

NEW CENTRAL LIBRARY

Building Inspiration. Building Community.
Building Our Future.



The New Central Library (NCL) will be located adjacent to City Hall in East Village. It will be a key civic institution - a community-building cornerstone for all Calgarians, with multi-faceted spaces to serve a range of ages, activities and needs. Oh yes, and there'll be room for books...lots of books. Read all about it!

YOUR NEW CENTRAL LIBRARY HERE!



YOUR VISION. YOUR ARCHITECTS.

Of all public institutions in the world today, perhaps none is undergoing a more profound transformation than the public library. More than ever in their long histories, libraries are a critical common ground where the only cost of entry is interest – they're gathering places for young and old, newcomers and long-time Calgarians, people on their way up and people starting over. The City of Calgary, East Village Master Developer Calgary Municipal Land Corporation (CMLC) and the Calgary Public Library are firm believers that the New Central Library will be a place of congregation and inspiration for the city's next century – and public input from more than 16,000 Calgarians is helping ensure it does just that.

The site for the fully-funded, \$245 million project is in East Village adjacent to City Hall. The architects chosen as lead design consultants are the international firm Snøhetta and Calgary's DIALOG. The team is in the process of designing a library that's as functional and welcoming as it is beautiful. Snøhetta brings to the NCL project experience in library design from Bibliotheca Alexandrina (Egypt), James B. Hunt Jr. Library (North Carolina State University), Ryerson University Student Learning Centre (Toronto), and elsewhere. DIALOG brings local expertise along with its international awareness.



Libraries can change the way people see their city and connect them to the wider world. The library design is an opportunity to link these ideas.

– Snøhetta co-founder Craig Dykers

At the same time, the NCL will be a uniquely Calgary institution. "We're not copying a library that exists," says Ellen Humphrey, Deputy CEO, Calgary Public Library. "We're re-imagining library service." How will she know they've got it right? "People will feel like they belong. They'll sense that they can figure out the space, know they can get help if they need it and understand how to use the materials. We want them to feel comfort and confidence. It's a tall order."

Watch New Central Library: The Vision at calgarymlc.ca/ncl/videos

CONNECTING OLD & NEW

The Calgary Public Library system has long connected neighbourhoods and brought communities together, and the New Central Library offers an opportunity to link downtown and East Village. "The library will be a lynchpin in joining west and east, old and new in the heart of the city," says Druh Farrell, Councillor Ward 7.

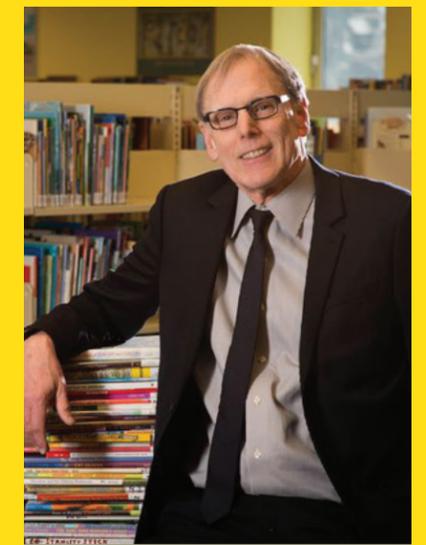
The New Central Library will reconnect 8th Ave. (Stephen Avenue) between corporate downtown and East Village; the pedestrian thoroughfare is currently interrupted by City Hall. The two-way portal will also link institutions on both sides. "There's an opportunity to create a new cultural corridor," says Michael Brown, president and CEO for CMLC. "The library can play a role in linking the Glenbow Museum and Epcor Centre in the west and the new National Music Centre and Fort Calgary in East Village. That's exciting for all Calgarians."



NEW CEO STACKS UP!

Bill Ptacek, the new CEO of the Calgary Public Library, is taking the reins of the 18-branch community library system at a transformational moment in its history – and the former head of the King County Library system in Washington State couldn't be happier. "The growth and development plans for Calgary, the energy and friendliness, are really exciting," he says. Ptacek is confident that the NCL is destined for success, not least because more than 16,000 Calgarians have provided input.

