
Central Library Development

Web Survey Results

*Survey Date
July 15 - 31, 2009*



Central Library Development Web Survey Results

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Appendix A - Complete Survey Comments



1. Introduction

The Regina Public Library conducted a web survey from July 15 – 31, 2009, to receive feedback on the potential redevelopment of the Central Library. The survey was comprised of 11 questions in a multiple choice format. Several questions also provided respondents with an opportunity to provide detailed comments.

There were a total of 304 respondents to the survey. In addition to the web survey format, the Regina Public Library also prepared identical hard-copy versions of the survey and distributed these surveys at the Central Library and branch libraries. The responses to this paper version of the survey were collated along with the electronic web survey responses and are also analyzed in this report.

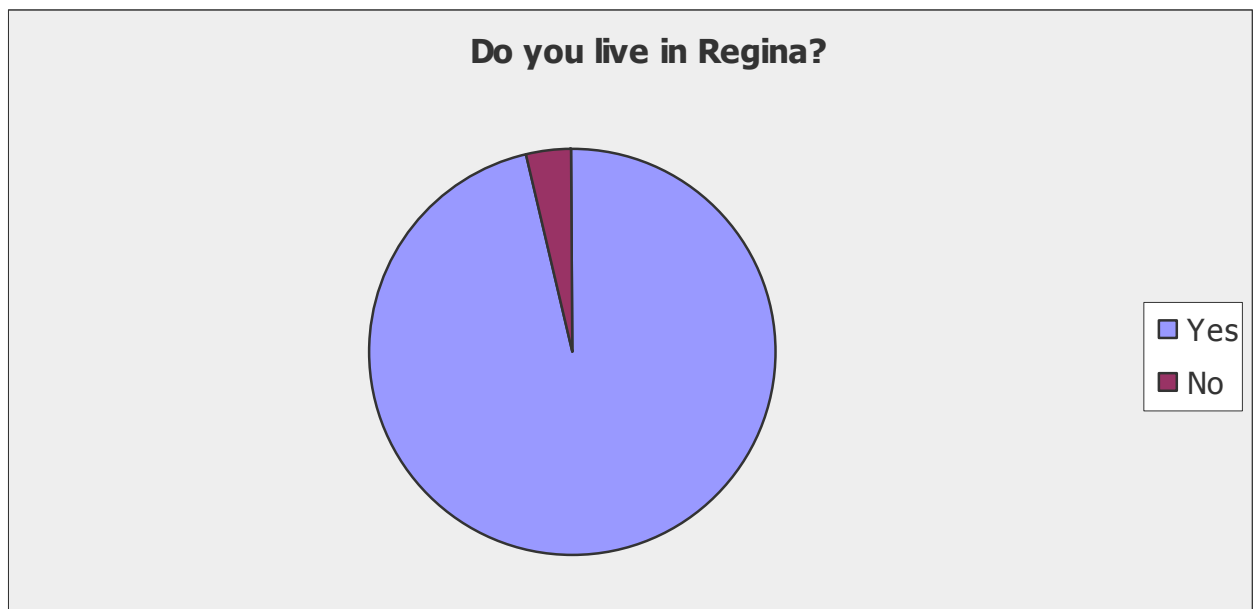
Survey responses are summarized in this report according to the major themes. These themes represent ideas and thoughts submitted by multiple respondents. A complete listing of all verbatim responses is attached to the report as Appendix A.

This was a self-selecting web survey, so respondents were aware of the opportunity to participate and were most likely notified of the survey through the Regina Public Library website. Due to the self-selecting nature of the survey, the results are not statistically valid and are not necessarily representative of the views of Regina residents. The survey is a tool to gain insight regarding the redevelopment of the Central Library and to assist in the generation of ideas for the Regina Public Library Central Library Development Steering Committee and their development and design team.



2. Opening Questions

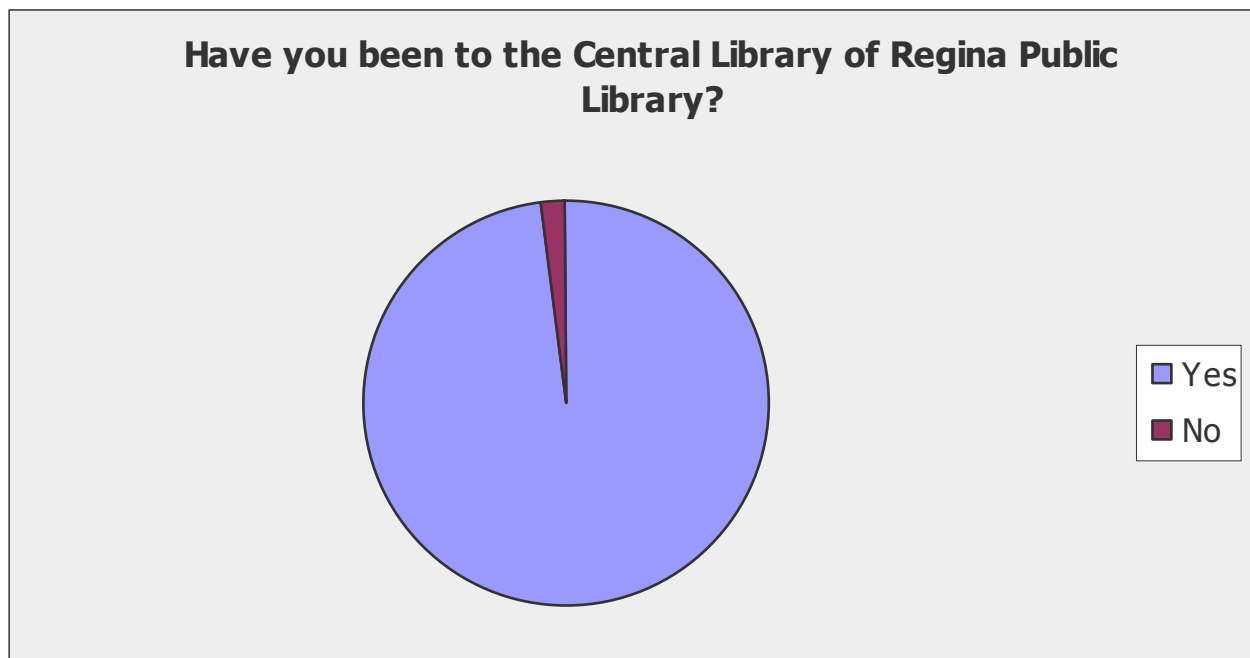
Question #1 Do you live in Regina?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	96.4%	293
No	3.6%	11
answered question		304
skipped question		0



Question #2

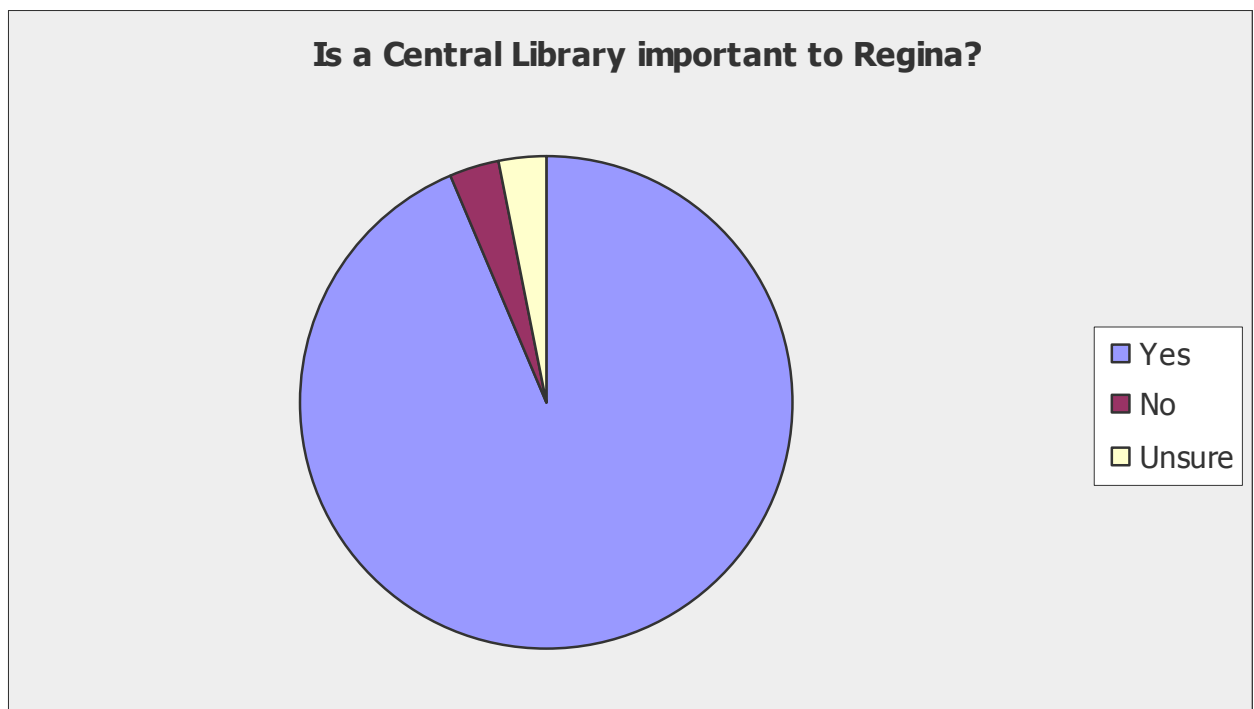
Have you been to the Central Library of Regina Public Library?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	98.0%	298
No	2.0%	6
answered question		304
skipped question		0



Question #3
Is a Central Library important to Regina?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	93.8%	285
No	3.3%	10
Unsure	3.0%	9
answered question		304
skipped question		0



3. The Importance of a Central Library

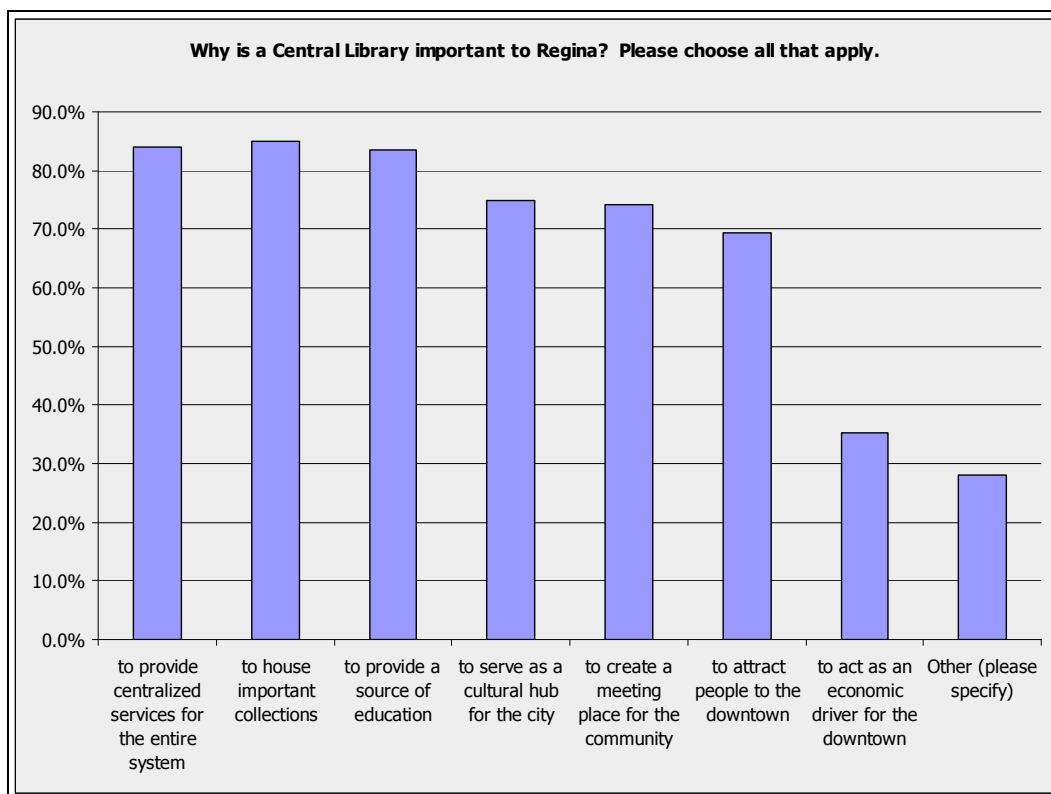
Question #4

Why is a Central Library important to Regina? Please choose all that apply.

answered question 287

skipped question 17

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
to provide centralized services for the entire system	84.0%	241
to house important collections	85.0%	244
to provide a source of education	83.6%	240
to serve as a cultural hub for the city	74.9%	215
to create a meeting place for the community	74.2%	213
to attract people to the downtown	69.3%	199
to act as an economic driver for the downtown	35.2%	101
Other (please specify)	28.2%	81
<i>answered question</i>		287
<i>skipped question</i>		17



Question #4

Why is a Central Library important to Regina?

