

Schedule 1 to the Minutes of the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Committee meeting of Richmond City Council held on Tuesday, February 26, 2019.

ON TABLE ITEM

Date: FEB. 26, 2019
Meeting: PRCS
Item: _____

To Feb. 26, 2019 Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee meeting

From Councillor Linda McPhail

Referral to staff:

That Community Services staff, working with Richmond Public Library staff, explore ways to bring awareness of library services for vulnerable youth and opportunities for increased collaboration;

and further that this be referred to the Council - School Board Liaison Committee, RCSAC, Child Care Development Committee and RIAC for discussion;

and further that staff report back in one year.

Background:

In the 2019 Operating Budget there was an Ongoing Additional Level Requests for Expanded Children and Family Services – \$164,252 ongoing:

“The ongoing additional level request for two specialized librarian positions will directly result in expanded services, both in the library and in the community where socially isolated and at-risk children and youth reside. These additional resources will support: participation in new library-specific services and programs to increase awareness and use of specialized collections and resources, solidifying the partnership with Richmond schools to ensure every child has a library card, and generating further opportunities with city staff and community service providers to provide collaborative services.”

It was NOT RECOMMENDED and did not get funded for the 2019 year.

On Nov. 28, 2018 the Richmond Public Library Board adopted their 2019-2021 Strategic Plan. One of the 5 Priorities – Community, Build and Grow our Community – has a goal to ensure every child has a library card.

http://rpl.yourlibrary.ca/account/about_rpl/strategic_plan

The library is a recognized partner at many community tables focused on children’s services and they have significantly strengthened their relationships with Richmond School district in recent years. Being able to bring awareness of library services for vulnerable youth to new tables like the Council - School Board Liaison could allow for more collaboration to support the library’s strategic priorities and many of the City’s strategic goals.

This work supports the following goals and strategic directions in the City of Richmond’s Social Development Strategy 2013- 2022 –

Goal 1: Enhancing Social Equity and Inclusion; Strategic Direction #4: Help Richmond’s Children, Youth and Families to Thrive

Goal Three: Building on Social Assets and Community Capacity Strategic; Direction #7: Strengthen Richmond’s Social Infrastructure

And additionally, this work supports the 2015-2020 Youth Service Plan: Where Youth Thrive - Youth should reach adulthood equipped with the necessary knowledge, skills and social connections to make informed decisions about their lives and the contributions they will make to their community.

The Youth Service Plan consists of three goals:

Goal 1: Building Youth Assets Through Engagement & Partnerships

Goal 2: Expanding Opportunities for Youth

Goal 3: Improving Quality of Youth Services