

**Britannia Board Meeting**

**February 11, 2015**

**Board Room – Information Centre**

**PRESENT:** Gwen Giesbrecht, President; Ray Gallagher, Meseret Taye, Oliver Conway, Ingrid Kolsteren, Peter Odynsky, Oles Andrienko, Craig Ollenberger, David Parent, John Flipse, Susanne Dahlin, Geoff Taylor, Morna McLeod, Scott Clark, Alex McKechnie, Beth Davies

**STAFF:** Natalie Bailey, Cynthia Low, Brenda Coombs (recording), Mike Evans

**REGRETS:** Edward Stringer, Mary Arakelyan, Sabine Tanasiuk

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Ray Gallagher, Vice President.

**1. BOARD AGENDA**

**MOTION:** TO APPROVE THE REVISED AGENDA FOR THE BOARD MEETING OF FEBRUARY 11, 2015.

Scott Clark/Craig Ollenberger

CARRIED

**AGENDA REVISIONS:** To move Partners' Reports up to item 4 and then to hold an in camera session on the Britannia Carving Pavilion. That the in camera will be for the full elected Board and will combine the topic under Item 12 Executive in Camera.

**2. MINUTES JANUARY 14, 2015**

**MOTION:** TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 14, 2015 AS AMENDED. UNDER ITEM 3c) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT THAT IT READ "A DEDICATED STAFF PERSON" NOT "A DEDICATED SUPPORT PERSON".

Oliver Conway/Susanne Dahlin

CARRIED

Gwen Giesbrecht arrived and took the Chair.

Susanne Dahlin clarified they want the dedicated staff person for the Planning and Development project to be a ½ time position.

### 3. PARTNERS' REPORTS

a) **Vancouver Park Board** – Peter's report was circulated with the Board package.

Highlights:

- The Britannia Pool closure continues – we are still estimating a re-opening date of Feb. 20, 2015.
- Setting up for Rink closure in April, duration of the closure is not yet confirmed. Skating lessons have an 8% increase in enrollment for the winter session.
- East Feast planning in process; the event will be held June 28, 2015
- Micro Footie Season being prepared. We have 179 coaches being interviewed and paperwork put in order. Over 1100 children and youth registered and 400 more on waitlist.
- Fundraising for Finland for 7 children attending the World Gymnaestrada in July 2015.
- YOUnique conference had over 90 participants.
- Christmas luncheon was a great success for the seniors.
- Working on the Spring Brochure.
- The first wave of OFA (Occupational First Aid) training is complete and went quite well. Peter is dealing with Attendance Management issues. (Attendance Management is the monitoring of sick leave for employees above the standard.)

A briefing note on changes in Park Board Registration Software was circulated for information.

Britannia needs to ensure that the new software meets our needs.

1. All payments received by credit card will continue to be payable directly to Britannia. Currently all payments received by credit card (\$50,000 to \$75,000 weekly) is directed payable to Britannia for the credit card institution, Moneris, through RBC to the Britannia Vancity account within a few days. Any delays in payment will cause a cash flow issue.
2. Britannia must continue to have direct autonomy in program and fee for service scheduling, pricing, etc.
3. Ability to require that society memberships be purchased for everyone who registers for Britannia programs. This has been eroding as we do have the ability to impose a membership requirement for any Britannia programs registered online.
4. The data collected on our programs and memberships is available to the society for planning and evaluation processes which include email outreach, community consultation and customer satisfaction.
5. That the new financial data is compatible with our existing financial software and will not increase workload on our staff in the transfer.

Staff have been asked to do additional research about ActiveNet, reviewing user satisfaction, capability, pricing, etc. Cynthia will report back when she has more information.

- b) **Vancouver Public Library Board** – New Branch Head, Yukiko Tosa started in January at Britannia. Yukiko is a former Britannia Graduate.

Storytimes have started for the rest of the year.

We are advertising for an Aboriginal Storyteller and the Library has extended the deadline for the search until the end of February, to fill the position. From March until June the storyteller also provides programming in the school and community.

The new néca?mat ct Strathcona branch has broken ground.

- c) **Vancouver School Board** – Street2Peak have raised enough funds for the trip to Kilimanjaro that will take place in March for 15 students and 10 adults. The students and teachers will be leaving on March 5 and returning March 20. The trip tickets are purchased and the major expenditures are covered. More than half the chaperone costs are being covered out of the chaperone's own pockets; this shows the excitement.

Provincial exams are done.

Course calendars are up on the website.