Theme 1 - A cultural resource for the entire community

Representative Comments

“A center of special programs such as theatre, gallery, literacy, prairie history collection and so on.”

“It is a key site for the production, display and engagement with culture - literary, visual arts, film etc -for the people of Regina.”

Theme 2 - An educational centre

Representative Comments

“To serve as an educational and resource hub for the city.”

“To provide sources of literature and information and enhance literacy within the community...”

Theme 3 - An important component of a downtown core

Representative Comments

“It helps to build a community in a downtown core.”

“It should be the first place that people from the city and new residents go for information and, therefore, needs to be kept in a central location.”

Theme 4 - An accessible free resource to area residents

Representative Comments

“To be a place which accepts all people and provides books, programs, services and more for free.”

“To enable people to access books and other material they wouldn't otherwise have access to.”



4. Features to be Included in the Central Library

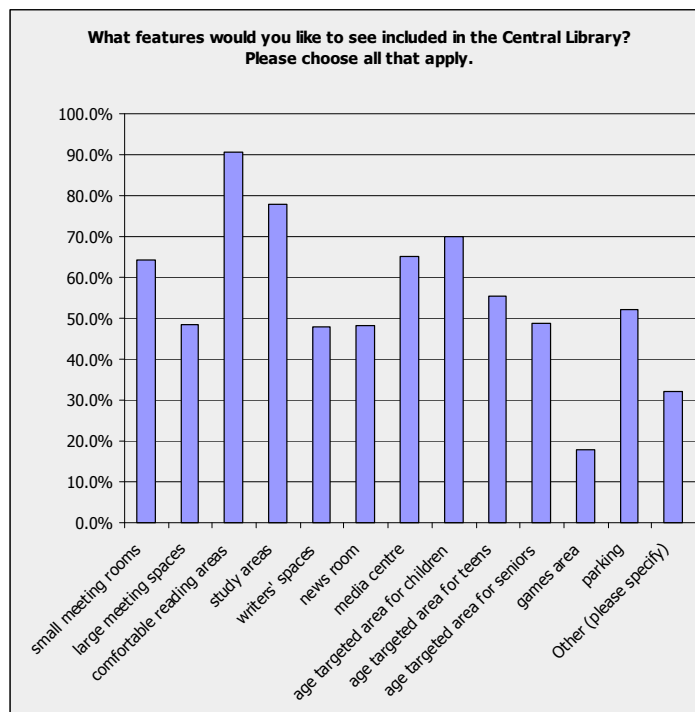
Question #5

What features would you like to see included in the Central Library? Please choose all that apply.

answered question 276

skipped question 28

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
small meeting rooms	64.1%	177
large meeting spaces	48.6%	134
comfortable reading areas	90.6%	250
study areas	77.9%	215
writers' spaces	47.8%	132
news room	48.2%	133
media centre	65.2%	180
age targeted area for children	69.9%	193
age targeted area for teens	55.4%	153
age targeted area for seniors	48.9%	135
games area	17.8%	49
parking	52.2%	144
Other (please specify)	32.2%	89
answered question		276
skipped question		28



Question #5

What features would you like to see included in the Central Library?

Theme 1 - Comfortable reading areas

Representative Comment

"I stress the importance of comfortable reading areas. I go to the library frequently but rarely do I stay long because it is not a comfortable place to be when reading a book or even when using a computer."

Theme 2 - Visual arts / performing arts

Representative Comments

"The art gallery and theatre which also functions for public meetings."

"Art work, more spaces for the display of art work by local, regional and national artists. Maintain the Dunlop and open up the Library for the display of more artwork."

Theme 3 - History room

Representative Comment

"I've definitely found the history room a great resource for genealogical work."

Theme 4 - Café / coffee shop

Representative Comments

"A refreshment area -- coffee shop -- where people could meet."

"A COFFEE SHOP! Preferably near the children's library."

"What about an area where coffee, tea, etc. could be served while having access to browsing books of interest."



Question#5

What features would you like to see included in the Central Library?

Theme 5 - Computer areas

Representative Comments

“Lots of computer/internet terminals, the library must be representative of the web world we live in.”

“Publicly accessible computers for internet and printing...”

Theme 6 - Proximity to transit

Representative Comment

“Proximity to transit - may be more important than parking which includes the ‘Heritage’ route.”

Theme 7 - Natural vegetation

Representative Comments

“An area that has vegetation such as trees plants etc. so that one can sit amongst these things during the winter and feel wonderful.”

“Lots of natural light and plants.”



5. The Relationship of the Central Library to the Surrounding Area

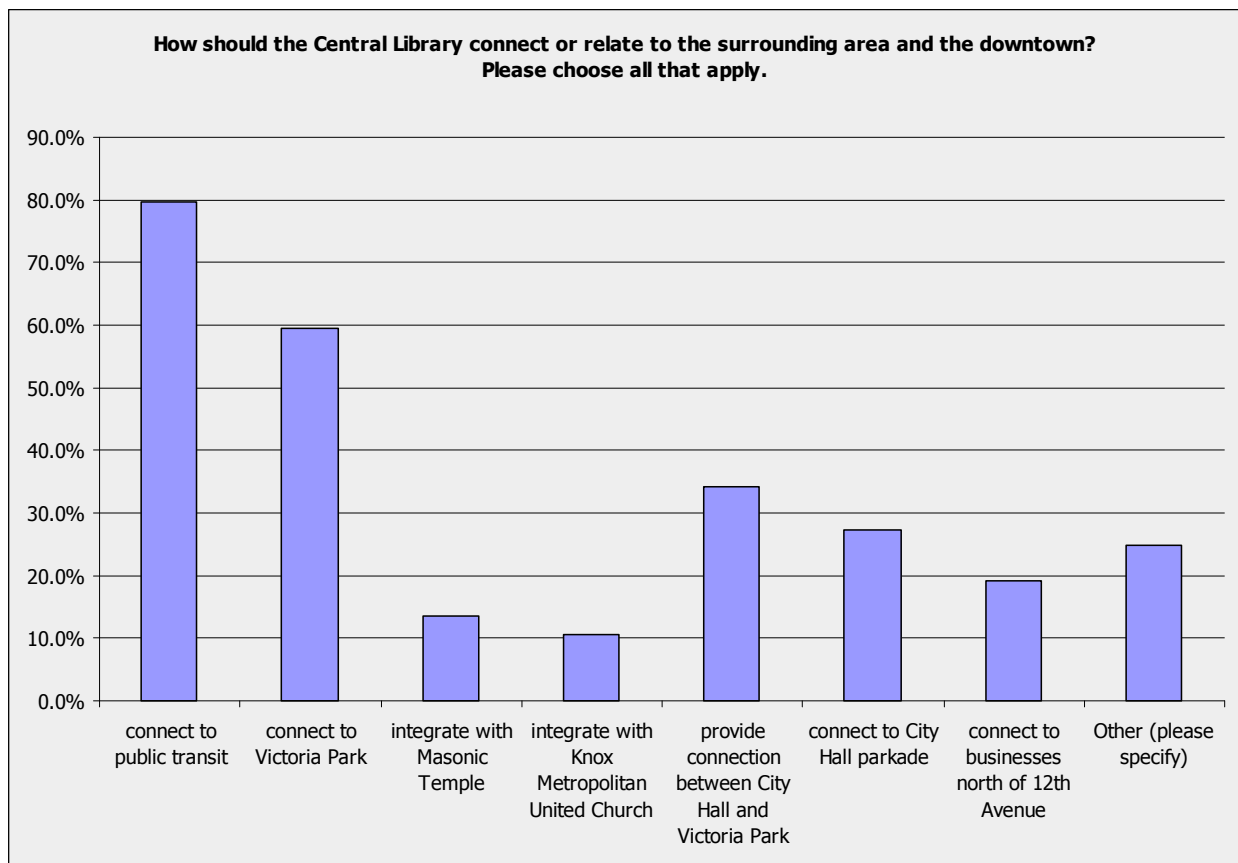
Question #6

How should the Central Library connect or relate to the surrounding area and the downtown? Please choose all that apply.

answered question 266

skipped question 38

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
connect to public transit	79.7%	212
connect to Victoria Park	59.4%	158
integrate with Masonic Temple	13.5%	36
integrate with Knox Metropolitan United Church	10.5%	28
provide connection between City Hall and Victoria Park	34.2%	91
connect to City Hall parkade	27.4%	73
connect to businesses north of 12th Avenue	19.2%	51
Other (please specify)	24.8%	66
answered question		266
skipped question		38



Question #6

How should the Central Library connect or relate to the surrounding area and the downtown?

Theme 1 - A physical connection to other buildings is not necessary

Representative Comments

“I would not like to see the Central library connected to any of these structures, but rather remain its own, free-standing building.”

“No attempt should be made to connect the Central library with other facilities - this would provide very limited benefit and would not justify the high cost.”

Theme 2 - There should be a connection to public parking

Representative Comment

“What ever is done please allow for public parking. and that won't be easy down town.”

Theme 3 - Library should integrate with Victoria Park and be pedestrian friendly

Representative Comments

“If Victoria Park is the main attraction for the downtown area, than you need to integrate the Library a bit better with this concept.”

“Connect with the planned pedestrianization of 12th avenue.”

Theme 4 - There should be a philosophical connection to the downtown

Representative Comments

“It must connect to the city as the cultural hub (not so much a spatial connection but more a psychological connection).”

“I don't think a physical connection is needed but more of a philosophical connection. To me the most important thing is for the Library to be inclusive for all the people in the city...”

