MINUTES FOR THE MARCH 2026 MEETING OF

THE NORTH VANCOUVER MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES COMMISSION

HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2026, AT 5:30 pm

VIRTUAL MEETING

Present: Councillor Don Bell, Brian Burtch, Susan Danard, Stephanie Daudlin, Adrian Dyck, Mehdi Rabbani, David Youngson, Ginette Handfield

Regrets: Councillor Jordan Back

1. Land Acknowledgement 5:30

Brian Burtch shared a land acknowledgement, offering a shout-out to the North Vancouver District Public Library as a resource in its development.

2. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda 5:35

No comments or questions. Approved unanimously.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the January 2026 Regular Meeting 5:40

• Two typographical corrections were noted: “Councillor” misspelled under Item 5, and “acclimation” should read “acclamation” in Item 3.

Motion to approve the January 2026 minutes as amended. Carried unanimously.

4. Information Reports:

.1 Director’s Report 5:50

• Susan Danard congratulated staff on ending the year with a surplus.

• Director Zoe Mackoff de Miranda provided context on the 2026 budget: MONOVA’s municipal funding is capped at an inflationary increase (2.1% for 2026), and for the first time the municipalities will not cover anticipated bargaining wage increases, requiring those costs (~$80,000) to be absorbed within the operating budget.

• Zoe confirmed the 2026 Making History fundraiser is planned for November 6th, an evening event with Fred Lee confirmed. Commissioners will be engaged as planning progresses.

• Councillor Don Bell noted he was pleased to see event bookings up and asked whether the Lonsdale Quay partnership is reciprocal. Zoe outlined MONOVA's contributions to the Quay's children's area and planned activations for the Quay's 40th anniversary. Councillor Bell and David Youngson suggested a sign in MONOVA's entrance area promoting the Quay would further demonstrate reciprocity.

• Councillor Bell asked about the Returning Belongings policy and whether all artefacts are at risk of being returned. Zoe clarified that the majority of the collection is owned by MONOVA, and the policy primarily concerns items from Indigenous communities both in Canada and south of the border. The policy is in draft form and any deaccessions would require Commission approval.

• Ginette Handfield raised the requirement around staff not working alone at the Archives. Zoe confirmed protocols are in place and that staff are typically not alone.

• Ginette Handfield asked whether the municipalities are involved in the Returning Belongings policy given their ownership of the collection. Zoe confirmed the Commission serves as the review body, with municipal representation through appointed Commissioners and Councillors.

• Adrian Dyck commended the significant increase in event rental bookings and new partnerships with Lonsdale Quay and Vancouver Food Tours and asked about fee membership targets. Zoe acknowledged memberships had not been a marketing focus recently and that a proactive renewal campaign has been introduced for 2026.

• David Youngson asked whether a gala debrief had been conducted. Zoe confirmed smaller debriefs were held and feedback was very positive, with MONOVA coming close to its fundraising goal.

• David Youngson asked about day camps and the summer key exhibit budget. Zoe confirmed day camps are offered in partnership with North Shore Neighbourhood House, and that the Squamish Nation is contributing significantly to the 2026 Feature Exhibition.

• Adrian Dyck asked about the gift shop revenue target appearing lower than the prior year. Zoe explained adjustments were made to how revenue is recognized and expressed confidence the target would be exceeded.

• Susan Danard asked whether residential care homes are connected to MONOVA's programming. Zoe confirmed organized group visits are arranged with facilities including Park and Sunrise. Zoe and Susan agreed to connect offline regarding potential donor relationships.

.2 Governance Committee

• Zoe Mackoff de Miranda reported that the Governance Committee has not been active since former Chair Alicia Peters concluded her term.

• A virtual ad hoc meeting with BDO is scheduled for April 15th at 11:30 am to review the 2025 audit findings, ahead of the Commission meeting that evening.

• David Youngson noted that technically the Commission does not currently have a Governance Committee and suggested proceeding on an ad hoc basis, as previously discussed.

.3 Friends Society

• Ginette Handfield reported: the Friends Board met March 10th. Charlene has taken on the role of President and Julie was elected Vice-President; Doug and Ginette continue as Secretary and Treasurer. The Friends now have a fully elected executive.

• The Friends have written off their book inventory and donated the remaining stock to MONOVA to simplify accounting.

• The value of 40 annual MONOVA passes has been remitted to MONOVA.

• Limited discussion on Option 2 (foundation model); the Friends are awaiting the outcome of the Commission's work before proceeding.

• Next Friends board meeting: June 2nd.

5. New Business 6:51

Steph Daudlin was formally acknowledged as Secretary to the Commission.

MOTION That the North Vancouver Museum and Archives Commission approves the audio recording of Commission meetings to support the accurate recording of minutes by the Secretary.

Moved by Councillor Don Bell, seconded by Adrian Dyck. No opposed. Carried.

6. Councillors' Reports

.1 City of NV (Councillor Bell) 6:57

• Councillor Bell provided an update on ongoing City Council discussions on the future of Lonsdale (Great Streets), with public presentations focused on the direction of density. A report is expected in the coming months.

• Councillor Bell reported that the Harry Jerome Recreation Centre is on track to open in July 2026, and shared that following discussions with Heather from the Recreation Commission, MONOVA's existing display cases were noted as having accessibility limitations. A panel promoting MONOVA is currently installed at Delbrook and Lynn Creek in the interim.

• Zoe Mackoff de Miranda added that MONOVA is working with the NVRC and Valerie Jerome (Harry Jerome's sister) to develop the display case for the new Rec Centre entrance and is exploring accessioning additional Harry Jerome-related material into the collection.

7. Adjournment.

Moved by Brian Burtch, seconded by Mehdi Rabbani, carried unanimously.

Next meeting: In person at the Archives, April 15, 2026, 5:30 pm.

David Youngson raised the possibility of occasionally holding Commission meetings at the Museum, potentially on Thursday evenings, to increase Commissioners' exposure to Museum programming.