

# Imagining our Future

# Chetwynd Public Library

Inspiring our community in a spirit of learning & discovery



changing times:  
*inspiring* Libraries

The background of the slide is a photograph of a library. On the left, there are tall white bookshelves filled with books. In the background, two people are visible: one wearing a red jacket and another wearing a grey jacket and a cap. They appear to be looking at books or a display. The overall lighting is bright and even.

Bad libraries build  
collections, good libraries  
build services, great libraries  
build communities.

– R. DAVID LANKES

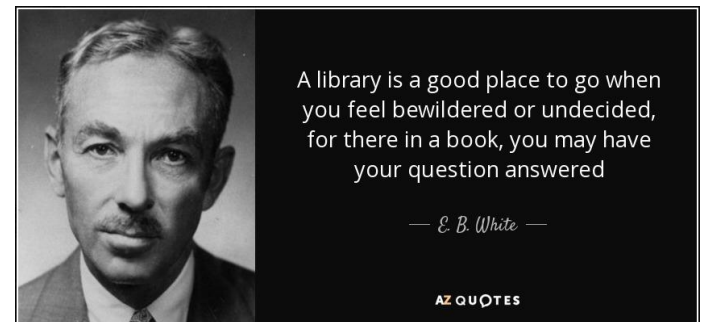
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## Provincial Priorities 2016 Provincial Priorities for Libraries are

1. **A focus on equitable access to library services for all British Columbians, including efforts to extend library programs and services, to under-represented populations.**
2. **Continued supports for education transformation, as outlined in the BC Education Plan.**  
Libraries, as key partners in providing supports to students and parents outside of the classroom, should continue organizing and collaborating on community-based, personalize learning opportunities for all learners which allows them to realize their full potential in reaching personal learning goals.
3. **Support for BC's Skills for Jobs Blueprint and #BCTECH Strategy by improving outcomes for job seekers in BC.** Specifically, libraries should focus on tools, programs and essential literacy supports that help your community explore new skills for high demand employment opportunities, for long-term job security in today's growing economy.
4. **Work across the library sector in the development of new shared-services and on collaboration with other partners to find efficiencies and build on current infrastructure and opportunities.** For example, the development of shared service models and resources which extend or improve seamless access, involving public, academic and/or school libraries.



# Renovation History of the Chetwynd Public Library

- Built in 1959 by the Little Prairie Ladies Club in 1959 with 250 books in the collection
- 1961: New Library & Public Health Space opened, 7 hours per week.
- Incorporated in 1966 as a Public Library Association under the Library Act
- 1967: the Chetwynd Centennial Public Library opened
- 1982: Moderate Expansion
- 1986/87: Library Director Office and Adult Non-Fiction Expansion
- 1997/98: Workroom, Storage Room, Adult Fiction & Children's Area Expansion
- 2007/2008: Bistro Renovation & Community Room Expansion
- 2012: Interior Renovation of new flooring

# What we currently offer for our community

- Currently, we are open 7 days a week for a minimum of 3016 hours open to the public annually.
- A staff of nine facilitate traditional library services and host well over 402 library led community programs annually.
- The Fay Asleson Community Room is available free of charge to non-profits, groups and organizations. Private rental is also available.
- The physical collection sits around 20,000 volumes with access to hundreds of thousands of books and materials through the Provincial InterLibrary Loan program. We also have an extensive digital collection available 24/7
- We support & partner with non-profit groups and organizations in any capacity we can which fits within our mission.
- We also support community events like Harvest Fest, The Ghoulish Affair, Canada Day, Chainsaw Carving, Trade Show, Community Registration & Public School events. Support comes in-kind and with staff & board volunteerism.

# What does a Library look like in 2016?

- We are here to help anyone who wants to learn, whatever the platform, channel, and subject.
- Public libraries are hubs of engagement, fostering new relationships, community dialogue and strengthening the human capital of our communities.
- We touch the lives of a wide range of people, whether pre-schoolers, seniors, people with developmental disabilities, business people, job seekers, new Canadians or avid readers.
- We support people who are engaged in formal learning in K-12 and post-secondary institutions; we support online learners, homeschoolers, and people who are not enrolled in the formal education system. Libraries support people engaged in self-directed learning throughout their lifespan.
- Public libraries play a key role in 'leveling the playing field', ensuring that all individuals have equal opportunity to prosper in an ever expanding world of knowledge and information.
- We have core values of equitable access, intellectual freedom, knowledge creation, diversity, preservation and sharing of cultural heritage, literacy and lifelong learning serve as our foundation.
- We are trusted organizations in our communities with the fundamental assets of people, place and platform to empower people's personal development.
- Public libraries are welcoming places, free and open for all. We provide safe spaces for learners of all ages in a social environment where people are reading, collaborating, learning, playing, and meeting.
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- While maintaining heavily used traditional services, public libraries have the technological infrastructure to provide digital services that support connected learning, civic participation, and other social development aspirations – all activities that now necessitate both digital and traditional literacies.
- Our communities increasingly depend on us for the enhanced services that are required for participation and engagement as our learning environments become more mobile and dependent on technology.
- Access to our libraries' digital tools, rich resources and learning experiences provides opportunities for people to discover and create new knowledge.
- Libraries support the development of empathic, resilient, and creative communities. They offer critical early learning and pre-literacy skills development opportunities for pre-school kids and build the capacity of their caregivers to support their early development.
- Public libraries complement the extra- curricular learning of school-age children, offering community based learning environments.
- For adults, we support creativity and innovation, job skills development and retraining, internet access and digital skills development, and settlement services.
- We develop environments and services that advance social inclusion and create opportunity for community connections.