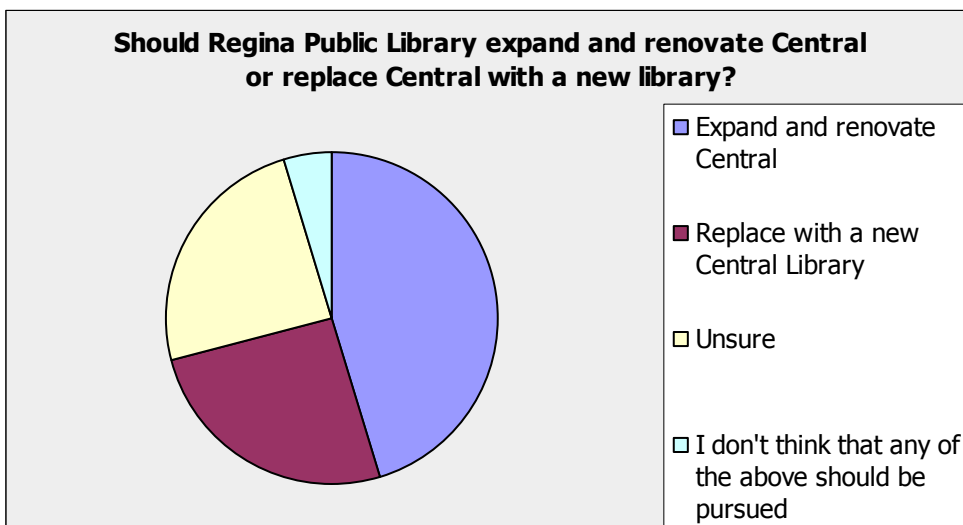


6. Expansion, Renovation and Replacement

Question #7

Should Regina Public Library expand and renovate Central or replace Central with a new library?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Expand and renovate Central	45.4%	129
Replace with a new Central Library	25.4%	72
Unsure	24.6%	70
I don't think that any of the above should be pursued	4.6%	13
answered question		284
skipped question		20



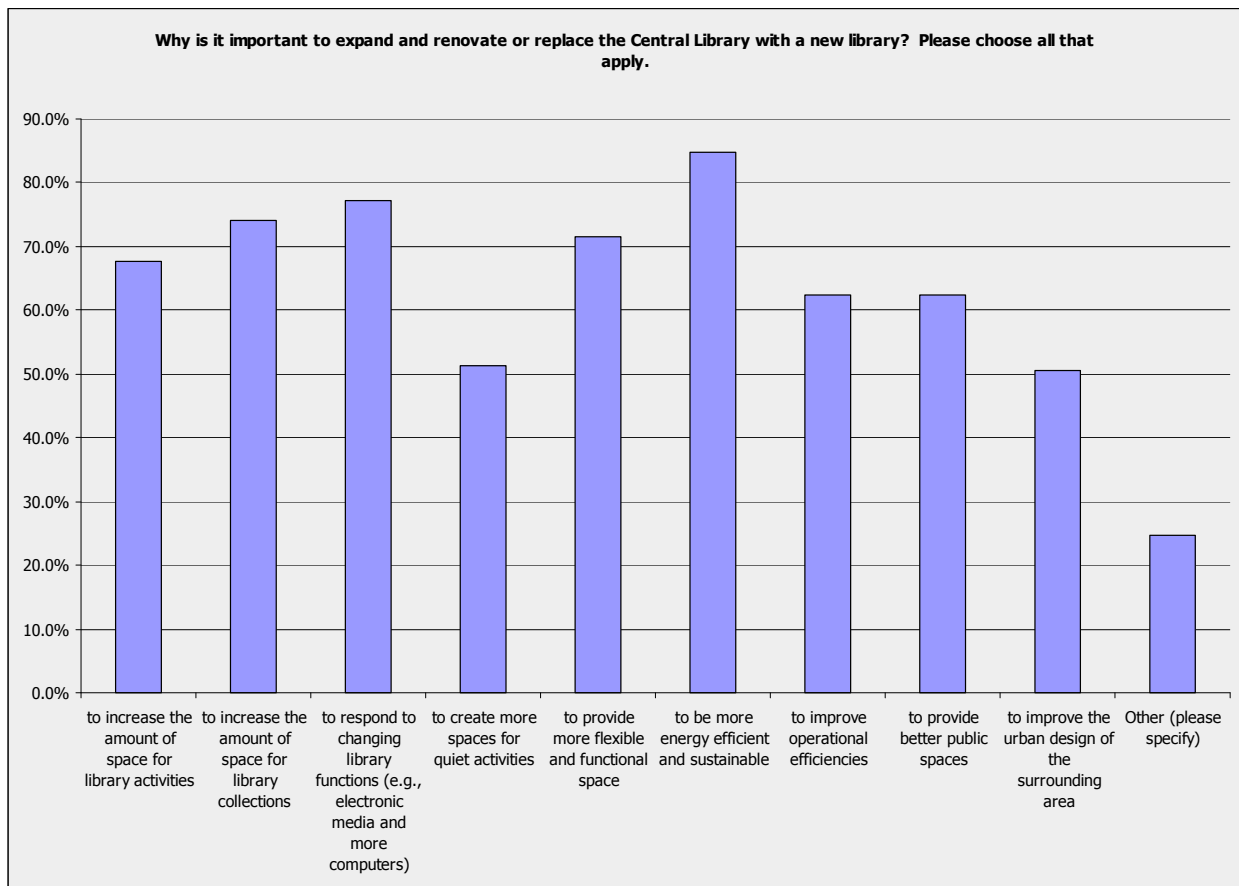
Question #8

Why is it important to expand and renovate or replace the Central Library with a new library? Please choose all that apply.

answered question 263

skipped question 41

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
to increase the amount of space for library activities	67.7%	178
to increase the amount of space for library collections	74.1%	195
to respond to changing library functions (e.g., electronic media and more computers)	77.2%	203
to create more spaces for quiet activities	51.3%	135
to provide more flexible and functional space	71.5%	188
to be more energy efficient and sustainable	84.8%	223
to improve operational efficiencies	62.4%	164
to provide better public spaces	62.4%	164
to improve the urban design of the surrounding area	50.6%	133
Other (please specify)	24.7%	65
answered question		263
skipped question		41



Question #8

Why is it important to expand and renovate or replace the Central Library with a new library?

Theme 1 - To provide quiet space

Representative Comments

"I think that it would be important to create more spaces for quiet activities. The library tends to be a very loud place."

"Quiet activities are of major importance."

Theme 2 - To have an upgraded facility

Representative Comments

"A replacement for the central library would provide the opportunity to modernize and create an original design unique to Regina. As it stands, Regina's central library is a building with very little character, especially if one compares it to Vancouver's monolithic main branch location. The interior is utilitarian and depressing, with poorly lighted spaces, and an overtly linear layout. Although replacement of the central branch would require a significant investment, with proper management and the creation of versatile spaces, with the potential to generate alternate revenue streams, it should ultimately pay for itself in the long run. A unique architectural design would also improve Regina's marketability as a tourist destination and its overall image as a growing city.."

"To make it beautiful. Not such a dumpy looking place. I worry that any "renovation" will just be a band-aid solution, a lot like renovations that have happened in the past. I would like to see a complete rebuild. Even if it is on the same location. Knock it down and build it new and well."

Theme 3 - To accommodate persons with disabilities

Representative Comments

"Improve wheelchair/walker accessibility at main entrance and increase number of elevators. If current facility is renovated/expanded have washroom facilities on main level where there is currently none."

"Better accessibility for disabled users."



Question #8

Why is it important to expand and renovate or replace the Central Library with a new library?

Theme 4 - Use existing building

Representative Comments

“The existing library is a gem of modernist architecture and should be renovated and expanded rather than replaced. It already is a model public space and this should not be compromised in the process of improving its functionality.”

“Central has a superior architectural design. I am not in favour of a renovation which would ruin the exterior design of the building.”

Theme 5 - To enhance components dedicated to the Arts

Representative Comments

“A larger movie theatre and possibly even a performing arts theatre (maybe they could be the same space) would be cool.”

“To enhance art gallery and film theatre.”

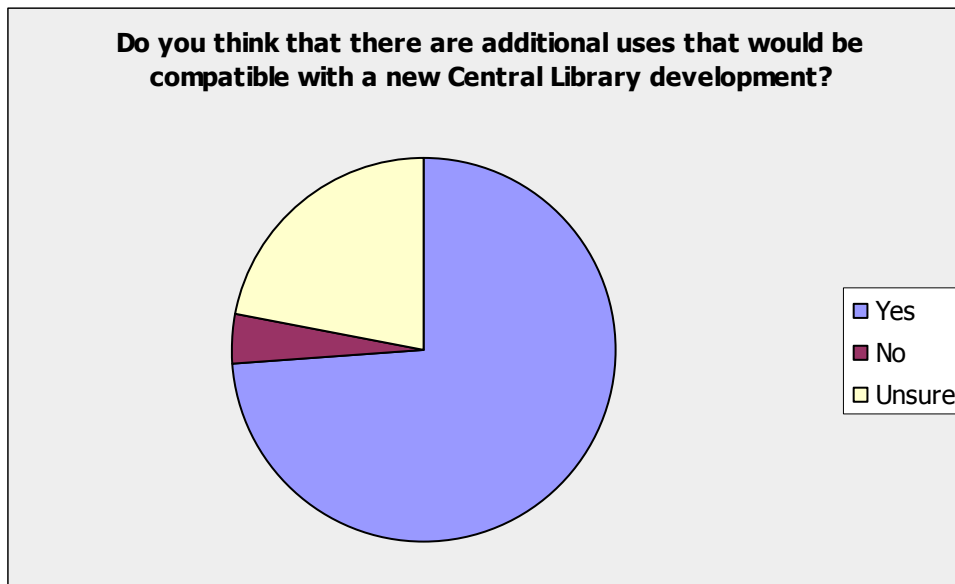


7. Additional Compatible Uses

Questions #9

Do you think that there are additional uses that would be compatible with a new Central Library development?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	74.0%	199
No	4.1%	11
Unsure	21.9%	59
answered question		269
skipped question		35



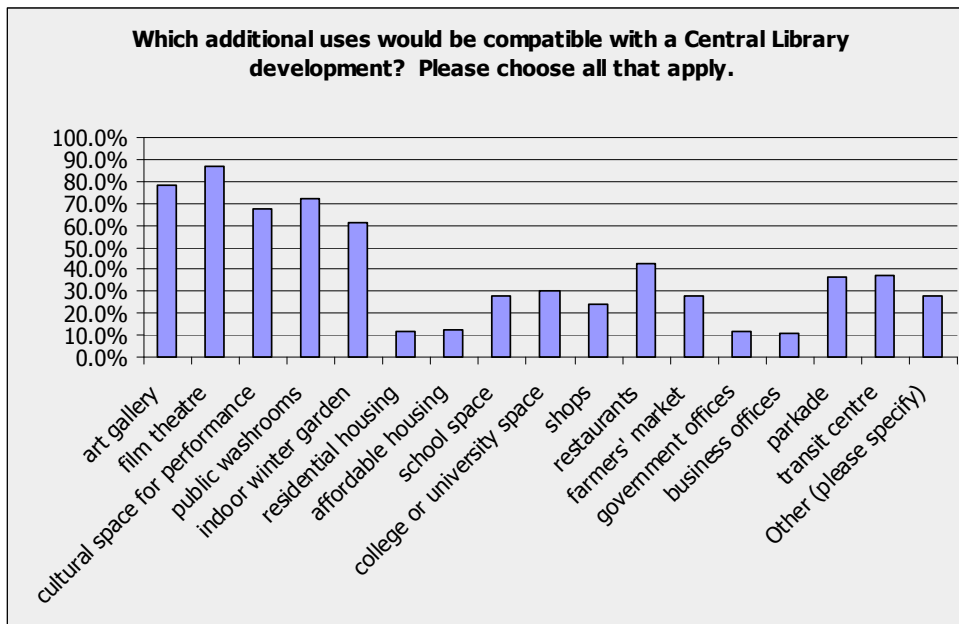
Question #10

**Which additional uses would be compatible with a Central Library development?
Please choose all that apply.**

answered question 257

skipped question 47

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
art gallery	78.6%	202
film theatre	86.8%	223
cultural space for performance	67.7%	174
public washrooms	72.4%	186
indoor winter garden	61.1%	157
residential housing	11.7%	30
affordable housing	12.5%	32
school space	27.6%	71
college or university space	30.0%	77
shops	24.1%	62
restaurants	42.8%	110
farmers' market	27.6%	71
government offices	11.3%	29
business offices	10.9%	28
parkade	36.2%	93
transit centre	37.0%	95
Other (please specify)	27.6%	71
answered question		257
skipped question		47



Question #10

**Which additional uses would be compatible with a Central Library development?
Please choose all that apply.**

Theme 1 - Coffee shop / Café

Representative Comments

“Many city libraries have great cafes in them; it would be nice to see one for us, too.”