In the NCL's East Village location, Ptacek sees opportunities to create exciting partnerships that will draw Calgarians from all over the city. "What will motivate people to make all the effort to get downtown?" he asks. "Imagine an experience that combines a visit to the zoo with a penguin project at the NCL. Or listening to music at the National Music Centre and learning about the composer at the library. We want to provide experiences people can't get at their community library."



ALL ABOARD THE LIBRARY

The site of the New Central Library, one block east of City Hall on parcel 127 of East Village, is as important and exciting as it is challenging – a C-Train track curves through the site, dissecting it perfectly! The Project Team, CMLC and The City of Calgary are working together to prepare the site for vertical development by 'encapsulating' the C-Train to provide a foundation over which the new building will be constructed. It's the first time in Calgary's history that a busy LRT line will be encapsulated to make way for a building above, and for engineers connected to this project, it's a once-in-a-lifetime

opportunity. We asked engineer Stephen James, The City's transit rep for the encapsulation program, about the job ahead.

Q: Tell us about the challenge ahead.

"The site itself is inherently challenging due to its size constraints and the age of the surrounding infrastructure. To build directly over an active LRT line adds an extra challenge. The public wants to see a new library, but they also want the train to show up at their stop every day."



Q: What can we expect during the encapsulation program?

"With the New Central Library and other future developments in the blocks east of City Hall, I think citizens and transit riders will start to see the east end of 7th Ave. re-develop into something really spectacular. The NCL makes these areas a destination that people will want to experience, and it will be the LRT that will take them there."

Q: How is this project important to you?

"I think cities are measured by how well they deliver the public services of transit and amenities like libraries to their citizens. The NCL marries these pieces of infrastructure together and will create something unique for our city that will be appreciated by citizens and visitors from around the world."

Watch the LRT Encapsulation animation at calgarymlc.ca/ncl/videos

YOUR LIBRARY. YOUR SAY.

Throughout 2012, more than 16,000 Calgarians participated in an extensive public engagement program, conducted by the Calgary Public Library and The City of Calgary, to provide input into the function of the New Central Library and the role of the library within the community.

We heard you say you wanted your library to be a cultural and community incubator and hub that provided open, accessible space for the exchange of ideas. You wanted your library to have a role as a natural meeting and gathering place for people from all walks of life.

You identified four key priorities that today are guiding the vision, aspiration and delivery of the New Central Library:

- Lifelong Learning
- Information Expertise
- Arts and Culture
- Local Heritage and Civic Landmark

Here's a snapshot of what you said would be important in the form and function of Calgary's New Central Library:

- Ample natural light
- A safe, accessible space for all ages and abilities
- An imaginative children's area that promotes the joy of learning and playful discovery
- Flexible spaces for both noisy and quiet activities
- Seating options, including comfortable, natural outdoor seating
- State-of-the-art technology throughout
- A separate 'teen-only' space
- Arts and performance spaces
- Flexible wired rooms for meetings and group work
- A café and other user services that allow Calgarians to spend more time in the space

THE LIBRARY FOUNDATION

Creating the Best Public Library in the World



Only libraries can quench the entire city's thirst for knowledge and connections. Calgary has a well-known love affair with its libraries, and Calgarians devote time, energy and philanthropic investment to all 18 community libraries.

The New Central Library is a catalyst for philanthropy across the system, which will result in a library that will enable all Calgarians to achieve their full potential.

The Calgary Public Library Foundation is launching the largest fundraising campaign ever for a Canadian library. Add In - the Campaign for Calgary's Library is a bold and transformational initiative to engage all Calgarians in the library's future.

In an increasingly busy and rapidly changing world, today's library is the community's living room, a place where children and youth develop a love of reading, where newcomers to Calgary and Canada are welcomed, and where the trajectory of individuals' lives are positively changed.

Please visit www.addin.ca to learn more about how you can add in.

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!



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

In partnership with:



THE CITY OF CALGARY