# What could library services look like in the future?

## **2017:**

Libraries, in 2017, will look much the same. There will be physical shelves. There will be public computers. There will be staff to assist. Upon closer inspection, many things will seem different. More people will be using wifi on their own devices than are using library computers.

## **2022:**

By 2022 most library buildings will contain fewer books and more group study/community meeting space. They will have larger wifi zones and a wider variety of seating options for customers. They will have quiet zones and noisy areas. Most of the book-oriented services will be automated. Creation or Discovery zones will be commonplace. Library systems will have far more young adult customers than they did in 2012. Staff will have the expertise to support students who use technology as part of their educational experience.

## **2030:**

It is probable that by 2030 many public libraries will become true community meeting places.



## Halifax Central Library

We have the traditional role, which is to bring information and inspiration to people through literature. But more and more, libraries are also saying, 'How do we spur creativity in different ways?'"

Halifax Central Library CEO Asa Kachan



Halifax Central Library, with its cafes, auditorium space and video-gaming section, challenges every traditional notion of what these public spaces should be. Here, patrons are encouraged to hang out, snack and yes, even talk.

Opened to the community in 2015

## **Vancouver Public Library Central Branch Expansion**

On level eight, there will be a 77-seat fixed-seat auditorium, art and cultural exhibition spaces, community meeting rooms, and large quiet reading room on level eight, which will be a first for the building.



Central Branch is also home to the Inspiration Lab which is dedicated to digital creativity, collaboration and storytelling featuring high-performance computers, analog-to-digital conversion, sound studios, and self-publishing and editing software.

## **New Branch of the Victoria Public Library System**

In an effort to better serve West Shore residents, the foyer of this new branch will be open to the public 24-7, and in that space is something a little different. A vending machine filled with assorted materials ranging from books to DVDs will be available at any time, allowing users to "shop" from the titles showing at the front of each row. Library users scan their card, make their selection – just like a traditional vending machine – and pull the item from the slot at the bottom.



# **WE'RE OPEN!**

## **LANGFORD HERITAGE BRANCH**

**102-1314 Lakepoint Way**

## **COME VISIT US!**

The Langford Heritage Branch is located within view of Langford Lake, in the same building as the YM-YWCA and the Victoria Conservatory of Music. The branch is approximately 4000 square feet.



## **New Central Library – Calgary**

The New Central Library, located just east of City Hall in East Village, will be 240,000 square feet of functional, flexible, beautifully designed space. The NCL (as its friends call it) is a friendly city icon that invites all Calgarians to gather, learn, read, play, be challenged, relax, hang out and connect.



Throughout 2012, more than 16,000 Calgarians participated in an extensive public engagement program. They wanted their library to be a cultural and community incubator and hub that provided open, accessible space for the exchange of ideas. They wanted their library to have a role as a natural meeting and gathering place for people from all walks of life.

## New Location: Downtown McBride

We are absolutely thrilled and excited to get started on turning 521 Main into a vibrant library and museum that welcomes all into town.”

Joel Zhan, Chair of the joint library & museum expansion committee



Proponents of the move say the library and museum need more space and filling a currently empty building at the entrance to the McBride will help encourage economic development. A feasibility study done by Regional District staff said the current buildings were beyond repair for public use, and identified purchasing 521 Main Street as the least expensive option. It also evaluated building new on property recently purchased by the Museum board, or renovating the existing buildings.

