

**EASTERN COUNTIES REGIONAL LIBRARY
REGULAR MEETING: THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025**

PRESENT: Clair Rankin (Chair), Mayor Ron Chisholm, Warden James Fuller, Cllr. Susan Cashin, Cllr. Claude Poirier, Cllr. Blaine MacQuarrie

IN ATTENDANCE: Laura Emery, Chief Librarian/Secretary to the Board; Michelle Greencorn-Director, Communications and Engagement

REGRETS: Wanda MacDonald

1. Welcome – Land Acknowledgement

Clair called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. and read the Land Acknowledgement.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Motion 89: Approved. Fuller/Chisholm, that the agenda be approved.

3. Minutes of the March 6, 2025, meeting

Motion 90: Approved. Chisholm/Fuller, that the minutes of the March 6, 2025, meeting be approved.

4. Financial update

- a) **Income statement:** current to March 2025. The audit is almost complete.
- b) **Grants overview:** Will ask for an extension on the food security grant so we can fully maximize the benefit of the funds.
- c) **Audit update:** AGM projected for June 19, awaiting statements and final documents.
- d) **Budget planning:** Trying to wait on funding formula updates, but we need to proceed with known expenses/funding and develop a budget for AGM.

5. Human Resources Committee

- a) **Staffing redundancy at Regional Office (Shipping & Receiving Assistant):**
Discussed the need for this position, but currently cannot afford it. Highlighting the issue as the shipping of books between locations is at risk without backup. Have not been able to find a courier willing to do this work so far.
- b) **COLA:** Will try to achieve this in the budget but the situation is extremely challenging due to the lack of increase in funding.

6. CEO report: Noted positive meetings held with MLAs regarding funding issues. A Board meeting is required to discuss Strategic Planning reports. A potential date of **June 5 was proposed: no conflicts noted.**

7. Funding Advocacy: Handout was shared from NSFM Conference about libraries and motions for councils to consider supporting their libraries formally. CEO to arrange funding related presentations to Councils.

8. Regional Office Facility Follow-Up: The Board decided to postpone a decision about selling the Regional Office or proceeding with major renovations until funding formula information is known.

Motion 91: Approved. Chisholm/MacQuarrie, motion carried to delay the sale of the building or major renovations and to write the Minister to explain the difficulties the Board faces without known funding information.

9. Library Reports: Laura had some positive updates on branches but requested to move in-camera as the information is not yet public.

Motion 92: Approved. Chisholm/Fuller, to move in-camera to discuss branch facilities.

Motion 93: Approved. Fuller/Chisholm, to return to regular meeting.

10. Adjournment

Motion 94: Approved. Chisholm/Fuller, motion to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 6:44 pm.