

**EASTERN COUNTIES REGIONAL LIBRARY
GENERAL BOARD MEETING: THURSDAY, December 8, 2022**

PRESENT:, Ms. Shirley McNamara (Chair), Mr. Clair Rankin, Cllr. Claude Poirier, Cllr. Mary Desmond, Cllr. Blaine MacQuarrie, Cllr. Courtney Mailman, Cllr. Debbie King

IN ATTENDANCE: Laura Emery, Chief Librarian/Secretary to the Board; Patricia McCormick, Deputy Chief Librarian

REGRETS:

1. Welcome – Land Acknowledgement

Shirley McNamara calls the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

There was discussion of land acknowledgements. Board members committed to taking turns saying the land acknowledgment at the start of meetings.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Motion 117: Rankin/Poirier. Approved. That the agenda be approved.

3. Minutes of the September 15, 2022 meeting

Motion 118: Desmond/MacQuarrie. Approved. That the minutes of the September 15, 2022, meeting be approved.

4. Business arising

a) The meeting calendar has been adjusted to take March break into account

b) Provincial appointees. In final draft of the recent provincial review, the Province committed to filling our two vacant provincial appointee positions.

5. Financial Report

Motion 119: MacQuarrie/Rankin. Approved. That the financial report to November 30, 2022 be approved.

6. CEO report

a) ECRL Review – update

The Board received correspondence from Deputy Minister Justin Huston regarding the ECRL review requiring a response. Direction was provided to Laura to draft a response for the Board's

review. There was consensus that it was necessary for the feedback and approval process to be conducted by email to meet the December 22nd deadline.

Laura was also directed to investigate if other library regions have a practice of routinely surveying the community about library services as part of community engagement work.

b) Same Page workload – update

Same Page has led to an increase in circulation but the workload has also increased. There has been a 600% increase in mail without additional staff. Extra staff was brought in to clean up a backlog from the Summer.

c) Chéticamp – update

Two staff have been hired and are being training. Cleaning staff is hired. There is still an issue with the outside door.

d) St. Peter's Hub project update – Laura/Clair

St. Peter's is working to create a Community Hub in St. Peter's that would include the library. The VIC would also move into the space. The project still needs the approval of Richmond County Council and will need funding from the Council.

Motion 120. Rankin/Poirier. Approved. That staff work on the proposed move of the St. Peter's Library to the new Community Hub.

e) Community Board member recruitment

Laura requested pausing recruitment in light of the review recommendations and consultant process to be worked through.

f) CORL Provincial Funding request

The Council of Regional Librarians (CORL) has requested a 3.4% increase in the funding formula for the next two years. If implemented ECRL would get approximately \$30,000.

g) Library Delivery Van – New vehicle purchase

The Board directed staff to investigate the purchase of a new delivery van.

Motion 121: Poirier/MacQuarrie. Approved. That we investigate the options for purchasing a new vehicle.

7. Canso Library Resource Society Correspondence

The Board received correspondence from the Canso Library Resource Society regarding their concern about the staffing level at the Canso Library and library closures. When the staff person is not available to work, the library closes. Laura will reach out to the CLRS and offer to meet to provide information about funding and staffing levels.

8. Treasurer position

A Board member was not elected to fill the position of Treasurer.

9. EDI

a) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hDd3bzA7450>

b) <https://youtu.be/tXOIVKmBWgg>

c) EDI training post evaluation – Mary

Mary raised her concerns about unconscious bias during the EDI training and a discussion around the responsibility of all of us to address inappropriate comments. Today's EDI videos covered the topic of unconscious bias.

10. Code of Conduct – Shirley

Asking for a regular review of the code of conduct every second month.

11. LBANS

12. Library Reports

13. Date of Next Meeting

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for January 19 at 5:30 p.m.

14. Adjournment

Motion 122. Poirier/MacQuarrie. Approved. That the meeting be adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Shirley has submitted her resignation effective December 2022. Laura thanked Shirley on behalf of staff for her contributions and leadership during her many years of service.