DRAFT MINUTES FOR THE JUNE 2026 MEETING OF
THE NORTH VANCOUVER MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES COMMISSION
HELD ON TUESDAY JUNE 17, 2026, AT 5:30 pm
IN PERSON MEETING

Attendees: David Youngson, Brian Burtch, Councillor Don Bell, Stephanie Daudlin, Susan Danard, Ginette Handfield, Charlene Grant, Zoe Mackoff de Miranda

Regrets: Councillor Jordan Back, Adrian Dyck

1. Land Acknowledgement 5:34

- In lieu of a spoken land acknowledgement, David Youngson circulated an article to the Commission.

2. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda 5:36

Motion to approve the agenda. Moved by Susan Danard, seconded by Steph Daudlin, carried unanimously.

- Charlene Grant was welcomed to her first meeting as a Commissioner.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the May 2026 Regular Meeting 5:47

- Brian Burtch noted that he was absent from the May meeting and the minutes should be updated to reflect this.
- A spelling correction was noted, "Tuesday" was misspelled.

Motion to approve the May minutes as amended to reflect the comments above. Moved by Susan Danard, seconded by Steph Daudlin, carried with Brian Burtch abstaining.

4. Information Reports:

.1 Director's Report 5:48

- Director Zoe Mackoff de Miranda thanked the Commission for its support over the last few months and acknowledged that Pamela Roberts took on a significant extra workload during that time.
- Q&A on distributed Director's Report
    - Steph Daudlin asked whether MONOVA is seeing an increase in visitation related to FIFA. Zoe Mackoff de Miranda shared that if MONOVA were not operating on a Pay-What-You-Can basis a drop would be expected.
    - David Youngson referenced a City staff report he had heard about from Dee Dhaliwal, noting that in 2024 five million people visited the Shipyards.
    - Zoe Mackoff de Miranda shared that a feasibility study was completed on a by-donation model and that philosophically MONOVA would like to move in that direction.
    - David Youngson suggested a capacity analysis would be interesting.
    - Ginette Handfield asked whether the Polygon has a sponsor for its pay-as-you-go admission. Zoe Mackoff de Miranda confirmed that it does, and noted that all of

MONOVA's barrier free programming is also sponsored, and that MONOVA would want a sponsor in place if they moved forward with pay by donation.

  - David Youngson asked about the New Horizons grant. Zoe Mackoff de Miranda shared that MONOVA applied last year and was unsuccessful.
  - David Youngson asked about Fleet Week. Zoe Mackoff de Miranda shared that MONOVA usually participates in the community day.

- Work continues on the Returning Belongings policy. It is a slow process, the final draft is with all parties involved internally, and a meeting is being sought with Indigenous committees.
  - Discussion was held on whether the Commission should expand to include each Nation. IVAC Co-Chairs as representatives of the Nations have previously indicated a preference to keep things as they are.
  - In terms of fulfilling the MOUs, feedback from the Squamish Nation Department of Language and Culture is that MONOVA is doing an excellent job, and Chief Janice George helps substantially.
- The tumpline, a historic Coast Salish weaving, is being loaned from the American Museum of Natural History and is expected to arrive in September. Susan Danard noted this would be a great media opportunity.

.2 Friends Society 6:18

- Ginette Handfield shared that the Friends met in June and that, aside from housekeeping, most of the meeting was focused on the restructuring discussion.
- Documents that had been prepared were circulated to the Friends directors, who requested time to discuss them with staff. A meeting scheduled for today was cancelled and the documents are being reworked, so further discussion is delayed.
- Zoe Mackoff de Miranda provided an update on why the meeting was cancelled, noting there had been a lot of discussion that is going to result in changes. Ginette Handfield's questions were talked through.
- The Friends board has recognized that the decision on what goes forward is theirs, and that it needs to be completely legal, have a reasonable chance of succeeding, and provide a proper avenue for continuity of membership. Further discussion will wait until the board has something more solid from MONOVA to discuss.
- The Friends board passed a motion to allow the executive to seek legal support as needed in the process, to ensure everything meets the requirements of the Societies Act and the CRA. No one on the Friends board is an expert and knowledge varies, so funds have been set aside.
  - David Youngson asked whether that money comes from donations. Ginette Handfield confirmed that it does.
  - David Youngson asked whether the process is such that the executive would bring a recommendation to the AGM. Ginette Handfield confirmed that it is, noting the board needs appropriate information in advance and would put something forward as a recommendation. If the board were not aligned it would not go to the AGM.
  - Ginette Handfield shared that a legal review is needed and that some potential lawyers have been identified, but there is concern it would not be in place for this year's AGM. David Youngson asked about a special meeting. Ginette Handfield shared that it would be up to the board to call one, depending on what comes back.