“COFFEE SHOP WOULD BE AWESOME AT THE LIBRARY”

Theme 2 - Dunlop Art Gallery and theatre

Representative Comments

“Keep the present film theatre, or expand this , but DO keep a film theatre as part of the Central Library.”

“The Dunlop and the Film Theatre should not be considered ‘additional’ uses, but integral to the RPL.”

Theme 3 – No commercial uses

Representative Comments

“Don't want library functions to get overshadowed by commercial uses.”

“I would prefer any number or combination of joint cultural facilities while avoiding commercial, housing or transit uses which may compromise the design, purpose, policies, and utility of the library space.”



8. Additional Comments

Question #11

Please provide any additional comments.

answered question 136

skipped question 168

Theme 1 – Focus on reading, literacy, books

Representative Comments

“It would be more important to me to make it a first class learning center with lots of great books and study and reading areas.”

“It is imperative that we continue to promote libraries and spaces around libraries for learning.”

Theme 2 – A downtown location

Representative Comments

“The Central Library is a key component of Regina's downtown. It needs to develop in order to continue being a successful focal point. It needs expanded collections, children's programs, art house movies and more library services. It is a beautiful destination and has a pride of place for Regina residents and visitors. What it offers creates people's treasured memories. Development needs to embrace these concepts.”

“Regina needs its library service and a central location must be a part of and a partner to our downtown.”



Question #11

Please provide any additional comments.

Theme 3 – Use existing building

Representative Comments

“Improvements to a central library are certainly overdue. Hopefully, it would be economically feasible to save the existing structure and build on or out from it.”

“I love Central and hope that some of the original architecture can be preserved if it is renovated.”

“I appreciate the architecture of the Central Library and strongly support renovating and expanding the space as opposed to simply replacing it.”

Theme 4 – Dunlop Art Gallery

Representative Comments

“I hope that the library will continue to house the Dunlop Art Gallery - this is an important contribution to the city's artistic life.”

“The Dunlop Art Gallery must remain in the central library as it is a huge asset and educational resource.”





Appendix A
Complete Survey Comments



Question #4
Why is a Central Library important to Regina?

to be a place which accepts all people and provides books, programs, services and more for free.
Central Library should be the 'go-to' place for specialized reference and not just another 'Internet' stop for the public.
shared resources for the community to enjoy at low cost
Major pickup point of library materials for people who live and work in the downtown
Part of the hub of the downtown core
I should be the first place that place that people from the city and new residents go for for information and, therefore, needs to be kept in a central location
As a senior, I love the service provided by my local branch (Bothwell). I have attended meetings, movies and lectures at Central and I liked browsing when I was downtown. Now I am Rarely downtown because parking is such a concern
i can't comment for myself but i think a central library is important to regina
To serve the economically disadvantaged... so many wonderful services are available through the library and in our city - core/north central/cathedral area etc - need to have easy access to the wonderful resources of the library (books, children's programs and books, loan of cds, videos, magazines, use of computers, access to daily newspapers, etc. etc. etc.) In the past I have been "economically challenged" and I blessed the library every day.
provide programming for all ages of library patrons
The Regina Public Library Theatre provides an important service by running foreign and independent films that are not shown by other theatres in the city.
I don't see Central as a cultural hub, but as one element of a cultural hub
Library access is crucial to the democratic process, and it is essential that public libraries facilitate access to information for all walks of life. Because of its location, the downtown library is a nexus for Regina's diverse communities. For a healthy city, this function must be supported, celebrated, and expanded.
1). To provide a centralized access point for a variety of resources like books, newspapers and internet for all the people of this cities most importantly those who cannot afford this access at home. 2). To provide a centralized access point for literacy and english as a second language programs.
It is an easy library to access for those who do not drive and use our public transit system.
We need to keep people in the downtown area as much as possible, because I believe that this will help to keep gang activity in the area down by requiring the police to keep their presence there at all times. We need to promote use of the areas that are in danger of being taken over by gang activity, as I am sure most people are aware is the case in the Victoria Park area. Gang activity will be discouraged if the area is highly utilized by citizens.
a center of special programs such as theatre, gallery, literacy, prairie history collection and so on.
Travellers access libraries all around the world or use them to find information
I used the central library to tutor an ESL person and I discovered a First Nation man discovered our routine and would listen quietly while I read or she read, a central location is imperative to help people less fortunate. If people feel welcome they will come and use the facility.
My husband did some research for a contract and found the Reference people extremely helpful and gave him ideas he never thought about.
Central Children's location encourages lifelong readers; present programming attracts children.

Question #4
Why is a Central Library important to Regina?

To provide sources of literature and information and enhance literacy within the community. This does NOT include becoming a glorified Blockbuster video outlet whereby more money is now spent on movies (I'm presuming) than on books (judging from your worsening fiction and non-fiction collections).
A strong Central Library stands as a testament to a commitment to all city residents that education, culture and entertainment are cornerstones of Regina.
to serve as an educational and resource hub for the city
Provide alternative venues for Art and culture, such as the RPL theater.
I am not sure that it has to be downtown, but it should be accessible by public transit.
It is a key site for the production, display and engagement with culture - literary, visual arts, film etc -for the people of Regina.
To create visual literacy with the connection to the Dunlop
Often not recognized locally, the Dunlop Art Gallery has a an international and national reputation in the arts - this is evidenced that in the arts - the only reason Regina is known as a city of interest is because of the DAG. The future of the RPL would be diminished without this vital and important department of the library.
To act as the hub for a multi use, library, office and residential complex hopefully incorporating a First Nation business centre.
The imperatives for a publicly funded institution should not be economically-driven (as some categories above suggest); if recent economics have taught us anything it's that we need institutions that exist outside of that system. Our publicly-funded institutions should be valued for their role in shaping a culture and moving it forward, not for their contribution to private business.
Easy place for Seniors to come to
great way to research archieve census for family history
It is an important example of Modernist architecture that compliments the older and newer structures in the downtown.
The Dunlop Art Gallery is an important resource for visual literacy and cultural interest. Great to have it in the RPL!
to provide a source of intellectual recreation, a place of intellectual loitering, where browsing might spark yet undiscovered interests, to provide a place fort he exchange of ideas and opinions, to bring communities together, forming bonds as we experience many forms of art, culture, literature and learning, all in a centralized location.
reference resources
to provide a comfortable, safe, fun environment for young children to learn to love books and reading. to provide computer resources to those who may not normally have access to such. to provide a central and comprehensive source for research where one can work or be allowed to take research materials home (not many other major city libraries allow research tomes to leave the library). Regina is a capital city---to think of moving the central library to somewhere not central is ludicrous. the library building is an awesome piece of design---why not use that design that is meant for additional floors to be added if the city wants to expand the building?
location of the literacy program
to be part of a vibrant downtown
To demonstrate the value of libraries???
It helps to build a community in a downtown core
Very pretty landsight; attracting tourists, having, already, a history (J. Faffard, a great and famous sculptur, sculpted a small statuette of 'Howard' an elderly man who worked as guardian at Central), all buses arriving near; lovely building; central, but away from commercial area; park across the street gives it a very attractive addition; children have developed a great fondness for it; etc.

Question #4**Why is a Central Library important to Regina?**

A central focus for a wide range of citizens regardless of income. A wide choice of resource expertise and materials to make life more enjoyable.
It is also a place with so much history and located by a beautiful park. I would be a shame to see it go. With change, we must also appreciate our history.
Central Library should be a stand alone library that acts as a library and provides library services - the new library in Vancouver is a prime example. Central Library should not be part of a condo project, apartment, hotel or other commercial development.
To demonstrate our city's commitment to a public library system
To offer programs to the public.
I think the library is important as a CENTRAL facility, but I think it is important NOT to minimize the importance of branches, and of expanding facilities far from downtown. When I came to Regina 25 years ago there were flexible options like bookmobiles. I think these should be considered in view of impending environmental crises.
Dictionary.com's first definition of a library is, "a place set apart to contain books, periodicals, and other material for reading, viewing, listening, study, or reference, as a room, set of rooms, or building where books may be read or borrowed". A central, public library exemplifies the very opposite of fascism.
Our family has library cards and whenever we come to Regina, that is the place we chose to meet. It is centrally located, has lots of resources, and, of course, we leave with a few new books.
To provide a place for anyone to access reading/viewing material for free
To provide a place for anyone to access a computer with Internet access
To provide programming that encourages a love of literacy.
to enable people to access books and other material they wouldn't otherwise have access to
I work downtown and often spend my lunch break at the library, reading or searching for items to borrow.
I feel the Regina Library Theatre is very important to downtown Regina, especially for seniors and those who don't drive cars. This is especially important since the major theatre chains left the downtown area many years ago. This theatre is also used for other important programs and speakers and it is an important part of what the library provides in downtown Regina. Also the unique Dunlop Art Gallery is another important offering of the Regina Central Library and it brings many people into the building.
To provide the public with a wide choice of reading options, covering all areas of fiction, non-fiction, reference and periodicals. The book is being threatened by online publishing, and electronic books, but these are not the be-all of publishing, and are often not very desirable source of reading material, especially for those without access to the necessary equipment, or the inability to use it. I think we will see a return to the comfort and convenience of paper reading material and the library should be there to provide it.
Attract tourism
A Central Library should serve the downtown community, be an exciting place to visit or use, be a concentration of unique collections, house some library services although not necessarily all, and be a visible, desirable, point of focus for the library in Regina. e.g. Although a large City Hall is usually placed downtown and is a focal point of the city, many city services are quartered throughout the city in more appropriate locations and the building becomes a central HQ while retaining public spaces for the use of the citizens.
Central has the potential to serve as an architectural model of sustainability. Instead of thinking short term, this building could be completely green, provide its own energy, be aesthetically engaging, consider the space as having the potential to nurture particular kinds of interactions and behaviours, use non-toxic materials - i.e. rise to the challenge

Question #4
Why is a Central Library important to Regina?

Having a centralized library downtown in Regina that offers programs to people of all races, etc is important as it creates a true city-wide non-biased community center, where all can feel safe and respected

To provide an alternative film theatre, and an art gallery.

to provide a wide selection of books and films for lending. That's the most important function of any library and shouldn't be overshadowed by other goals.

provide cultural activity in the downtown - film theatre - art gallery

To be a public facility, controlled publicly, and not for the profit or benefit of private interests.

To be a source of pride for the citizens of Regina.

To provide accessible information services to all, regardless of their socio-economic situation

To provide, free of charge, information in all media and all formats to the citizens of Regina

To promote information literacy in all its forms

To promote an informed citizenry in a democratic society

To provide a welcoming cultural environment for all citizens

The records, or the ability to get records from federal sources, is important - I have used this service to trace ancestors arrivals in Canada etc.

Excellent resource for inner-city citizens, public transportation is superior to this location, children's library is fantastic

extended hours - not all branches are open 7 days / week, and some evenings

Having a central library downtown is a visual indication of the importance of the library system to the life of Regina. I think it also reiterates the importance of a living and vibrant downtown in any city. Without an active downtown area, we cease to exist as a city no matter what our population. We are just an accumulation of people with no heart. And a downtown central library -- especially the one housed in the current, architecturally important building -- is an integral part of that heart.

The Library Theatre provides really important films (even for a few people) that are not available elsewhere.

From these films we learn so much about ourselves and others past and present. Not all films have to be entertainment; more importantly, they should be educational.

Also, the Book Club in a Bag fulfills an important function in the city.

I'm not sure what is meant by "source of education". Shouldn't that be information? The collections are part of education but I don't think it's the library's job specifically to educate. And I don't see anything in the list that would reflect the pleasure of reading, which has always been the main reason I go to a library... to find good books to read.

to promote literacy, both written and visual

to promote the recording and dissemination of local history

Film Theatre

Dunlop Art Gallery

Question #4

Why is a Central Library important to Regina?

