



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of qathet Friends of the Library

November 30, 2022 6:30 pm

Community Room of the Powell River Public Library

Attendees: Board members Jacquie Donaldson, P Brown, Maureen Tierney, Lynda Harris. Chief Librarian Rebecca Burbank and Children/Teens Coordinators Sonia Zagwyn and Mel Edgar. Four Friends of the Library members.

Chair: Jacquie Donaldson

1. Call to Order: Jacquie warmly thanked everyone for attending despite the icy roads. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 followed by the Land Acknowledgement and introduction of Board members.
2. Adoption of Agenda. Moved by Jane Snow, seconded by Jeff Pollitt. Carried.
3. Approval of minutes of September 2019 Annual General Meeting. Moved by Maureen Tierney, seconded by P Brown. Carried.
4. Report of the Chief Librarian Rebecca Burbank
After a warm welcome, Rebecca expressed how great it was to see the Friends of The Library at the first in-person meeting in over 2 years. She reported that between 2016 and 2020 FoTL donated almost \$89000, not only through donations but through tireless work with the book cube and book sales. Rebecca praised the society for the tremendous work it has done over the years: not just the financial support but the advocacy work that Friends provide that promotes the Library.
5. Presentation by Sonia Zagwyn and Mel Edgar - Children and Teens Services Coordinators.
This ten minute multimedia presentation was enthusiastically delivered, informative and validating.
 - It began with a song from Sonia and her ukelele-playing sloth puppet. The song asked “Could you be a sloth?” Heads were nodding ‘yes’.
 - After a welcome in the Tla’amin language Mel outlined two major initiatives worth celebrating:
 1. Name change to qathet Friends of the Library and 2. The launch of the Indigenous and Metis collection.
 - Other events/programs made possible by FoTL: the BC Writers Series and the Seasonal Puppet Show, which has been very popular. The Festival of Fables puppet show presentation is coming up on December 24th.
 - FoTL have also provided funds for a variety of technical equipment (Tech Boxes) used in Tinker Trunk. At first, the activities were largely adult initiated but now the teens are taking the lead. Some tools are available for check out by anyone.
 - Story Boxes. Grab and go theme kits – there are 14. Every collection includes at least one book by an indigenous author. Guides are included as well as songs that fit the theme. Some have tactile

components. Mel and Sonia will liaise with SD 47 to bring awareness of the story boxes to teachers and teacher librarians.

- Summer Reading Club 2022 was a huge success – first in-person gathering in 2 years with 89 registrants. Some authors were able to interact with participants via zoom which was very exciting.

- Quiz Game: What were the Top 3 circulated books in 2022 in these categories?

- Adult Fiction – Sea of Tranquility, State of Terror, The Heron’s Cry.

- Adult Non-Fiction – Finding the Mother Tree, Return to Solitude, Braiding Sweetgrass.

- Children’s Picture Books for ages 4 to 7 – the Pigeon books took first, second and third!

6. Treasurer’s Report (attached). Julie Thorne was unable to attend due to weather. Jacquie Donaldson gave the report on her behalf.

Motion to accept treasurer’s report made by Jeff Pollitt, seconded by Jane Snow. Carried.

7. Report from the Directors – P Brown

Friends have had a slow but steady rejuvenation due to many fabulous volunteers with special mention to: Alison Barbour & Bob Butkus for their 40+ years, Ann Trousdell, Denise St Arnaud, Lorraine Cushing, Jo Thomas, Dot Silvester and Jose Rodgers.

Core events include donation days once/month, the book cube gets stocked every week and there are 4 sales per year. Canvas bags are all gone. Calendar sales have earned significant money.

Where do non-sellable books go? FoTL stock 7 little libraries around town, kids’ books go to LIFT and teen books go to schools, the Ministry of Youth and Family or the PIE program. Large print books go to Kiwanis, ECU and Willingdon Creek Village. History books go to the museum.

Books that cannot be donated in town are sent to Better World Books which pays FoTL 15% of their sale price. This year 55 boxes of books went to BWB with proceeds to Friends of \$235. Some books unfortunately must go to the dump as they can’t be recycled.

8. Proposal to change wording in bylaws. Maureen Tierney presented changes intended to simplify the language regarding management of directors in bylaws 25, 26 and 28. The other change proposed was to replace ‘Powell River’ with ‘qathet’ throughout the bylaw document.

Motion by Maureen Tierney to accept the proposed changes, seconded by Lynda Harris. Carried.

9. Election of Directors: the five members of the current board let their names stand: Maureen Tierney, P Brown, Lynda Harris, Jacquie Donaldson and Julie Thorne. Joyce Furness put her name forward and will be the newest member on the board. Welcome Joyce!

10. Closing Remarks. Jacquie Donaldson acknowledged the good work that the qathet Friends of the Library continues to do and said that it is a pleasure working with her fellow board members and member volunteers. P Brown reminded everyone of the upcoming Book Sale on December 10th and the next book donation day on Jan 23, 2023.

11. Adjournment – 7:20 pm.