



NWLF Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, May 1, 2019

7 – 8:00 p.m.

via teleconference

MINUTES

Attending: Dee McRae (Houston), Kay Mackenzie (Smithers), Patti Chapman (Terrace), Braunwyn Henwood (Hazelton), Jon Borgens (Kitimat), Virginia Charron (LDAG), Wendy Wright (LDAG), Melissa Sawatsky (NWLF)

Regrets: Patricia Lynn (Stewart), Cary Dalton (Prince Rupert), Rebecca Mitchell (LDAG), David Tremblay (LDAG), Sara Lewis (LDAG), Brian Butler (LDAG), Joe Zelwietro (LDAG)

Meeting called to order: 7:02 p.m.

1. **Approval of the Agenda**

Jon welcomed as a new board member. *Braunwyn made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Jon seconded. Motion carried.*

2. **Adoption of the minutes of June 2, 2018**

Patti made a motion to approve the minutes of June 2, 2018 (AGM). Dee seconded. Motion carried.

3. **Chair's report**

Kay reported that the NWLF met 5 times in 2018 (Jan, March, June, Oct, Nov). The Federation hired a new Director in March 2018. Priorities included advocacy to government bodies for increased funding and more frequent communications to keep all board members in the loop about Federation activities. *Patti made a motion to approve the Chair's report. Jon seconded. Motion carried.*

4. **Treasurer's report**

Patti reviewed the Balance and Income statements from January to December 2018, as well as the 2018 budget actuals. *Patti made a motion to pass the Balance statement, Income statement and Budget for 2018. Braunwyn seconded. Motion carried.*

5. **Director's report**

Melissa offered a verbal update on the written Director's report. *Kay made a motion to approve the report. Dee seconded. Motion carried.*

6. **Library roundtable**

Hazelton: Chief Librarian, Tara Williston, will be on leave until September 2019. Hazelton is doing strategic planning at present. Questions the board has been asking include how to appeal to different clientele and what are libraries going to look like in the future. HDPL went fine free in early 2019 and did a renovation to add a lunch room. The library shares space with the museum, which has also undergone renovations, bringing more traffic through both organizations.

Terrace: The TPL board and library have been working on an advocacy plan and will engage in strategic planning in the fall of 2019. The board intends to schedule TOP training in Terrace and will extend the invitation to trustees in the NWLF. A long term IT staff member has moved away from Terrace, so the position is currently vacant. Events featured shared stories, poetry readings, a Tsimshian artist, and a language revitalization postcard event. The library purchased Bibliotech and it has been well used. The 3D printer is very well used and was taken to a community Science Fair and also used to teach a workshop at the college. The board is pleased with all the SRC volunteers in 2018, who collectively put in 400 hours.

Houston: The HPL AGM took place in February 2019, which included presentations from library staff members about their work to give board members a sense of daily operations. Strategic planning was underway this year. Priorities going forward include: *Enhance space for various needs* (request for a quiet zone; create an inviting courtyard; add more art); *increase community engagement and expand user base* (through FB & Instagram); and *solutions for dealing with challenging behaviours*. A new staff programmer is coordinating craft nights, Lego Club, SRC, and other ongoing programs.

Kitimat: KPL is gearing up for its first Writer-in-Residence Program, featuring Haisla award-winning author Eden Robinson who will be organizing classroom visits, holding one-on-one writing consultations, and leading a Writers Group session in June 2019. The library is also busy with preparations for a roster of spring and summer programs, including the Summer Reading Club that will be held for 6 weeks, 4 days a week for children from the ages of 6 – 12, as well as tutoring help for all ages—including ESL learners—5 days a week. On a personnel note, KPL continues to cross train as part of their succession planning strategy. Upgrades to the facility—including floors, walls and furniture—have been in the works recently and exterior improvements are expected to be made this year. The annual report for 2018 will be available toward month's end.

Smithers: SPL now has a great events and promotions team; after a long term staff member retired, a couple of positions were shuffled and amalgamated to increase the library's capacity for outreach and hosting events/programs. The library's main priority at present is fundraising for the new building, which will be a shared space with the art gallery. The Town has applied for a grant that would fund up to 80% of the project, and a local family has pledged matching funds up to 1 million. As a result, the library is fundraising for 1 million and has reached \$700,000 already. Once the funding for this project is in place, there will be a referendum in the community. The most high profile event for 2019 will be an evening with Bob Joseph, author of *21 Things You May Not Know about the Indian Act*. Many sponsors and partners were needed to make this

event happen and it will be held at a community theatre venue. Joseph will talk about the book and explain aspects of the Indian Act and how they relate to current events (this is especially topical for Smithers and the surrounding area at present).

7. **Elections** (election of the Chair, Vice-chair and Treasurer)

Standing for election: Kay Mackenzie (Smithers), Dee McRae (Houston), Patti Chapman (Terrace), Jon Borgens (Kitimat), Patricia Lynn (Stewart), Cary Dalton (Prince Rupert), Braunwyn Henwood (Hazelton)

Kay offered to stay on as NWLF Chair. Patti offered to continue on as Treasurer. Jon nominated himself for Vice-chair (position vacated by Debbie Sullivan). Braunwyn will serve as the interim NWLF rep until the HDPL board decides who will replace Debbie Sullivan. *Jon made a motion to accept the election of the Chair, Vice-chair and Treasurer for 2019. Patti seconded. Motion carried.*

8. **Signing Officers**

Melissa Sawatsky, Kay Mackenzie, Patti Chapman, and Joe Zelwietro will remain as signors for the NWLF.

9. **Adjourn**: 7:44 p.m.