I can't imagine moving the Central Library from where it is now located.....Over these many years my husband and I have used the Library facilities - and enjoyed each and everyone of them - from The Art Gallery started by Marjorie Dunlop and to which we went regularly - to using the premises for a noon hour yoga class (instead of lunch both of us working downtown) and other such activities. The Films shown - I was involved with the foreign films for many years before the Library took over and they have done a much better job. The Theatre is a very comfortable one - and one that has seen different types of concerts, lectures, etc. It is the one place where in downtown Regina which is a very real and welcoming meeting place.

The downtown location provides a social-cultural and artistic centre in the heart of downtown. It engages people of all ages in various media, while continuing to provide book lending for free to all citizens.

education

education

Film theatre, DVD rentals, internet connections, book loans

to provide a central clearing house for larger reference works and archives.

Provide a place to develop and implement innovations that will lead the evolution of library services.

I cant imagine moving the Central Library from where it is now located.Over these many years my husband & I have used the library facilities & enjoyed each & everyone of them- from the Art Gallery

started by Marjorie Dunlop to which we went regularly to activies as yoga at noon hour which we attended, to films, lectures, and all of the other amenties for which the RPL has been known

To demonstrate that learning is important. Seeing this tangibly helps to nurture that value.

To offer public space that's safe and fun and interesting and in the winter, warm.

We find the downtown library a very good source of information on topics that some of the branch libraries are to small to have inhouse. It is important to have a library access for those people living in the downtown area who may not be able to access other branches because of lack of transportation and cost.

Question #5

What features would you like to see included in the Central Library?

I think a design that is functional but also eye-catching and makes people's jaws drop when they enter the building is important.

All areas should be wheelchair accessible.

I stress the importance of comfortable reading areas. I go to the library frequently but rarely do I stay long because it is not a comfortable place to be when reading a book or even when using a computer.

A dedicated reference area ie: local, regional and Canadian phonebooks; easily accessible, widely used

reference material; knowledgeable and helpful staff.

HANDICAPPED PARKING MUST BE INCREASED WITH BETTER ACCESS TO THE BUILDING. THE GLENELM IS A DISGRACE, REGARDING MOBILITY IMPAIRED ACCESS, AND LESSONS SHOULD HAVE BEEN LEARNED.

Central library should be a draw for all ages / a welcoming place for ESL learners and other diverse groups/ Use large colourful lettering for the different service areas/ inclusion of art gallery is very important

re: age targeted area for teens and seniors... can't comment because I'm not quite sure what is being envisaged. Also "media centre"???

Other features should include the theatre and a stage that could be used for arts performances.

An area that has vegetation such as trees plants etc. so that one can sit amongst these things during the winter and feel wonderful. there should be lots of glass in this area so the sun can shine in--Winter can be soooo cold.

I would like to continue to see the art gallery and theatre. Has the library also considered a cafe or small concert area?

If the library is to house archival, historical or art collection, it must have the workspace, storage and display areas, and transport corridors to ensure their appropriate care.

A change in the library should also be mindful of the environment. I would like any changes to the library to meet LEED standards.

1. Proximity to transit - may be more important than parking which includes the "Heritage" route.

2. Included with areas targeted to age groups is a need for reference or help services from a real person.

Audiobooks.

The substantial library of the Canadian Bible College has been gone from the city for several years now.

A larger spiritual and theological selection would be beneficial.

Question #5**What features would you like to see included in the Central Library?**

- designated quiet zones which function as study areas
- Specialized collection areas such as Prairie history. After all, Central is located in one of the most historical locations in all of Regina
- larger computer lab with better layout that is specially set up for to house public programs and that promotes online research (websites and databases), and ongoing staff training.
outdoor area, cafe, environmentally sound building practices and use
Updated work areas for the staff that are flexible and roomy.
A new design would feature methods to reduce noise crossing between sections. There should also be areas to download information from computers to hand held devices such as ipods, i-phones, blackberries etc.
More diverse areas for art.
more computers that anyone can use, without having a library card
An improved theatre
More space devoted to books. A library should have lots and lots of books. Your collection is very poor.
age target area for 21-35
art gallery
Lots of natural light and plants
Expanded theater, with better seating and perhaps an upgrade to the sound system
It should be accessible by public transit.
cafe
Art work, more spaces for the display of art work by local, regional and national artists. Maintain the Dunlop and open up the Library for the display of more artwork.
performance space to hold a maximum of a hundred people
Continue with the excellent Dunlop exhibitions and programming
I don't believe that the area for children needs to be either large or specialized. I think the branches are in a better position to provide services for children in the neighbourhoods in which they live. Very few children live downtown or receive daycare or schooling downtown. I think the larger branches could use some expansion in programs and services for children. A nice area for children downtown, yes, but it does not have to be the "flagship".
Lots of computer/internet terminals, the library must be representative of the web world we live in. PLEASE HAVE A SESSION SIMILAR TO THE ONE CARRIED OUT A FEW MONTHS AGO WITH MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY BUT THIS TIME FOCUS IT ONLY ON PEOPLE 30 AND UNDER - YOU WILL GET A FAR DIFFERENT AND PROGRESSIVE VISION FROM AN EXERCISE LIKE THIS
I should point out that those checked above may already exist in the library and major modification might not be needed to satisfy those wants. I'm not sure that every demographic needs its own room, either--the entire point of a library, it seems to me, is equal and free access to information, so I can't really imagine why one would sort that information based on the demographics of the people we think might be looking for it.
"Games area?" Are you serious?
Also I notice that "contemporary art gallery" isn't anywhere on this list, and nor is "film theatre and lecture hall"--why is that?

Question #5
What features would you like to see included in the Central Library?

A localized and accessible space for special needs folks, especially those with reading challenges, print disabilities, and visual impairment.
resource for study material such as on line practice exams for computer related training opportunities
Film Theatre. Dunlop Art Gallery. These services are vital to Regina's cultural health.
Film Theatre, Dunlop Art Gallery, Public gathering spaces
Dunlop Art Gallery, theatre/lecture space and the Film programming
Dunlop Art Gallery, RPL Film Theatre, and I would recommend a DVD section which is not part of a corridor, where titles could be read on their spine (as the titles are often covered over with bar codes).
Much better lighting is needed throughout entire library
keep the film theatre!
movie theater
some display/linkages to art
displays of the Dunlop's permanent collection as well as special exhibitions ; an extensive collection that encourages discovery and exploration ; easy accessibility to staff, computers ; flexible space that can grow and adapt with changing realities ; food and drink kiosks
When I was a kid the RPL always had great movie nights. Films that wouldn't be able to see anywhere else.
publicly accessible computers for internet and printing, magazine racks, theatre space, art gallery
Dunlop Art Gallery Movie Theatre
A COFFEE SHOP! Preferably near the children's library. A movie theatre. A great collection of books. An art gallery.
It is essential to retain the existing building, and achieve new spaces by creating an addition.
The only Theater DOWNTOWN with a wider choice of shows than the more expensive Suburban mass and loud fare.
Film theatre and art gallery
A refreshment area -- coffe shop -- where people could meet.
Arts section, music section.
This question supposes that I don't like the library as it is.
RE: Children's area - bright, natural light, fresh paint, matching child friendly beautiful furniture. Right now, the area seems like it needs a fresh coat of paint at the very least. Very dirty ceiling, and walls. No outdoor view to speak of. Poor kids! Nice collection. Perhaps more computers.
Film Theatre most important. Model room with large model of the new City of Regina.
wellness area for staff with showers
I have left news room unchecked because I'm not sure what it means - does it mean housing all newspapers, magazines, etc. in a private room? And don't forget the importance of the Prairie History Room and the wonderful programs now being offered by May P. Chan. This area could certainly be expanded so that reference books, genealogical indexes, etc. could be contained in the room instead of outside the room as at present.
The study areas already exist; and so do comfortable reading areas (soft chairs would be welcome), parking, children's area, games, news (the Prairie-room), etc
Expanded electronic books section with more business, management, investment and self improvement books in it.
A building adaptable to new technology and evolving use of social media; an Internet-devoted, planned space(s); facility for streamed concerts/events; a space for patrons to use their own media devices.

Question #5

What features would you like to see included in the Central Library?

Why aren't there any questions about books in this? I would like to see more books and have the terminals be peripheral rather than the visual centre. The terminals could be on flat screens and reside at the terminus of each row instead of taking up the centre of the library. It sends entirely the wrong message.

Does 'media centre' include a theatre?

garden space

Prairie History Room

ART GALLERY AND FILM THEATRE

I've definitely found the history room a great resource for genealogical work.

coffee shop, film theatre, art gallery

artist in residence areas for artists from all disciplines - expanded art gallery - art gallery education area

What is a "news room"?

An expanded art gallery

An enhanced film theatre

Lots of computers for public use

Climate-controlled storage vault for preservation of fragile items and historical material from the Prairie History Room

A high profile for Regina and Saskatchewan history materials and research

Dedicated space for activities promoting adult literacy

Space for future expansion

Green construction methods and a building that operates in an environmentally sustainable way

I want to see the best, most beautiful public library in the country!

what about an area where coffee, tea, etc. could be served while having access to browsing books of interest

Art gallery, film theatre

Maintain the area for puppet shows and movies

Dunlop Art Gallery

many shelves of books including classics now relegated to the basement

not needed - age-segregated places within the library - what kind of society do you want?

I am satisfied with the central library as it now stands. I enter the building about once a week -- to borrow books and movies for myself, to view movies or art exhibitions, to borrow books and movies for my grandchildren, as well as spend afternoons in the children's department which my granddaughter loves, and to use the resources of the Prairie History Room for my research projects -- and I have never once found the space, the contents nor the service wanting.

Question #5

What features would you like to see included in the Central Library?

What's a "media centre"? ... The Childrens' Library is absolutely essential. I always wish I could borrow a child to see the puppet shows!... Who's a 'senior'? Teens have high schools; the library doesn't need to duplicate

facilities available in many places throughout the city?... A meeting room is a meeting room. We should be integrating all ages, not hiving them off. ... What about including a snack bar and/or a coffee shop?

art gallery

independent film theatre

esl facilities

Theatre (for film and live performances)

prairie history room, art gallery

public art gallery

film theatre, book collections, DVD rentals

Art space and gallery

coffee shop, film theatre

Art Gallery; Film Theatre

What do you mean by "media centre"? I think this section is rather confusing the manner in which the questions are posed - not clear enough what you mean by i.e. games area, news room, etc. clarify it more please

The continuation of a contemporary art gallery space.

Theatre similar to what currently exists

Knowledgeable staff

experienced staff for direction on how to use special collections . . . Regina history, genealogical material, newspaper archives, etc.

the art gallery and theatre which also functions for public meetings

Question #6

How should the Central Library connect or relate to the surrounding area and the downtown?

