LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Branch Hours

As part of the Library's on-going effort to find efficiencies, improve customer service, and ensure that the Library is able to meet the needs of the community, the open hours at Sunrise, Regent Place, and Sherwood Village Branches have been expanded. These branches used to open at 1:00 pm on Mondays. Beginning this month, these branches are open at 9:30 am on Mondays. The change helps the library meet community-expressed need for broader hours and, in particular, availability of more times earlier in the day for children's programming. The expansion of hours has been accomplished with the existing staff complement in each location and a thank you goes out to the branch heads and staff for their work in making this service improvement a reality.

New Branch

The new branch building project continues to progress and it is going well. As can be expected in any construction project, there have been a few unexpected changes in the original plan. Most recently, about \$9,000 of the contingency fund was used to improve the roof at its juncture with the outside wall of the Core Ritchie Neighbourhood Centre – the change was made to avoid future water drainage problems between the two buildings. With winter and a few other minor delays, the new target date for deficiencies cleanup is 15 April 2011. Concrete sidewalks, asphalt paving and landscaping will be undertaken in late spring, once the weather allows.

Central Library Report

The draft report on the Central Library Development Plan is nearing completion. It is expected to go to the Steering Committee in February and will come to the Board on the Steering Committee's recommendation once they have completed their work.