

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

EOI Selection Committee

The EOI Selection Committee has completed its work and I have been asked by Committee Chair, Dr. Roberta McKay, to bring the following recommendation to the Board:

In February of 2009, the Regina Public Library Board issued an invitation for Expressions of Interest in the development of a renovated and expanded or new Central Library. An EOI Selection Committee was struck by the Board and included three Board members; Darryl Lucke, Janet Brown, and Gerry Kleisinger, as well as a representative of the Friends of RPL, Susan Birley; and a community representative, myself, Dr. Roberta McKay, as Chair. By the submission deadline, nine proposals were received. In the Committee's analysis of the submissions, two were disqualified as non-compliant and the remaining seven were analyzed and scored. The Committee set up and conducted interviews with the firms associated with the top four proposals. After the interviews, they were discussed and the interview scores were added to the proposal scores. I am pleased to be able to recommend the top-scoring proposal to the RPL Board based on the unanimous decision of the EOI Selection Committee.

It is the recommendation of the EOI Selection Committee that the RPL Board pursue the next stage of development for the Central Library with P3 Architecture and Harvard Developments based on their joint submission.

Lottery Home 2010

The two options for the 2010 Lottery Home were included in the Board package for last week's meetings but there was not time to bring them forward onto the agenda at that time. The home was a 1,468 ft² bungalow and the two location options were in Harbour Landing and The Creeks. If the Board has a preference for location, I can instruct North Ridge Developments to begin work at that site.

SILS Policy Development

The Single Integrated Library System is beginning to take shape. All contracts have been signed by all parties and the vendor, Innovative Interfaces Inc., has begun to set up meetings with various teams from libraries across the province. As originally planned,

Saskatoon Public Library will be the first to go live in the late summer or very early fall. Regina's original date has been moved up and we will likely go live in mid-winter 2010.

One of the most challenging aspects of a province-wide system is harmonizing policy and practice throughout the ten public library systems and, to some degree, the Provincial Library. In some cases, the SILS system may require that certain functions be the same throughout the province. As noted, though, in earlier reports on the SILS project, one of the principles of the system is that the public library systems are trying, insofar as is possible, to create a common user experience for public library patrons in Saskatchewan. Library Directors from across the province are meeting on Monday and Tuesday to review the policy recommendations of the SILS Policy Committee (which includes Julie McKenna). I will be able to report in more detail at the Board meeting but I do not expect to encounter recommendations for policy change that would be problematic for RPL. After the policy and practice development meetings on Monday and Tuesday, there are also up-coming sessions with the vendor that will inform whether or not, and how, these policy and practice recommendations can be implemented by the system. Once the policy direction is clear, I will bring recommendations back to the Board.

Regent Caveat

The Library has been asked to dismiss a caveat it holds on the Regent Park Plaza. The Regent Place Branch used to be located in the RP Plaza but was moved in the mid-1990s. As the Library no longer holds an interest in the Plaza, dismissing the caveat seems reasonable, if the Board chooses to so move.