

District of North Vancouver Municipal Public Library

HEADQUARTERS: 2834 WESTLYNN SHOPPING CENTRE  
NORTH VANCOUVER, B. C.



Miss E. M. Dearing  
District Librarian

TELEPHONE 987-7622

February, 1967.

Mr. Leslie D.G. Brooks  
545 Granada Crescent  
North Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Mr. Brooks:

Enclosed is a copy of the proceedings of the Vainstein Report Seminar held on January 28, 1967, at Canyon Gardens, and a copy of the resolutions of the British Columbia Library Association endorsed by the seminar. These resolutions have been sent to The Honourable Wesley D. Black, Provincial Secretary.

A separate letter is being sent to each Council, Library Board, School Board and the Regional College Committee, asking them to name a member to the Co-ordinating Committee, which is to be established as soon as possible. When this matter arises at your meeting, we hope you will be able to provide the necessary details for those unable to attend the Seminar.

We were pleased with the success of the meeting and wish to thank you for showing, by your attendance, an interest in the continued development of libraries on the North Shore.

Yours very truly,

*Enid Dearing*

(Miss) Enid Dearing,  
Secretary to the Board.

ED/dm  
encl:

Vainstein Report Seminar

Saturday, January 28, 1967

Canyon Gardens  
North Vancouver, B.C.

Sponsored by North Vancouver District Library Board.

Report of Proceedings

Forty two people attended the Vainstein Report Seminar sponsored by the North Vancouver District Library Board, on Saturday, January 28, 1967, at Canyon Gardens, North Vancouver. The following bodies were represented.

North Vancouver - City Council; Library Board; School District #44.

North Vancouver - District Council; Library Board.

West Vancouver - Municipal Council; Library Board; School District #45.

School Librarians and School Supervisors from North and West Vancouver.

Librarians from the three municipal public libraries.

Provincial Legislature by Mr. R. Perrault, M.L.A.

North Shore Business and Professional Women's Club.

Municipal Managers of North Vancouver District and West Vancouver.

Public Library Commission.

The meeting gathered for a buffet luncheon, courtesy of the Public Library Commission. Mr. M.J.R. Lakes, Chairman, North Vancouver District Library Board, conducted the meeting. Mrs. D. Parr, Chairman, Public Library Commission, gave a brief address on the Commission and introduced the guest speaker, Dr. Ronald Hagler, Associate Professor, School of Librarianship, University of British Columbia: Research Assistant and Editor of Public Libraries in British Columbia: a survey with recommendations, by Miss R. Vainstein. Dr. Hagler's stimulating address dealt chiefly with explanations and clarification of the report as it pertained to the North Shore area. After explaining the levels of service outlined in the report, he presented many ideas and suggestions for cooperation within and without our own service area, pertaining to public, school and college libraries. One of his most interesting suggestions was that of the three municipal public libraries cooperating to establish a library in Park Royal. Throughout he emphasized that cooperative ventures will vary throughout B.C. and that each area must make and carry out its own plans. He also stressed that cooperative ventures should receive favourable consideration from the Public Library Commission in the form of grants.

[A full transcript of Dr. Hagler's address will be available at a later date, only the highlights have been presented here]

After Dr. Hagler's address the meeting divided into three groups to discuss the following topics:

1. Public Library Cooperation under the leadership of Mrs. Jane Weir, Trustee, North Vancouver District Library.
2. School and Public Library Cooperation led by Mrs. Phyllis Simpson, Trustee, North Vancouver School Board.
3. Municipal and Provincial support of Public Libraries - discussed under the leadership of Mr. R.L. Davison, Superintendent, Public Library Commission.

Lively discussions ensued in all groups, as reported by the group leaders when the group reconvened at 3:15 p.m.

