



# NEW WESTMINSTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

*We recognise and respect that the New Westminster Public Library is on the unceded and unsurrendered land of the Halkomelem speaking peoples. We acknowledge that colonialism has made invisible their histories and connections to the land. As a City, we are learning about and building relationships with the people whose lands we are on*

LIBRARY BOARD ORIENTATION

OCTOBER 11, 2023

# VISION, MISSION, AND VALUES

## OUR VISION

An inclusive and diverse community where everyone is learning, connected and inspired.

## OUR MISSION

To engage, strengthen and connect the community by inspiring exploration, imagination, creativity, and lifelong learning.

## OUR VALUES

We are committed to being an agent for social good, and to working through a lens of anti-oppression, diversity, equity, inclusion, and anti-racism.

We are committed to learning about and doing the ongoing vital work of reconciliation and decolonization.

We work to reduce barriers and provide equitable access.

We strive for excellence in our organization and in the way we support and serve our community.

We expand our capacity through partnerships.

We are creative and innovative in how we deliver our programs and services.

We are committed to intellectual freedom.

We continually identify our weaknesses and areas for improvement, and we strive to improve upon them.

We embrace continual growth and adapt to changing times.

# LIBRARY ACT

- The New Westminster Public Library (NWPL) operates as a separate legal entity from other City of New Westminster services and is legislated under the provincial Library Act.
- The Library Act outlines the roles and responsibilities of the New Westminster Public Library Board, including governance and financial management requirements.

# NEW WESTMINSTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Locations

- Uptown
- Queensborough
- Digital Library

## Collections

- Books
- Music
- Videos
- Magazines
- 'Things'

## Programs

- Classes
- Workshops
- Storytimes
- Reading clubs
- Talks

## Technology

- Computers
- Printers, Scanners, other
- Wifi
- Digital Literacy

# NEW WESTMINSTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

## People helping People

- 34 Permanent Staff (full and part-time)
- Reference and Information Services
- Home Library Service
- Youth Clubs and volunteer opportunities
- Community work

# THE LIBRARY BOARD

- Represents the community
- 7 board members appointed by New Westminster City Council, 6 trustees are volunteers from the community and 1 is an elected official from City Council
- Appointments are for 2 years, and may be renewed 3 times (max 8 years total)
- Provides strategic direction through the creation and monitoring of a Strategic Plan
- Ensures the library maintains effective financial management controls and has identified and managed risk and opportunity

# THE ROLE OF THE BOARD

- Establishes the vision, mission, values, and strategic direction of the public library
- Provides support to and oversight of the Chief Librarian
- Participates in productive meetings and generative discussions that reflect duty of care and fiduciary responsibility

# RESPONSIBILITIES

- Delegates the operational day-to-day management, including the budget, human resources, and services to the Chief Librarian
- Oversees and assesses the organization's strategic outcomes
- Establishes policies that:
  - Promote public library use
  - Support library staff
  - Ensure board fiduciary responsibility and duty of care
- Advocate for the library in the community and represent the community to the library



# DUTIES

- Regularly attend and participate in meetings of the Board and committees.
- Request information to ensure that issues are understood.
- Understand the library's vision, mission, values, policies and services.
- Attend special events and represent the library at NWPL functions.
- Advocate for the needs of the library with City Council and the provincial government.
- Participate in the British Columbia Library Trustees Association.
- Be committed to learning about libraries and trusteeship

## THE IDEAL TRUSTEE ...

- Has personal experience with library use
- Is Interested and committed
- Has good availability
- Is a good team member
- Has a variety of lived and professional experience, abilities and skills