

NEW CENTRAL LIBRARY

In this issue, we meet the artists trying to earn the opportunity to create public art inside and outside the New Central Library and we look at the inspiration behind the new Calgary Public Library logo. We update you on construction progress (excellent!) and take a look at the site construction hoarding (beautiful!). Turn the page and come inside your exciting New Central Library project with us.



**NEW FRIENDS.
NEW ART.
NEW LOOK!**

Illustration: MIR. Architects: Snøhetta + DIALOG. Extended in courtesy by Calgary Municipal Land Corporation.

A WORK OF ART FOR A WORK OF ART

The plan for the New Central Library, Calgary's preeminent new public institution, makes room for significant public art. Some of the world's foremost artists are vying for the opportunity to design and execute the work for the New Central Library: when master developer CMLC issued a Request for Qualifications into the local, national and global art world in July 2014, some

Library construction site and East Village itself to understand the personality of the emerging community and the role of the New Central Library within it. The artists met with our Prime Design consultants – Snøhetta and DIALOG – and the staff of the Calgary Public Library to discuss the function and purpose of the NCL, the history of the site and the technical details – including the

I'm confident that with this public art selection process, Calgarians will get public art that will spark conversations about beauty, whimsy, entertainment, and even what a city can be. – *Patti Pon, president and CEO, Calgary Arts Development Authority*

240 artists from around the world responded. Last fall, a community-led volunteer jury shortlisted five artist proponents. "Culling the list was no easy task," says Kate Thompson, CMLC's director of development. "Our jury didn't want to limit our possibilities and opportunities. We wanted a large cross section of artistic media represented across the submissions: sculptors, painters, interactive designers and new media. Our jury represents a range of project and community stakeholder groups, all of which are volunteering their time to assist us in this herculean effort: there are local artists, art champions, library lovers, neighbours and other Calgarians involved in the jury."

On a chilly day in February, the five short-listed artists and the jury toured the Central Library, the New Central

play of sun and shadow on the coming building and the dozen opportunities for placement of art pieces within and outside the new building.

For 30-year art champion and jury member Patti Pon, president and CEO of the Calgary Arts Development Authority, the project fuels the city's new arts development strategy to empower citizens to "Live a Creative Life". The strategy, which focuses on Creative Communities, Centre City Arts District, Arts Incubation, Artistic Exchange and Youth & Education, dovetails nicely with the NCL public art project. "It shines a wonderful spotlight on how art infuses city life and resonates with citizens in so many different ways," Pon says. The NCL's public art piece or pieces will connect with Calgarians who simply glimpse it on their way elsewhere, and to others who will pass by it and interact with it personally on a daily basis as they use the library.

"The thoughtfulness of the process – from the artists and within the jury – is astonishing," says Pon. "There's very different DNA of the people who are around the jury table and their individual perspectives are being woven into the conversation. I'm confident that with this process, Calgarians will get public art that will spark conversations about beauty, whimsy, entertainment, and even what a city can be."

The jury will receive final submissions from the shortlisted artists at the end of March and will choose the successful proponent/s in April. The artist/s will be featured in the spring issue of EVE magazine.



Illustration: MIR.

THE JURY AND THE JUDGED

Drum roll, please! Here are the five finalists vying for the opportunity to create your public art.

1. **Alice Aycock**, sculptor, USA
2. **Brian Jungen**, sculptor, Canada
3. **Rafael Lozano-Hemmer/Besette**, interactive media, Canada
4. **Christian Moeller**, multi-media, sculpture, USA/Europe
5. **Janet Zweig**, mixed media, USA

Meet the members of the volunteer jury for the NCL public art project,

Melanie Kjørlien Vice President Access, Collections and Exhibitions, Glenbow Museum
Avnish Mehta Principal, Stand and Command; Calgary Public Library Board member
Myrna Cobb Principal, Abio Inc.; Community representative for East Village-Inglewood
Patti Pon President and CEO, Calgary Arts Development
Mark Mullin Instructor, Alberta College of Art and Design; professional artist representing the Calgary Public Library Board.