Teachers email addresses are up on the website.

Next year there will be a shift to start times for a late start; we believe that this may be popular. Another school in the district is doing late start.

Gabor Mate attended a recent Professional Day; staff tackled difficult subjects and the session went well.

School is working on the art work for the doors for the pavilion.

A lot of visits from people who are looking for Aboriginal Education in the school.

Geoff received an amazing letter from a former student, well written and thoughtful about Britannia School – Geoff is trying to put a copy of the letter on the website. Geoff will try to provide a link for the letter; check the Britannia Secondary website.

- d) **Community Education** – a report was circulated. Mike stated Britannia won Triple Gold, a Bronze and the Provincial Banner at the recent Table Tennis Provincial Tournament. Congratulations to everybody who was involved in this fantastic accomplishment. Basketball - Senior Girls placed second and we will play in lower mainland to qualify for provincials. Grade 8 girls and boys in a couple of weeks. Senior boys are playing tonight. Parent Conference for the Spanish Parent-Child Mother Goose Parents will be held on Saturday, February 28.

Community School Coordinators in Vancouver plan to work on community connectedness, attendance and grade transitions for the next two years. Mike and Jennifer Scott (his replacement) have been visiting schools in our HUB.

RecycLeading (catchy name) to connect Britannia Secondary and Britannia Elementary students in a mentorship program to help better facilitate recycling.

Summer Tech and Rec 2015 will be offered by Community Education. This is a series of summer one week camps.

VGBA and Community Education will offer a Spring Break Basketball Camp March 9-12.

Early Childhood Education Assistant Program continues with 29 women registered.

Out of School/After School Programs – currently offered at HUB schools, includes all sorts of activities. Meetings with parents and communicating sessions are going well.

Geoff Taylor, Mike Evans and Beth Davies were excused.

MOTION: TO GO IN CAMERA.

Ray Gallagher/Morna McLeod

CARRIED

Agreement to re-open the Agenda as Megan French Smith attended to do a presentation to the Board.

MOTION: TO RE-OPEN THE AGENDA AS MEGAN FRENCH SMITH ARRIVED TO DISCUSS THE UPCOMING CONFERENCE IN SASKATOON TO DISCUSS LGBTQ+ ISSUES IN EDUCATION.

David Parent/John Flipse

CARRIED

#### **4. PRESENTATION – financial support from Britannia Secondary**

Megan French Smith – Breaking the Silence Conference at University of Saskatchewan Briefing note was provided. Three Britannia Secondary students are involved in the Vancouver GSA (Gay Straight Alliance). They have been invited to speak at a conference at the University of Saskatchewan. The students are fundraising in order to attend. \$6,000 will cover the cost of airfare, all additional costs for lodging, food, ground transportation and sundry expenses.

Megan stated that the students at Britannia in the Gay Straight Alliance hang out and talk about issues. Three of them have been asked to present about the Vancouver School Board's recently passed Sexual Orientation and Gender Identities Policy. At the conference they will highlight what took place during the policy process and their feelings on the issues.

There are seven people who will be attending the conference including a PHD student who is doing her thesis on LGBTQ+ issues in schools. The group is fundraising in order to attend and are still in need of \$1,900. They are requesting any assistance that the Board could provide. Some of the issues include: privacy, bathrooms, pronouns, and chosen names. There should be a non-gender bathroom and confidentiality. The students who wish to attend were very active during the forming of the Vancouver School Board policy. Consideration should be given to do a panel for Britannia when the students return for information purposes.

MOTION: THAT THE BOARD SUPPORTS THE STUDENTS ATTENDING THE BREAKING THE SILENCE CONFERENCE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN WITH A \$600 DONATION FROM BOARD PROJECTS.

Craig Ollenberger/Ingrid Kolsteren

CARRIED

MOTION: THE BRITANNIA BOARD AND BRITANNIA SECONDARY PAC HAVE EACH DONATED \$600 TO THE BRITANNIA GAY STRAIGHT ALLIANCE TO ATTEND THE BREAKING THE SILENCE CONFERENCE IN SASKATOON TO TALK ABOUT THE VSB TRANSGENDER POLICY AND WE ARE INVITING THE VSB TO JOIN US IN SUPPORT.

Oliver Conway/Ray Gallagher

CARRIED

**6. OLD BUSINESS****a) Budget – Attached to the Board package.**

Natalie went through the budget forms and presented a report on Adult Arts programming and Youth Programming. Arts programming is planned to produce a 2015 deficit of \$22,190 and Children's Arts programs are expected to produce a \$20,395 surplus in 2014.