I don't think connections to nearby organizations like the Knox United Church or the Masonic Temple are as important as other connections.
It has never occurred to me before that the library could connect to public transit but I think that it is a wonderful idea, in theory, as the library could provide an excellent bus shelter. The shelter could even be manned and snacks could be sold. I am not sure how it would work, though, unless the library rebuilt in Victoria Park.
It doesn't need to physically connect to any of these. Off street connectors just makes the street more dangerous because of fewer eyes on the street.
STREET LEVEL ACCESS TO LOBBY WITH AN ELEVATOR
what ever is done please allow for public parking. and that won't be easy down town
Do not think there should be any physical connection between anything other than public transit - with possibly no physical barriers (i.e. road) between the library and Victoria Park.
No attempt should be made to connect the Central library with other facilities - this would provide very limited benefit and would not justify the high cost.
I don't understand this question.
I don't think a physical connection is needed but more of a philosophical connection. To me the most important thing is for the Library to be inclusive for all the people in the city and to pay particular attention to services for people who do not have access to services through other means.
none of the above are necessary
I'm not entirely sure what this question means--if it means be physically adjacent to or connect another way.
The library building should be architecturally bold so as to be the focus of whatever location that is chosen. I think possible locations could be on the SE corner of Albert and 12th, or the empty lot on 12th and Rose. The building needs to be environmentally conscious--triple paned thermal glass to provide naturally lighting, solar panels to provide electricity, an outdoor atrium for activities for children, for book readings, for concerts, etc. NO commercial entity should be allowed access to the library (i.e. NO coffee vendors, fast food vendors, etc.). A theatre and art gallery should also be included.
Downtown Regina does not have a marker of any sort with regards to what to its center. If Victoria Park is the main attraction for the downtown area, than you need to integrate the Library abit better with this concept. Take advantage of the fact that Library is surround by a number of historical buildings which Regina has precious few of to begin with. Design a building that celebrates its heritage and its ongoing role in the community that looks backwards and forwards.
provide shared parking for Victoria Park & surrounding public areas
not sure what the term " connect " means. Is this a covered connection. Parking is the biggest issue that keeps most people away from the area now. Anything to improve this situation would be a big drawing card. Also how does any of this fit into the new design of 12th from Scarth to Hamilton? It needs to be thought through at the same time
Pedway between the library and City Hall. City should try to encourage other cultural facilities (museum, art galleries) to move close to library to support a cultural hub.
It must connect to the city as the cultural hub (not so much a spatial connection but more a psychological connection)
What does CONNECT TO mean? Having it close by is what I'm understanding it as. Having access to the City Hall Parkade (made larger-more floors) at resonable prices or free. A physical connection I think would be far too expensive and unneeded.
I'm not sure I understand this question. Do you mean a physical connection? Are these buildings up for grabs?

Question #6**How should the Central Library connect or relate to the surrounding area and the downtown?**

I would not like to see the Central library connected to any of these structures, but rather remain its own, free-standing building.
connect with the planned pedestrianization of 12th avenue
I don't really understand the question -- none of the categories talk about relationships, they refer only to "connecting," which seems to be a physical/architectural device rather than one based on how the library functions within society (although easy access through public transit has socio-cultural benefits that are obvious). It's unclear what is meant by "integrate", but I don't agree that a public library should ever integrate with a religious order.
Not sure about any of this
be a flagship building on the west side of the park - centered in the block
Central library to be located in the downtown district for easy access to public transportation. Possible connection to new Proposal Dome / Convention center in the downtown area (north of the Saskatchewan Drive) which should have lots of free public parking available.
Overall I think the library should exist separate from these other services, however a strong implied connection (as opposed to a physical connection) would make for a strong connection between City Hall and the Park
It is hard to understand what you might mean by "connect", but buses OFF 12th Avenue would provide a more walkable space. If the buses turn off 12th Ave and onto Lorne, that street, which is the pedestrian connection to the Cornwall Centre, will become a very unpleasant way to walk, and cyclists will be in danger again, as we come off the bike lane.
I do not believe that we need built connections (winter overpasses) to the buildings above, but if the lanes and paths were pedestrian-friendly, even with small cafés and outdoor seating in the lane between Lorne and Smith could become something like the "mews" streets of other larger cities, these spots would be a charming reprieve to our car-filled city streets, where we could meet and converse in the sun and a little away from the roar of traffic, it could be a virtual mini-oasis, using what we already have.
Leisure facility, similar to Gallagher facility in Yorkton
the central library doesn't need to 'connect' with another building. by extension of other city services / organizations (museums, art galleries, heritage buildings etc), central should be known as a portal to regina and surrounding area into these locations
not necessary
the library should not be connected to other buildings unless it is underground---it would deface either building. The look of the library now is unique and pleasing--no change is required. the library now relates most to the park and is in an awesome place because it is right beside the park---what nicer place is there to go and read a new book?
bike lane
it works standalone now, which seems fine to me - if appropriate there could be walkways between it and other buildings
destruction of old Revenue Canada building -- maybe an glassed-in all season park extending south towards the church that incorporates reading areas, food and drink kiosks
it still needs to have walk in and parking for bicycles out front as well as accessible for those with disabilities.
The architecture has to respect the cityscape.
The question is not clear. What is meant by "connect" and "integrate"?
I'm not sure what is meant by "integrating" and "connecting" with adjacent facilities.
I don't know what you mean by "connect". Do you mean sky walkways to travel through to get to these places year round? Or do you mean "partner with"? I am assuming the former and think walk-way connections would be terrific.
AS IS IS JUST FINE

Question #6

How should the Central Library connect or relate to the surrounding area and the downtown?

Depending on the design--modern, sweeping, Gothic arch ways crossing over 12TH Avenue and too City Hall would be nice. As well, Regina needs to start revitalizing business downtown.

I really don't know how the library would integrate with a private club such as the Masonic Temple. Usually these secret places are not open to the public (for their members only) - have you discussed with the Masons the library's use of their building? I know the new downtown plan for Regina talked about a connection between city hall and Victoria Park but through the Library??? Maybe they mean an overhead walkway. I suppose the city hall parkade could have 7 or 8 stories added to it and this might be used for the library.

I am not sure what you imply in the term 'connect'. Is this a material connection as in a walkway, arcade, or inclusion in an existing structure.

I do not really know what you are leading at with these questions. Connecting to the park? To the Knox? Public transit? How? Making tunnels? Why? These are open areas.

Ok for the library to be self contained. Logical connection would be to a parkade with spots available for library patrons at a reduced rate

Can you explain what you intend by each of these things? It is impossible to answer this question without more knowledge. What does "connect" mean? Physically, intellectually, visually? Is it just the city logo plastered everywhere?

Terms 'connect' and 'integrate' not understood. I have responded assuming that the two terms mean 'link', or, in the case of Knox Metropolitan U.C., that there will be some thinking about collaboration (integration?) of functions or space usage. eg. that Knox Metropolitan concert space will be incorporated into event planning and facilities for the new library.

Just ensure that any physical addition to the library is integrated with the original mid-century architectural design. It's a nice contrast to the older buildings in the area.

the library should be the nexus of a "cultural mall" with other cultural and non-profit groups

I'm not sure what is meant by "connect". Are you talking about building pedestrian bridges between buildings, tunnels, or some more integrative form of connection? I would not like to see the new Central Library integrated or connected with any private businesses.

this question is a little confusing. What kinds of connections and relationships are being proposed?

a library should be a haven, a place of retreat from the business world, where it is possible to spend time reading, studying, contemplating - it should not connect to anything else

The current Central Library already relates naturally to its surroundings. Talk about loaded questions in this survey!!!!

None of these. Paid covered parking, i.e. a parkade, needs to be adjacent to the library. For six months of the year, it's winter in Regina. I have engaged in Battle Royal with City Hall over the lack of snow clearance

on the west side of Victoria Park on Lorne. There is so much snow stacked against the parking meters, one has to be a mountain climber to get to the side to put money in the meters.

This is a crazy question for a survey.

Acquire Masonic Lodge. Demolish. The parking lot next to the Masonic Lodge would be useful too. Build larger Central branch on acquired land. Forget about the covered dome for football. Use this money to build library.

connect to bike lanes

maintain its modernist architectural integrity on existing site

It should be self contained as it is now.

It's so close it's the same as being connected to these places, why change it?

as it is. I especially am not interested in building an above ground walkway from City Hall through the library to Victoria park: a visual blight!!

Question #6

How should the Central Library connect or relate to the surrounding area and the downtown?

the way it relates now is perfect

I'm sorry - I don't understand the question. If you mean connect literally then I don't think that it should connect to anything. If you mean connect socially and in a partnership way then I think that it should connect to the near businesses and churches. I don't need it to connect further to transit or the parkade.

Let the current modernist style continue to identify the library with additional space added to the existing building

not necessary for it to physically connect with these spaces

Again not clear. What do you mean when you say connect - overhead? heaven forbid NONO - takes away beauty. Masonic and Knox - have they agreed to be taken over - public transit move to 11th ave yes

The library is close to all of these areas and does not need any other connection except to remain where it is.

Question #8

Why is it important to expand and renovate or replace the Central Library with a new library?

More energy efficient and sustainable is very important in this day and age. Also giving space for things that the library doesn't have now - a coffee shop, perhaps a store like some libraries have where people can buy RPL merchandise and used books.
I think that it would be important to create more spaces for quiet activities. The library tends to be a very loud place.
Also, since there has been little attention paid to the interior look of the library it has become rundown and shabby.
A replacement for the central library would provide the opportunity to modernize and create an original design unique to Regina. As it stands, Regina's central library is a building with very little character, especially if one compares it to Vancouver's monolithic main branch location. The interior is utilitarian and depressing, with poorly lighted spaces, and an overtly linear layout. Although replacement of the central branch would require a significant investment, with proper management and the creation of versatile spaces, with the potential to generate alternate revenue streams, it should ultimately pay for itself in the long run. A unique architectural design would also improve Regina's marketability as a tourist destination and it's overall image as a growing city.
TO IMPROVE ACCESS FOR PHYSICAL AND RESPIRATORILY IMPAIRED PERSONS
If the decision is to rebuild because more space is needed then it may be necessary to find a new location. However, a downtown location is paramount.
it is hard to comment on these issues until a person has financial estimates in place
I quite like the current - 1960's design - I think it needs a facelift, though, and needs to expand - especially for more quiet reading areas. Whatever - make sure it has lots of light and places to view outside plantings of flowers, flowering shrubs, etc. - a view to a beautiful outside. But definitely - renovate existing building
Has an assessment of needs been done? The Library cannot be all things to all people and so there is a need to determine what the focus should be. Perhaps meeting space for large groups is not needed as much as quiet space for a tutor and student as an example. And I would rather see money spent on computers for access to the internet than a walkway to city hall parkade.
Please see previous comments.
As the current design is flatroof with escalators, with strengthening of the current structure, it should be feasible to build up and out with reduced cost to only outward construction
Expanding/renovating vs building a new Central Library is dependant on cost
Expanding and renovating the current Central Library makes no sense whatsoever given the list of "desirables". The only way to accomplish the "wish list" is to look at building a new Central Library on its current location and plan for the future (e.g. 20-30 years down the road). Any renovations you propose will only be temporary (5-10 years at the most) and the Library will eventually run into the same problems (e.g. lack of space) it has now.
I chose this option only because I am going on the assumption that renovating may cost less than new construction. If this assumption is wrong than I would look at the building new option however still check off the same options as I have done here
As an Important anchor to the downtown. Hopefully to facilitate downtown regeneration after years of decline.
create more parking for public and staff if needed.
I have to say that I have lived in Regina since the Central Library was built and have always loved the architecture of the entrance with the sunken garden. This would be a nice solarium area if it were enclosed in glass. I also have liked the limestone and aggregate rotunda.

Question #8**Why is it important to expand and renovate or replace the Central Library with a new library?**

It is also important to expand and renovate to protect the physical space which is the signature example of International and Modernist architecture in the province. Heritage status should be sought.

enlarge Dunlop Art Gallery

to create a state-of-the-art facility that will enable the Regina Public Library to better fulfill its role as the City's leader in providing knowledge and resources to all Regina citizens. State-of-the-art facilities and resources in a public library system are the foundation for a city's success and for literate and knowledgeable citizens.

The building is aging and I am hearing that there are some structural/Environmental problems with it.

Completely demolishing it and starting anew seems best. The importance of location cannot be ignored. It is in the heart of the city and next to the City Hall- thus PUBLIC.

Contemporary/modern design - perhaps 'bringing the outside in' - with connections to Victoria Park - lots of trees/flowers/natural products

to preserve the unique modern architecture of the existing library

to include an indoor multi-media performance space

I think the room to expand is behind the Main Library (on McIntyre) where there is just dirt now.

