throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, identifying libraries as one of the only free spaces open to all members of the public. They noted how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted library staff, who have had to endure many changes throughout the past few years. They discussed their expanded vision for the North Vancouver District Public Library, noting the libraries are always adapting to ensure they provide the best services to our community. They discussed a potentially new presence for the library, collaborating with the District of North Vancouver and approved development areas, in order to collaborate with the public. They thanked Council for their commitment and support throughout the past few years.

Council discussion ensued and the following comments and concerns were noted:

- Acknowledged and thanked library staff for all their hard work throughout the past few years;
- Highlighted the importance of social connections that are made through and at libraries;
- Acknowledged the continued potential of library services;
- Recognized the work being done to integrate indigenous material and services;
- Acknowledged the collaboration between the NVPDL and North Shore Emergency Management (NSEM) in order to help educate residents;
- Recognized the Lynn Valley Library for playing a key role in welcoming the community back after the March 27, 2021 tragic event;
- Commented on new services such as the Story Lab;
- Commented on the potential for libraries to promote volunteer opportunities; and,
- Acknowledged how local libraries play an integral role in our community.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that there is ongoing influence and impact of COVID-19 on library staff and services. The libraries have had to adapt in accordance with Provincial Health restrictions, which accelerated changes in digital services.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that libraries have partnered with NSEM to educate the public in emergency preparedness.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that they would look into the possibility of advertising volunteer opportunities within the community.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that they are integrating First Nations traditions and culture into their library services through events and educational pieces.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that they would look into the possibility of working with the District of North Vancouver Archives to store all historical DNV information to a digital repository.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that library staffing levels have posed as a challenge throughout the past few years, noting the staff's sense of security is fragile due to working on the front lines throughout COVID-19.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that spaces such as the Story Lab are being used for multiple projects such as story telling, podcasts, and other audio and visual projects.

MOVED by Councillor MURI
SECONDED by Councillor BACK

THAT the June 8, 2022 report of the Director, Library Services entitled North Vancouver District Public Library Council Presentation is received for information.

CARRIED

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Nil

5. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Councillor BOND
SECONDED by Mayor LITTLE

THAT the June 20, 2022 Council Workshop is adjourned.

CARRIED
(6:55 p.m.)



Mayor

Municipal Clerk