



Vanderhoof Public Library

Board of Trustees

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

The Vanderhoof Public Library

The VPL is a vibrant and vital community resource. It serves many purposes including: a community hub, a community information centre, an independent learning centre, and a reference and research centre. Serving the needs of preschools to seniors, the library has the responsibility for the development and maintenance of intellectual freedom and for supporting literacy in our community.

Libraries generate economic activity around them, enhance cultural and social vitality and contribute to a community's overall livability. In challenging economic times, people turn to libraries for quality of life issues such as job-related assistance and technology skills training, in addition to providing places for recreation and enjoyment.

Here are some fast facts about libraries in BC:

- governed by the BC Library Act
- 243 public branches serve 360 BC communities, comprising 99% of the population
- 16 million items are available to borrow in BC's public libraries
- 28% of library materials are now available online, with 2.6 million items accessed or downloaded in 2012
- 56 million visits (in person and virtual) to public libraries in BC each year
- in 2012, library boards contributed to the BC economy through more than \$221 million in annual spending

The Library Board

Public libraries are governed by a Board of Trustees and managed by a Chief Librarian or Library Director.

Board trustees are considered to be guardians of a "public trust" to ensure that the library provides relevant, comprehensive and efficient services to the community it serves. It sets strategic direction and policies on behalf of the library, develops a strategic plan, employs a library director to implement its plans and priorities, and monitors and evaluates that implementation. The board works closely with its only employee, the library director, through mutual trust and respect, recognizing mutual rights and responsibilities and professional expertise.

The core responsibilities of the Board of Trustees include:

- Determining the library's mission and purpose
- Selecting, supporting and evaluating the library director
- Strategic planning
- Policy development
- Approving and monitoring programs and services
- Selecting, orienting and engaging board members
- Maintaining fiscal oversight
- Advocacy
- Fundraising and resource development
- Operating the board effectively
- Managing risk

Join us!

Trustees can serve no more than 8 consecutive years on the board resulting in a number of vacant trustee positions to fill for 2015. On Tuesday, **February 10, 2015 at 5:00 pm**, we will be holding an **information session** with light refreshments for anyone who may be interested in joining our board. And, on **Tuesday, March 10, 2015** the Vanderhoof Public Library **Annual General Meeting** will be held and new trustees will be elected. Both meetings will be held in the multi-purpose room at the library. We welcome your involvement and participation.

The time commitment required to serve as a Library Trustee is minimal. The Board meets once per month for approximately 1½ hours. A significant piece of work, development of a new strategic plan for the period 2015 – 2019, has been completed and policies and procedures are in place ensuring efficient and effective functioning of the Board. Serving as a library trustee is a great way to give back to your community and to support literacy and a broad range of programs and services that add to the quality of life in our community.

For more information you may contact Jane Gray, Chief Librarian, or visit our website at www.vanderhoof.bclibrary.ca.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Vanderhoof Public Library is to open the doors to the world of education, information and recreation, thereby enhancing the social, cultural and economic vitality of our community.