

ACTION

Subject: New Central Library Building Program Project Update

Prepared by: Elaine Condos, Division Manager, Centralized and Information Services

Prepared for: Ottawa Public Library Board

Meeting of: September 10, 2007

Date: August 30, 2007

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the recommendation of the New Central Library Building Committee, regarding ratification of motions passed on August 28, 2007, be approved.

Background

1. On July 11, 2007, at a Special Board Meeting, the Board reviewed the results of multi-day functional modelling exercises. The options reviewed in detail were:
 - Stand alone new central library
 - New Central Library and new Central Archives with minimal synergy, i.e. only concourse and meeting room spaces were shared
 - Fully integrated new central library and central archives
2. Since mid-July, Library and City staff have been working with the Resource Planning Group (RPG) to gather information and provide the direction required for the October report to Council.
3. The New Central Library Board Committee met on August 28, 2007. Andrew Brown, Project Manager, Resource Planning Group was in attendance at the meeting. The primary agenda item was to review and discuss the draft Library and Archives Synergy and Co-location Study, including identified options.
4. At the meeting, the following motions were approved:

Moved by Marianne Wilkinson, seconded by Murray MacLean, that in order to maximize synergies and operational efficiencies in both the Central Library and City of Ottawa Archives, that the New Central Library Board Committee supports the grouping of the public services of both organizations at one downtown location, and the grouping of the non-public/technical/material distribution services of both organizations together on city-owned land at CentrepoinTE. *CARRIED.*

Moved by Diane Holmes, seconded by Murray MacLean, that local history and genealogy services are integral services of the Library, and cannot be separated from the other public services provided by the Library. *CARRIED.*

The Committee is recommending that the Library Board ratify the aforementioned motions. Pending Board approval, these motions would also be included in the staff report accompanying the RPG Synergy and Co-location Study report when it is submitted to CPS Committee and Council.

5. The New Central Library Board Committee also clarified that, for the purpose of a future site for the central library, the central downtown area is defined as Bronson Avenue to the Canal/Nicholas Street, and from the Ottawa River to Gloucester Street.
6. Andrew Brown will be present at the Board meeting to update the Board on the status of the projects, including a review of identified options from the updated draft Library and Archives Synergy and Co-location Study.
7. The current timing for the Archives report to Council is:
 - Draft Council report to the Deputy City Manager, Community and Protective Services by September 24
 - Final report is released to the public on October 11
 - Report goes to Community and Protective Services Committee on October 18
 - Report goes to Council on October 24