Arts Programs - Natalie explained that we have received past grants of \$40,000 and this year we received \$26,000.

We have realigned some of the program categories and that has made the budget look different. This year we believe Funseekers will be consistent with previous years in the area of revenue.

Revenue producing programs will support programs that operate at a deficit; the decision on the programming funding is made by the Programmers.

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE 2015 BUDGET AS PRESENTED.

John Flipse/Ingrid Kolsteren

CARRIED

**b) Carving Pavilion Programming/Funding**

MOTION: TO GO IN CAMERA AT 7:40 P.M.

Ray Gallagher/Morna McLeod

CARRIED

MOTION: TO COME OUT OF CAMERA 9:02 P.M.

Susanne Dahlin/Meseret Taye

CARRIED

MOTION: THAT THE BOARD ACCEPT THE EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION TO SPEND UP TO \$14,000 TO COMPLETE THE WATER HOOKUP AND SECURE THE OCCUPANCY PERMIT FOR THE CARVING PAVILION.

John Flipse/Susanne Dahlin

CARRIED

MOTION: THAT CRAIG OLLENBERGER WILL PRODUCE A COMPREHENSIVE REPORT ON THE GOVERNANCE PROVISION AND FISCAL MANAGEMENT OF THE CARVING PAVILION FOR THE MARCH BOARD MEETING.

Scott Clark/Ray Gallagher  
2 Abstentions

CARRIED

Morna McLeod, Oliver Conway, Oles Andrienko and Ray Gallagher were excused

MOTION: TO EXTEND THE MEETING UNTIL 9:30 P.M.

Susanne Dahlin/David Parent

CARRIED

- c) **Board Retreat** – Meseret Taye reported on the agenda for the Retreat Day to be held on Feb. 22 9:00 to 4:00 pm at the Secondary School.  
Reviewing Mission Statement, Core Values  
Staff presentations on programs: Practices and services, Updated demographics  
Susanne Dahlin - Capital Plan – function, objective ideas and principles  
Short term and long term priorities  
Interconnectivity of the partners – organization chart and partnership  
Monday of next week the Committee is breaking down the specifics for the day.  
Priorities for the Centre, who we serve, presented in a very general kind of way.  
Natalie stated we could do net revenue and programming space.

- d) **1739 Venables** (Formerly Astorino's) – no report – this item needs to be on the Agenda every month.

## 7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) **Executive Committee** – Draft Executive Minutes of January 28 were circulated.  
VSB Maintenance – it was agreed that Britannia needs to be at the discussion table.  
Craig Ollenberger is making inquiries and will report the information to the Board.  
Git Haysik Dance group – no further update at this time. Cynthia has not connected with Mike from the dance group to date.

John Flipse was excused

- b) **Finance committee** – no report  
Finance Services Review – no report at this time
- c) **Board Development** was reported on as Board Retreat item 6c)
- d) **Arts and Culture** – Ingrid Kolsteren stated everything is going well. We went to *Farewell Commercial Drive* and 4 members of Britannia danced and one member of Britannia was a star. Love bombing workshop next.
- e) **Program Committee** – Peter reported the committee met last night and talked about programming and direction.  
Britannia is looking into email access to our membership to be able to send information out about registration. Staff will present some ideas at the Board retreat.  
The Program Committee meets the second Tuesday of the month.
- f) **Planning and Development** – we will continue meetings and are going to do a field trip.
- g) **Seniors Committee** – no report
- h) **Youth Matter** – Cynthia will request a meeting of the committee members

## 8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- a) **Executive Director** – Report circulated with mailing. Primarily taking care of the child care group. Sabine is still off on sick leave. On February 20 Cynthia is meeting with the city re: Carving Pavilion. City has requested that Cynthia report on a regular basis to Brenda Proskan, General Manager Community Services on Britannia issues.
- b) **Manager of Administration** – Natalie's report was the budget presentation and she has been dealing with child care budgets, off site child cares issues. Finance Services Review will come to the Finance Committee
- c) **Child Care Manager** – Child Care Committee met the last week of January. Cynthia stated we have received about \$11,000 from the City to review the HUB. What are their roles and the roles of their Boards. Britannia cannot act as the employer because we are not the employer for the outside child cares. Scott Clark and Craig Ollenberger are on the committee. BCGEU bargaining starts soon for the outside Child Cares.

Agreed: To acknowledge the receipt of the reports.

MEETING ADJOURNED 9:55 P.M.