Architecturally beautiful as an attraction for downtown and to show case the dynamic activities of the library

... and because contemporary buildings suck. Look, for instance, at Riddel Centre at the UofR-- it was built in the '90s and it's falling apart. We don't build the way we used to, we use cheap plastics instead of stone, so I can't imagine why building something new would be a better option if it's not going to last. Furthermore, if the point of a public library is the preservation of knowledge and experience, does that not extend to architectural knowledge and experience as well? Keep the building, modify as needed.

Also I notice that "to maintain existing services such as the Dunlop Art Gallery and the Film Theatre" is not on your list, but it should be.

I would rank the public space as the the most critical

Currentt building holding the library needs to be update or replace to take advantage of the green environment concepts and provide a role model for modern building concepts. More energy efficient and more efficient of space used within the building.

to maintain heritage retention. The loss of the Carnegie library is an embarrassment. The thought of losing the building that replaced it less than fifty years ago is absurd.

To create a stronger connection between the library and the street - and integrate the lovely architecture of the existing structure into the urban fabric better

a larger movie theatre and possibly even a performing arts theatre (maybe they could be the same space) would be cool

to promote the library as a place that is modern and comfortable should help attract new users and squash the myth that libraries have no purpose in the 21st century

I believe that library functions e.g. electronic media/more computers, should either be more strictly controlled e.g. ethical/moral access restrictions to the internet. electronic media such as dvd's seem to be a huge cost that could better be diverted elsewhere. dvd's etc are easily accessed at a rental store

to act as one of the showcases for an up to date vibrant Regina

Question #8**Why is it important to expand and renovate or replace the Central Library with a new library?**

all of the above sound like reasonable reasons, i think the most important thing about upgrading the library is to keep its current location which adds substance and character to downtown Regina
to have a living or green roof ... it's about time Regina joined this movement
Allow the art gallery and the theatre adequate space for expanded programming.
Look... um... all the choices in all the sections so far have sounded great so I feel like I'm just clicking everything that's before and don't know how useful that information is. But as for what to do with the current library. I hate the current design. It's terrible. Very ugly. But I've seen P3's other work and I don't trust them to improve on it. So I'll hold my nose and say renovate what we have rather than let P3 make something brand new.
This is a question that the RPL needs to answer. The current library is an excellent public space and contributes a high level of urban design to the surrounding area.
To continue to attract excellent staff to interact with us
To maintain the architectural integrity of the original structure, which is both beautiful and architecturally significant.
To make it beautiful. Not such a dumpy looking place. I worry that any "renovation" will just be a band-aid solution, alot like renovations that have happened in the past. I would like to see a complete rebuild. Even if it is on the same location. Knock it down and build it new and well.
The building is a beauty...DO NOT spoil that please.
Because the building is falling apart piece by piece due to old age. The upstairs floors vibrate as the busses drive by on 12th. The electrical system does not have the capacity required therefore creating unsafe octopus plug-ins or blowing breakers when trying to use a projector and a coffee maker in a program room. Expensive on-going breakdowns occur, cracks are appearing in the walls etc. etc.
It is too small and needs to be replaced with a brand new larger multi-floored facility on the exact same spot, without P3 leasing or rental financial liabilities for tax payers.
The best libraries I have ever been in are old ones full of books, not new modern constructions humming with computers. I hope you will think about what a library is for. This is a service, not a business. Go to the Providence Athanaem. That is a library that makes one proud to be amongst the books. There needs to be respect built into the architecture. At the moment it is too much like a shopping mall.
The current library makes inefficient use of the current space, but also requires more space to accommodate a number of varying needs - quiet space, dedicated space for seniors, young adults, better a/v material displays, etc.
Libraries are about BOOKS not computers! The focus should be on the books.
Improve wheelchair/walker accessibility at main entrance and increase number of elevators. If current facility is renovated/expanded have washroom facilities on main level where there is currently none.
Keep the present library as a gem of Modern Architecture, and expand, using the space west of the present building.
Winnipeg expanded their existing building effectively.
to enhance art gallery and film theatre
To provide proper climatic controls for storing some library materials
Especially important to improve environmental controls for the collections, staff, gallery and film theatre.
simply shelf space

Question #8

Why is it important to expand and renovate or replace the Central Library with a new library?

The Dunlop Art Gallery must to be incorporated in the new building. ... I've been to the library on a Sunday afternoon; all of Regina seemed to be there. ... I recently visted the Moose Jaw Library during the Festival of Words. The marble entrance way and all the glass walls were very impressive. Our new library needs to

be a beautiful building outside and in.

Again, crazy options for a survey. These are questions for urban planners, not the public. The public can tell you how they use the space and what the problems are from their experience.

Quiet activities are of major importance

The existing library is a gem of modernist architecture and should be renovated and exanded rather than replaced. It already is a model public space and this should not be compromised in the process of improving its functionality.

I'm not sure it's necessary to expand and renovate but that's what the library board keeps saying is necessary.

Central has a superior architectural design. I am not in favour of a renovation which would ruin the exterior design of the building.

should be more specific i.e. public spaces? operational efficiencies - isn't this always the case in any event?space for library activities? if more information were supplied it would be easier to comment

To make the library smaller by getting rid of the art gallery and film theatre.

Better accessibility for disabled users.

The library building needs to be maintained. It probably needs to be upgraded in certain areas such as energy efficiency. There may be other areas that need improvement. If more space is required then that need must be articulated to the public in an understandable fashion. There appear to be activities that happen in the central library building that could occur away from that building. These would include administrative functions that could be done elsewhere as there is no contact between administration and the public. This would free up space if more space was needed. The library board meetings do not need a dedicated room. They could happen elsewhere, such as in the theatre. The general public could think of many ideas to improve the efficient use of space for expansion of activities while retaining the present functions of the central library building.

Question #10

**Which additional uses would be compatible with a Central Library development?
Please choose all that apply.**

I'm not sure if housing should be part of the public library - not sure how it would "fit".
Coffee shop has been suggested and would be nice, but I don't think the library should be part of a mall configuration. It should stand alone.
I would not be in favour of the library being involved in too many of the above or it will soon be playing second fiddle.
One possibility to consider is inclusion in a possible new stadium complex between Dewdney Ave. and Sask. Drive.
don't get this project so big that decent parking is not available
I do not think that the other functions listed (which I did not check) are compatible with the functions of a library. Do not water down/ dilute/ compromise/ commercialize the greatest things about a library - thrilling books, knowledge, academic assistance and joyous, fun learning! (Include a restaurant only if it can be used to fund 100% the library.)
coffee shop, partnership with Open Door Society & ESL services
Great list!
I've checked off quite a few items I think the function of a library would be compatible with. However, combining collections storage with things like a restaurant/ farmers market would create adjacency issues that need to be addressed. Food and library materials do not mix because of the potential to invite insect and rodent pests, soiling, mold. Spaces would have to be designed to minimize risk to collections.
perhaps an information resource centre - similar to what the reference staff can provide now but highlighted more or with a focus on things like - how can I find housing or a doctor or where can I take a complaint about my landlord etc.
Coffee Shop
outdoor atrium for summer activities.
A human library service such as exists in some places and involves having people available for others to access. The purpose of the service is to gain understanding of a specific group or sector of people that is often misunderstood and/or disrespected, such as overweight people, police, religious and ethnic minorities, etc.
- coffee shop
coffee shop/snacks - city information site
other cultural or educational organisations
I am not sure the wording of this question is getting at the desired information. However, one must look to the next 10 years and the numbers of people >65 years and the programs that will be of interest to them. One suggestion would be to have regular round table discussions on topics of the day.
I would not like to see development away from the educational and entertainment uses of the library. I would like to see expansion to facilitate more "library" related services for the citizens of Regina. I would oppose expansion for business or government offices, affordable housing or a parkade.
Restaurants and shops are options? Are you kidding? Where are your heads at? Focus on your core reason for being which should be books (whether paper, electronic, audio) and literacy. If people are no longer interested in books and literacy, that's sad, but trying to lure them in with DVDs and Internet terminals so they can Facebook and play online video games doesn't do much for making them more literate, educated, contributing members of society.
Any mixed use development should be caustiously considered. The library should maintain some autonomy in it's function.

Question #10

**Which additional uses would be compatible with a Central Library development?
Please choose all that apply.**

By school space I mean an area for class visits. A sort of interpretive center/ workshop for activities.
By adding any more uses I believe we will get lost in the shuffle. Do what we do good! A restaurant in a version of a small canteen/ coffee shop would work best.
Some small coffe shop would be nice in the library. When I was in Kingston Ont, the central branch has a small coffee shop ran by persons with disabilities and volunteers.
Coffee shop and lots of meeting rooms. Perhaps govenrment libraries could lease space there.
First Nation Business Centre
None of the "additional uses" should be corporate/capitalist in nature (such as the business offices, shops, etc.). It's not clear what is meant by "school space" or "college or university space".
coffee/snack shop
Don't want library functions to get overshadowed by commercial uses.
if opportunity to provide for partnership with another business to provide useful enviroment. Good example for the general public to have access to movie threate for downtown redevelopment and or use the propose convention center for tourist, concerts, etc...
Public services of any kind. I don't understand why private business needs to be part of the library. Let's keep private and public services separate, and avoid watering down the functions of both sectors.
I think that commercial ventures should not be part of the public library space. I feel that the library's main function should be as a library and not as a business, a residence, a parkade, etc... Any additional uses that are part of this project should be minor and serve to enhance the library (i.e. the way that the current film theatre and art gallery do) and not subvert it or take attention away from it. More public washrooms would also be welcome - again, to serve a public and not private interest
artist's studios; theatre/dance space
Recreational area, swimming pool, etc.
It is worrying that you have included Film Theatre, Art Gallery, and public washrooms. Are these not considered to be part of the existing Library? Educational uses seem to go hand in hand with a Public Library, as does public space of cultural, intellectual, and recreational pursuits. Quiet spaces, active spaces, noisy spaces - tranquility and activity are both needed, but commerce is distracting, and can still be found one block away.
Keep the library a library
research services beyond what are currently offered. this might be something that is outsourced, or volunteered or otherwised facilitated.
shops as in a libraray gift shop
film theatre only if the programming is improved and expanded to attract other than international film studies devotees
Regina plains museum, maybe a coffee shop but that is all and not any of the chains, perhaps the city hall cafeteria workers cooperative.
COFFEE SHOP!
More inviting to immigrants (ESL classes, books/magazines/newspapers from overseas in home languages
Again, I'm not sure what is meant.... I think it would make sense to have a larger building including (perhaps) housing/offices/shops/parking that would increase density and population and sustainability. IWhat about an indoor play space for kids?
Many city libraries have great cafes in them; it would be nice to see one for us, too.
Athletic centre - like the Sandra Schmerler centre.

Question #10

**Which additional uses would be compatible with a Central Library development?
Please choose all that apply.**

The library is a library. It is NOT an art gallery (waste of space) and it is not a film theatre. There are other opportunities in Regina for these services. LET'S STICK TO BEING A LIBRARY!!

History Museum

Definitely not farmers' market or restaurants. Take a walk through the farmers' market on the Scarth St. Mall and observe all the people walking with their dogs. Who wants dog hair in a library!! The restaurant business could be on the new open and expanded 12th avenue but separate from the library.

corporate revenue paid to the Library can subsidize the operations and cost of a brand new library on the same spot adjacent to the public green space Victoria Park.

Specialized media linked meeting rooms that could be rented for use by library patrons or outside parties - allow for full video and teleconferencing capabilities or for Board style meetings with microphones for each participant and recording capability. Provide beverage and food service for groups that rent the room(s) for extended meetings

I would prefer any number or combination of joint cultural facilities while avoiding commercial, housing or transit uses which may compromise the design, purpose, policies, and utility of the library space.

Housing, shops, and government or business offices dependent on design. Generally, I don't think these should be included, however, housing would be good if this helps to bring people downtown.

Why are 'art gallery' and 'film theatre' listed under 'additional uses' when these are already core activities of the library????? I do not like the implication of this.

