

**TO:** MAYOR & COUNCIL  
**FROM:** CHIEF LIBRARIAN  
**SUBJECT:** **BURNABY PUBLIC LIBRARY 2022 ANNUAL REPORT**  
**PURPOSE:** To provide a summary of 2022 achievements and highlights from Burnaby Public Library.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** Council receive the 2022 Burnaby Public Library Annual Report for information.

## **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S COMMENTS**

I concur with the recommendation of the Chief Librarian.

### **1.0 POLICY SECTION**

Not applicable.

### **2.0 BACKGROUND**

Led by the Burnaby Public Library (BPL) Board, BPL empowers the community to engage with and share stories, ideas and information. Each year, BPL creates an annual report which highlights the services provided.

### **3.0 GENERAL INFORMATION**

In 2018, the BPL Board developed a Strategic Plan that guides the work of the library. In 2022, work under the library's four main goals to connect with community; encourage curiosity and exploration; create welcoming and innovative spaces; and invigorate people & culture included the following achievements.

#### **2.1 Connect with Community**

In 2022, BPL returned to what we do best: in-person connections with community members and organizations. In 2022, community librarians made nearly 400 visits and connected with people in spaces such as English language learning classes, outreach resource centres, transition houses, and food banks. Children's librarians made over 150 visits to elementary schools, StrongStart centres, family resource centres and daycares to provide library support and services to children, families and teachers.

## **2.2 Encourage Curiosity and Exploration**

BPL's creative programming for teens expanded to include programs on pro-D days, and included innovative ways to create art using iPads and creative software.

BPL also resumed in-person storytimes, and added American Sign Language storytimes and Tech Play programs, which provide older children with opportunities to experiment with coding, robotics and circuits.

In 2022, BPL patrons borrowed 2,404,112 print books and other materials, and 381,894 e-books and e-audiobooks.

## **2.3 Create Welcoming and Innovative Spaces**

In July, BPL launched a brand new teen space at the Tommy Douglas Library. Previously an underused computer lab, the room has been transformed into a bright and welcoming space where teens can study, hang out and socialize.

Service at the Metrotown branch was significantly disrupted in 2022, first by a fire in June, and then by planned renovations. The library closed for three months for repair and renovation. The renovations, scheduled for completion in mid-2023, will include a new digital studio, recording studios, a new community room, renovated washrooms and an automated materials handling system.

## **2.4 Invigorate People and Culture**

In 2022, BPL staff began work on a series of anti-racism commitments. These include evaluating hiring practices, reviewing security incident responses through an anti-racism lens, and creating safer spaces for staff who are Indigenous, Black or people of colour. BPL introduced the Picard Trust Awards, two annual library school scholarships of \$2,500 each that are open to Burnaby residents or BPL employees who identify as Black, Indigenous or a person of colour.

## **4.0 COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The BPL Annual Report is available online at [bpl.bc.ca](http://bpl.bc.ca). Print copies are available at library locations. Library Board co-chairs Mandy Yang and Sarah Bartnik will present the report to Council, with assistance from the Chief Librarian.

## **5.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Not applicable.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Davies, Chief Librarian

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1 – BPL Annual Report 2022