5. New Business 6:26

Role of Commissioners

- David Youngson opened a discussion on the types of activities Commissioners want to be involved in, noting that Brian Burtch is leaving at the end of his term and that the Commission is looking for three more Commissioners, with applications currently under review.
- Susan Danard asked whether the Commission has historically had very active or entrepreneurial members. David Youngson shared that for some time the focus was on getting the museum open.
- Ginette Handfield shared that since the 1990s the fundraising role has sat with the Friends and the Friends board, so the Commission was not so much involved, though individuals participated on their own. The Friends existed before the Commission and fundraising is in their mandate. She noted the question of the foundation's footprint, and whether it will be active in fundraising or whether that will sit more with the Commission.
- Ginette Handfield noted that the Commission has a mandate and raised concern about making = fundraising conditional for a new Commissioner coming on board. David Youngson responded that he does not want to sidetrack the discussion, but that if the Commission sticks hard and fast to the mandate it becomes administrative. Ginette Handfield noted that helping is great but people need to keep the core role in mind.
- Susan Danard shared that people are more likely to stay on when they are able to contribute and feel engaged, and would like to see the Commission highlight that.
- Ginette Handfield shared that she thinks there is a misunderstanding and that there should be a skills matrix, noting the Commission has gone through that process before. She raised concern about bringing in too broad a range of skills while expecting fundraising.
- Brian Burtch shared reflections on his own experience joining the Commission. Councillor Jordan Back was his neighbour and suggested he volunteer. He found there was not a lot of information available online, and identified as an overall weakness that he did not know what he was getting into.
    - He shared that part of the role is showing up, attending galas, bidding on silent auctions and coming to meetings, and that this was a draw for him, though too much of it could be a turn off.
    - He noted that governance was really critical but he would want it fleshed out more, including gender and ethnic representation, and that the role should be variegated. He would not say the Commission needs lawyers or accountants, but there might be times when somebody with that background is needed.

Making History 2026 7:00

- Zoe Mackoff de Miranda shared that the Making History fundraiser is coming up and invited Commissioners who want to be active in supporting it to get involved. The sponsorship package will be distributed, and she is happy to entertain any donors and walk them around the museum. Items are being sought for the live auction. An email with the information will be sent to Commissioners.
- Connections in wine distribution are being sought for the wine wall, along with a culinary angle. At this point what is needed most is connections in regard to support.

6. Councillors' Reports

.1 City of NV (Councillor Bell) 7:04

- The financial review of the year is coming next Monday.
- Public meetings are being held regarding the swimming deck, which is becoming controversial due to concerns about pollution. This has not been helped by other beaches being closed because of E. coli.
- There is controversy about the bike lane at Grand Boulevard park. The Spirit Trail was originally a walking trail and now has cyclists on it, and there have been collisions.
- The Harry Jerome opening is July 25.
- Ginette Handfield asked about an announcement in the papers regarding the City building on Lonsdale and a community arts office being leased for $10 a year. Councillor Don Bell shared that it is leased but the tenant maintains it and pays strata fees (same as MONOVA).

.2 District of NV (Councillor Back)

- Councillor Jordan Back was not present.

7. Adjournment.

Motion to adjourn. Moved by Charlene Grant, seconded by Susan Danard, none opposed.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 17, 2026, 5:30 pm