



April 8, 2022

Rod Wiebe  
Chair, Board of Trustees  
Powell River Library  
100-6975 Alberni Street  
Powell River BC V8A 2B8

Sent by email: [trustees@prpl.ca](mailto:trustees@prpl.ca)

**Re: Support for library name change**

Dear Rod Wiebe,

We write in follow-up to our correspondence of the fall of 2021 (enclosed), regarding a name change for the Powell River library. That correspondence reflected upon the critical role of libraries in communities like ours and the incompatibility of this role with the celebration and recognition of BC's first Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Dr. Israel Wood Powell.

Since that time, we have deepened our working relationship. The Library has played a key convening and public education function in the community dialogue about the name change, and we have been working towards a unique service agreement that would see Tla'amin Nation formally contribute to the library and describe the values underpinning our ongoing collaboration.

In this context, we write to ask again that the Library provide leadership to this name change effort. We ask that the Library of Trustees releases an open statement expressing its intention for a name change to the Library, particularly given that the Library serves all residents of the qathet Regional District and not solely the residents within what is known under provincial legislation as the City of Powell River.

We believe that the Library is uniquely positioned to be a key leader in this process and look forward to continuing to work with you towards truth, justice, and reconciliation.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Hegus John Hackett

Cc

Rebecca Burbank, Chief Librarian, Powell River Public Library, [rburbank@prpl.ca](mailto:rburbank@prpl.ca)  
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