Brief highlights from the discussion leaders reports were as follows

1. Public Library Cooperation

General agreement was reached that there are many areas of cooperation that can be done at the administrative level. Mrs. Musto, Librarian, West Vancouver Memorial Library, offered non-fiction books (2 years after publication date) for interlibrary loan to the North Vancouver City and District Libraries. Details of such loans and cooperative purchasing in certain subject fields will be left to the library administrators. Problems of student use, caused by new universities and colleges, prompted discussion on a possible reference resource centre for students and adults in the proposed regional college. Details here included the acquisition of a good periodical and microfilm collection. This group then recommended that a committee of representatives from Councils, Library Boards and School Boards be formed to set policy and work out plans for further cooperation.

2. School and Public Library Cooperation

Student use of school and public libraries and the need for cooperation was generally agreed to be necessary. Although the group did not come to any definite conclusions the following subjects were discussed:

A computerized reference centre for B.C.

Cooperation between School Districts 44 and 45.

Joint periodical and microfilming collections.

Mrs. Simpson also announced that School District 44 will be opening, on an experimental basis, three secondary school libraries at Delbrook, Windsor and North Vancouver, for four nights per week as soon as staff is obtained.

3. Municipal and Provincial aid to Public Libraries

This discussion evolved around government grants to public libraries. It was noted that provincial grants to municipal public libraries constitute only 5% of the operating budgets of municipal public libraries. It was generally agreed that this amount was far too low and that every effort should be made to convince the government that additional funds are necessary if the Vainstein Report is to be implemented and the standards of public library services improved.

With regard to local financial support it was agreed that cooperation is desirable to make the best possible use of monies available.

The possibility of a regional college for the North Shore and possible library cooperation with such a college was also discussed.

General discussion ensued as to further steps that should be taken and the need for continued study of cooperation.

RESOLUTIONS

- (1) Moved: Mr. Peter Jones, seconded: Mrs. Joyce Chadwick,

Whereas the discussions of this seminar have resulted in interest and concern for a continued study of possible areas of co-operation for the improvement of all libraries on the North Shore.

Therefore be it resolved that this seminar endorse the establishment of a co-ordinating committee to consist of a representative from the following bodies: Councils, North Vancouver City and District and West Vancouver; School Districts 44 and 45; Library Boards of North Vancouver City and District and West Vancouver; North Shore Community College.

Co-ordinating Committee.

This committee to be formed immediately to study possible areas of co-operation and prepare policies regarding all North Shore libraries.

CARRIED

- (2) Whereas the group discussing municipal and provincial support of public libraries expressed concern at the lack of support the Public Library Commission receives from the Provincial Government for its operation and for grants to public libraries.

Therefore be it resolved that: this seminar endorse the resolutions pertaining to the Vainstein Report and the provincial support of libraries passed by the Fall Meeting of the British Columbia Library Association, and that this resolution be forwarded to the Provincial Government.

CARRIED

(A copy of the resolutions is attached)

Miss Dearing was asked to attend to the details of the proceedings and resolutions of this seminar.

The seminar adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Enid Dearing,  
Secretary to the Board,  
North Vancouver District Library.

BRITISH COLUMBIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Resolutions Adopted at the Fall Meeting

October 2, 1966.

- I. Whereas the British Columbia Library Association is actively concerned with the improvement of library service in all areas of British Columbia,

And whereas the Vainstein Report amply demonstrates that a province-wide system of public library service areas is an effective and economical method of improving such service,

Therefore, be it resolved that the British Columbia Library Association fully endorse the Vainstein Report and give every assistance to the Public Library Commission and to local organizations in its implementation,

And be it further resolved that the members of the British Columbia Library Association use their influence and initiative as individuals to bring about an understanding and acceptance of the report, and action on its recommendations.

- II. Whereas the British Columbia Library Association recognizes that the leadership role of the Public Library Commission in public library development cannot be fully exercised without the expansion of its staff,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Provincial Government be requested to provide the funds necessary for such expansion, and for retaining other personnel where specialists are required.

- III. Whereas the Vainstein Report demonstrates that the present level of direct provincial aid (approximately seven per cent of the province's total public library operating expenses) is grossly inadequate to provide a basis for co-ordinated province-wide development,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Provincial Government be urgently requested to raise the level of direct grant support immediately to an average of twenty per cent of public library operating expenses to support this co-ordinated development.