Non Voting Observers:

Quyen Hoang Public Art Program Coordinator, City of Calgary Public Art Department
Kate Thomson Director, Development CMLC
Allan Collier Principal, DIALOG
Sessions were facilitated by Art to Public, Yves Trépanier, Kevin Baer and Judy Ciggalone.



NEW LOOK FOR A NEW ERA IN CALGARY LIBRARIES

Your good old library has a brand new look. Have you noticed yet? It's a new logo and visual identity that will be the visual signature for library communication for decades to come. The fresh, modern, geometric look, inspired by the webbed exterior 'skin' of the New Central Library design, suggests the connectivity of people, learning, invention and action made possible by the community library system. Of course, the logo's abstract nature communicates different things to different library-lovers. "Some see it as a network, others as neurons or veins, and someone saw a thorny bush!" says Paul McIntyre Royston, president and CEO of the Calgary Public Library Foundation.



One thing you won't see in the new logo is books, which is in keeping with Calgarians' ideas about the next century of libraries – books will be but one element of a library system focused on people. "We're happy that the new logo generates conversation," McIntyre Royston says.

The library cards on which the new logo is printed are generating their fair share of conversation as well. Membership fees have been abolished for everyone, and some 3,500 Calgarians have chosen to become Friends of the Library by donating their former membership fee. You can do the same at libraryfriends.ca.

"It's all part of our goal to raise the funds that will create the best public library in the world for Calgarians," McIntyre Royston says.

The new logo has also found its way onto a collection of new merchandise that raises funds for the library system. Fresh-looking pins, pens, mugs, backpacks, tee's, toques and more bearing the new design are proving popular and support library services. Check them out at goodread.myshopify.com.

HISTORY ON HOARDING

The New Central Library is a work of art from the ground up. Even the construction hoarding - the fencing that surrounds the site - has been interpreted in an artistic fashion. The series of images on the NCL hoarding recounts the evolution of historic East Village in warm, dreamy watercolours, and it's the work of Calgary illustrator Serena Malyon. Serena, whose work was chosen through a competitive process, says she spent her childhood combing her local library for visual inspiration; when she attended Alberta College of Art and Design, libraries continued to offer a world of illustration ideas. Since she graduated ACAD with honours in 2012, she's created work for the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary, local magazines, a restaurant, and recently was selected to exhibit at Spectrum Fantastic Art Live in Kansas City, an art fair popular with leading international fantasy and science fiction illustrators. Come for a stroll around the site and take a look!



DUCT BANK WORK COMPLETED!

As part of the ongoing and planned construction program on the LRT Encapsulation, Calgary Municipal Land Corporation, our Construction Manager Stuart Olson and the subcontractor team at Calgary Tunnelling and Horizontal Augering Ltd. completed a 4-day tunneling program on site from January 23-26, 2015 as part of an overall duct bank installation. The tunneling program was executed by pipe ramming method (without open excavation) which enabled the installation of a 22 meter steel casing, two meters below the LRT train tracks, thus avoiding train service interruption. The new duct bank is required to replace and upgrade an old clay pipe duct bank that currently services the main municipal building as well as infrastructure within East Village and beyond. The improved duct bank will traverse the entire construction site and will accommodate 24 ducts of power and communication lines.



WALK THIS WAY



← recommended walking routes

The construction on the New Central Library means we'll all have to adjust our walking and driving habits to accommodate the work.

Pedestrians, please note that the pathways from the western end of the 8th Ave. cul-de-sac will be re-routed / closed around our live construction site. We suggest that you walk along 7th Ave. SE or 9th Ave. SE to access the LRT at the City Hall station. Follow the signs!

Follow construction progress in real time at calgarymlc.ca/NCL.



For more information contact Calgary Municipal Land Corporation at 403.718.0300 or calgarymlc.ca/NCL

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