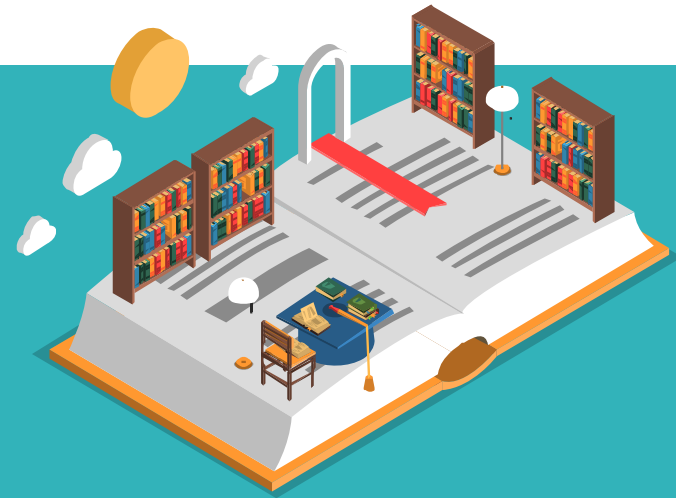
The following items reflect the most important issues that are likely to reshape libraries, regardless of the answers to them. Because each uncertainty can have different answers under different circumstances, libraries need to create a nimbleness to respond rapidly when uncertainties start to become clear. That means practicing for different futures and planning not with rigidity but with fluidity so that the organization can adapt quickly to whatever future might unfold.

- **How will we access information?**
- **How will we represent books?**
- **How will we represent knowledge?**
- **How will we find stuff?**
- **What will we need to know?**
- **What will be the role of place?**

A shift is needed. To move libraries from places where you look up facts to those where you learn skills and engage in new experiences. Instead of “shushing” librarians and stilted study rooms, libraries often have integrated art galleries, coffee shops and even cafeterias. And some are even exploring the idea of a 21st century gathering space.

# *Modernizing Libraries*

- ✓ Facilitates individual and community learning, building capacity to adapt to a changing world
- ✓ Enables participation by everyone in an increasingly digital economy

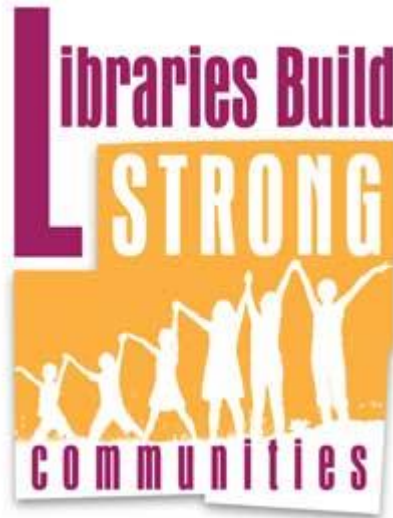


- ✓ Fosters creativity - an essential life skill in the new economy
- ✓ Supports workforce readiness
- ✓ Builds involved members of the community and supports newcomers and community building
- ✓ Provides crucial public space supporting community engagement
- ✓ Showcases and generates enthusiasm for local culture and identity
- ✓ Hosts community digital hubs for access and creation

Books won't fade, but with so many other mediums to explore, libraries, especially those with technology, can enhance skills. Access itself isn't enough: libraries need to harness the sheer overabundance of information in the digital age and become facilitators to help us sort through the avalanche.



British Columbians regularly visit local libraries to pursue their personal interests, whether developing a plan for a small business, learning to use a computer, or discovering nutritious recipes for their families. Libraries support the need for continuous learning throughout the course of a person's life



# The Future of Libraries

The core of what we need to deliver

## **Role for libraries**

Access to knowledge

Life-long learning

Free public community spaces

Digital inclusion

Civic engagement

Curators of community knowledge

Trusted community partners

The changing landscape of what our community will need

## **Delivery of service**

Consumer to Creator

Libraries on the go (mobile)

Digital hubs

Seamless experiences

Shared services

Deliver community services

Reflect community needs

Flexible

Constant innovation

Trusted Source in a rapidly changing world

# What we need for our Library Space

## The Basics

- Public Washrooms
- Water Fountain
- Consistent temperature for patron comfort and preservation of the physical collection.
- Storage
- Mail room space
- Staff work space
- Office Space
- Parking
- Modern wiring for digital access
- Windows for natural light
- Energy efficient lighting
- Entryway with boot & coat storage
- Comfortable & sturdy furniture

## Elements of a Library

- Diverse collection of books and materials
- Shelves & display area for the collection
- Meeting Space
- Common seating area
- Circulation Desk
- Children's Space
- Tween/Teen Space
- Adult Space
- Copy/Scan Area
- Public Digital Access Space
- Collaborative "Maker" Space
- Special Collections
- Archives
- After hours return box
- Bistro Space

We need a library space which honours the traditional needs of the past with the flexibility to be an innovative and trusted space. A flexible gathering space for our community which will be used by a people from multigenerational & diverse backgrounds.

# David Lankes

[illegible]