Council Member Motion
For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of July 14, 2022

To:	Committee of the Whole	**Date:**	July 7, 2022
From:	Councillor Ben Isitt		
Subject:	Library Return Box Pilot Project in Neighbourhoods		

Background:

The Quadra Village Community Centre ("QVCC") and Fairfield-Gonzales Community Association ("FGCA") have agreed in principle to host Library Return Boxes, as a pilot project aimed at expanding access to library services within neighbourhoods in the City of Victoria.

As the HQ Collective noted in the attached presentation to the June 23 Council Meeting, Library Return Boxes are already provided by the Greater Victoria Library Board at the Archie Browning Arena in Esquimalt.

This initiative aligns with the City of Victoria *Strategic Plan 2019-2022* action to: "Work with the Greater Victoria Public Library to provide library services in the north end of the city." It also aligns with recognition in the GVPL *Facilities Plan* (2010) that: "Some densely populated neighbourhoods such as Fairfield, James Bay, and the Hillside corridor are underserved."

As a next step, it is recommended that Council provide direction to City of Victoria staff to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the QVCC and FGCA, and bring this agreement to the GVPL to secure deployment of Library Return Boxes on a pilot basis in the Quadra Village and Fairfield neighbourhoods.

Recommendation:

That Council directs staff to work with the Quadra Village Community Centre, the Fairfield-Gonzales Community Association and the Greater Victoria Public Library to secure installation of Library Return Boxes on a pilot basis at the Quadra Village Community Centre and Fairfield Community Place.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Isitt

Attachments:
1. HQ Collective, "Improving Library Services in Neighbourhoods," June 2022
2. Memorandum of Understanding re: Library Services in Community Centres