Keep the present film theatre, or expand this , but DO keep a film theatre as part of the Central Library.

Is it compatible with the Saskatchewan Genealogical Society Library/Office.

Coffee shop.

cultural mall

I would not like to see the Central Library project used as an excuse for private developers to create expensive condos or other private business interests at public expense!! It should be a beautiful, functional, stand-alone public library! The only exceptions would be perhaps a small coffee bar (not a "restaurant") and low income rental accommodations.

My concern with the library becoming a multiple use facility is the focus on books, reading and education would be lost or take a back seat to all the other goals in terms of financial resources, time and space. These other uses are already being addressed in our city by many other avenues. The focus of the library needs to remain its dedication to the written word.

space where coffee, tea etc. would be available -- not a full fledged restaurant

Prairie History Room

The film theatre could be used for cultural performances, such as piano recitals, dance interpretations of poetry, etc. Business offices such as the Saskatchewan History and Folklore Society would fit in well with the Prairie History Room, also a genealogy society. ... I commend the library for its tutoring program for new Canadians.

I can't answer this on a short survey. You're asking about downtown development. That's too big. We need a new downtown library. Create one with the money available, in the available space, and do it as soon as possible. That's my short and sweet opinion. If you blue sky and try to solve all the problems of downtown nothing will happen.

Any other options such as housing or offices other than library offices must pay rent to the library.

The film theatre and Dunlop Art Gallery are not "additional uses" but core to Central Library. I object to the wording of this question!

Note that the art gallery and film theatre already exist. An indoor winter garden just sounds lovely, it may not be feasible.

Question #10

**Which additional uses would be compatible with a Central Library development?
Please choose all that apply.**

finished!

COFFEE SHOP WOULD BE AWESOME AT THE LIBRARY

cafe

Art Gallery & Film Theatre integral part of lib. - used widely. Sounds as if you want to make this a mall area - a horrible thought. Doesn't work where you have one now. Most of these are accessible now.

The Dunlop and the Film Theatre should not be considered "additional" uses, but integral to the RPL.

Although I know it has been successful in Vancouver, I'm uncertain about a retail space or shop at the library. A coffee shop would be nice though...

This question is is not correct. The art gallery, public washrooms and the film theatre are not additional uses as they exist already. Government activities such as college space, affordable housing, government offices and a transit centre might make sense if they came with stable funding. However, coordinating the integration of these into the library is a big task especially as the present library footprint is small and obtaining additional adjoining space may be difficult or expensive. Integrating private sector activities into the library should only be done with care. The benefits and problems of this integration have to be articulated clearly and then investigated by those who have the interest of the library and public at heart and not by those who are have the interests of the private sector foremost in their minds.

Question #11

Please provide any additional comments.

Perhaps the design should steal a page out of the big box book stores and have an attached coffee shop in the main library. I've also liked to sit down with a cup of coffee and read so being able to do that at the library itself would be nice. Obviously some considerations would have to be made in the design to ensure people checked out the books prior to taking them into the coffee shop.

Some parking would also be highly useful. I personally don't have a problem with parking since my work parking space is within two blocks of the library, but I know many people who don't like to use the central branch since parking near it always seems to be a battle.

One last very minor request, could you make the space a bit more warm and inviting? Most library locations seem to be a bit too much on the functional side so I often don't feel comfortable hanging around the library after I find what I need.

The library management have recently embarked on a series of ill-advised ventures that have made the library an unsafe place for many patrons. I refer specifically to unsupervised media centres that have done little but attract people who sit on computers all day viewing porn.

Even though it's not the most comfortable place in the world, I like the location and accessibility (for the most part) of the Central Library.

Although the idea of a rebuilt library is an alluring idea, I can't imagine the RPL being anywhere but where it is. I think that renovation and expansion is the right thing to do to provide quiet areas, more comfortable areas and more space for collections and activities.

I would support the idea of the RPL taking over that part of Lorn Street that is directly adjacent to Victoria Park that is also between Victoria Avenue and 12th Avenue. It could be used as space for library expansion and would allow for the RPL to provide a bus shelter for the public transit systems main bus hub. As I said before, this shelter could be manned several hours per day and snacks could be sold. The employee in this bus shelter could also provide information for Service Canada, Tourism Regina, Tourism Saskatchewan, Tourism Canada, many other government services and sell tickets and passes for the transit system. This employee may also assist Public Transit users in planning a route to their destination.

Improvements to a central library are certainly overdue. Hopefully, it would be economically feasible to save the existing structure and build on or out from it. Obviously, this will require a raise in taxes, which I am willing to pay, however, I would like the library to do this through a combination of fundraising and debenture to raise the funds, rather than a P3 arrangement which would most certainly raise the costs because profits have to be made.

The Central Library is a key component of Regina's downtown. It needs to develop in order to continue being a successful focal point. It needs expanded collections, children's programs, art house movies and more library services. It is a beautiful destination and has a pride of place for Regina residents and visitors. What it offers creates people's treasured memories. Development needs to embrace these concepts.

THE LETTER WITH THE INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS SURVEY WAS ONE FINE IDEA.

Question #11

Please provide any additional comments.

RPL has been a historic part of downtown Regina ... a meeting/gathering place for Regina citizens/

ease of access is important/ close to transit services/

solar heating and lighting/ green space

If you will build it, they will come ...

Roving Reference services / larger computer area/ coffee area

You are doing a great job now and I know that fund raising is tough - it doesn't always have to be with lotteries, however. I would rather give you \$100 with no expectation of return.

maybe down town is not the best place to expand anything until someone ? does something about the traffic congestion in down town, If i want to go to the library i don't want to spend an hour looking for some place to park. is it possible the sunrise branch would have more space to expand and accommodate all the thing you want to do?

The library is one of the best institutions that Regina has. Many people have no idea of how fun the library can be. I would like to see some sort of parent/child/teacher program that makes it very easy to introduce both the children and their parents into everything that a library - and a weekly trip to the library - could offer them.

I.e. Have a program - a school outing - that includes/invites/encourages parents to go along - to introduce them to the library... make it an on-going program so it's not just an "introductory tour" of the library, but the parents and their children go and participate in one aspect... return the next week and experience something else, etc. etc.

So many people will also pay all kinds of money to buy/rent services they could get from the library.

Children who develop a thirst for learning in their younger years never lose it.

Children who develop a love of books and reading never lose it.

Children who are exposed to books, exposed to people reading out loud etc. have a better life than those people who do not.

Don't focus on too many things all at once - consolidate the library's strengths.

It would be nice to see a local history area about the history of Regina and area complete with multimedia, presentations, and artifacts. A Canadiana section in the children's area is something to consider. Also, it would be most helpful to have an historical fiction section.

Question #11

Please provide any additional comments.

Various thoughts:

- the library research staff is excellent
- the future may not need physical libraries (online access to all information on computer)
- paper books will disappear in our lifetime, perhaps, a museum could be created for some current stock
- downtown space should be used wisely (ie. many story buildings)
- consider partnerships with corporate libraries (ie. SaskTel)
- consider new clients/partners (ie. board of education, corporate libraries, immigrants, First Nations, food bank, prison, green initiatives, creating centers of excellence - ie. Provincial Sector Partnerships)
- is a libraries purpose the same for your new plans as it was in the past decades
- if libraries were created to provide information, then the internet does that better and faster than the libraries can do that, so, a new role might be the ways to access the internet and disseminate value information to people of Regina (business, personal, ...) by tweets/other means.
- as I suggested to Douglas Park school for their new building, the key might be whatever is created should be extremely easily changed/flexible (because the future will change quickly and often).

Wish I had more time to think or green light with diverse experts on this.

Good luck.

Good luck

Question #11

Please provide any additional comments.

I am a regular user of the downtown library. I have always been impressed by the dedication of the staff, the speed at which they order items for me, and the wide range of services the library provides (such as the film theatre and the art gallery).

I am amazed that such a tiny percentage of my tax bill goes to support the library. I would be willing to support a mill rate increase IF it were targeted at supporting Regina's library system, including the necessary capital improvements to the central library building. Buying a ticket for the Regina Library Home Lottery is my way of making a donation to this vital civic service.

The design for the new or renovated library should:

- Result in a public building that will be aesthetically pleasing while incorporating energy efficiency and environmentally friendly technologies. In other words, we should create a building that will be viewed with pride by our citizens today AND future generations;
- Include space such as meeting rooms that can be used by non-profit and community groups; and
- Support art and cultural events by providing spaces that can be used for workshops, display, and performance. For example, large meeting spaces that could be rented for workshops, an expanded art gallery that could house visiting collections, and an improved stage area.

I view the RPL Film Theatre as a vital part of the central library, and I would like it to be included in the new design.

Ideally, I would like to see the central library located in connection with Victoria Park and the historic buildings near it (such as the Knox Metropolitan Church). This might be the best way for the library to be a part of the plan to revitalize the downtown. However, I would continue to use the library if it were in another downtown location, and it is possible that another location would provide more ample space for the types of expanded library facilities and services that I have suggested in this survey.

The Central Library does not provide a valuable service to the citizens of Regina and certainly does not justify the high cost of expanding or even maintaining a building in the downtown core of Regina. Downsizing the central library and shifting funds to the other RPL locations in the more heavily populated suburban areas of the City would be a more efficient use of taxpayer dollars. Closing the central library altogether should also be considered.

Due to location, low population, parking challenges, better use of the real estate and other factors in the downtown core, there are no viable reasons that any expansion of the Central Library should be considered.

I expect you will receive a lot of responses from the "we want the library to have all our expensive cultural add-ons" crowd. Remember that on a per-capita basis RPL levies property taxes that are far above the national average. Please focus on developing a great Central Library, and leave the film theatre, art gallery and other expensive bits to other organizations and agencies.

I do not wish to see a coffee shop or liquor establishment built into the library. Lets keep it a library for people who want to look at books.

A good library is essential to any well-functioning, intelligent society. We need to preserve and protect our libraries for the benefit of ALL citizens.

Question #11

Please provide any additional comments.

I also think that Libraries have an important role to play in programs for children and teens to support reading and learning - I'm not sure these are best met at the downtown location but would be important in the branches. I am pleased to see that the Prince of Wales Branch is being replaced and kept in the general area where it is now.

I do think that the children's section needs to be kept in the downtown location.

Central Library, designed in the 60s, has always represented a waste of space and energy. It needs to take up the entire 12th Ave. frontage - that "shade garden" to the west has to go. Also on the chopping block should be the entrance atrium and the below-street-level open space. The entrance atrium requires more heat in winter and more AC in summer than can be justified nowadays, or actually ever could be justified. The below-street-level space is rarely used, and sits right kitty-corner to an overcrowded children's library. The film theatre is underused, even for non-film purposes, and the Dunlop Art Gallery has long outlived its original intent, which was to showcase Saskatchewan art at a time when a venue couldn't be found. The Gallery needs to be a separate entity, physically as well as operationally; perhaps it and the film theatre could consider looking for partners to fund a separate visual arts centre downtown, close by.

The Prairie History Room is valuable, and should stay as part of the new building.

Administration and staff work space is currently far too small, and the area for deliveries and for elevator access needs a radical redesign.

There is nothing intrinsically sacred about the 1960s building, and it should be replaced in its entirety.

Rather than a restaurant a coffee shop, or a place for social gathering, might be nice.

I would like to see a library that is integrated with some small shopping areas and eating places. Close to public transit and an expanded farmers market.

I have always enjoyed central library. It is a great source of information and entertainment.

A new Library would be nice and hopefully be built with Energy efficiency and cost in mind. Can't it just be a really nice library with nice quiet reading and study areas and not make it grand central station for meetings and cultural events? It would be more important to me to make it a first class learning center with lots of great books and study and reading areas. The greatest fear I have is some bureaucrat trying to create a massive center which does everything and costs a fortune which all us taxpayers have to pay for.

I am so excited about the prospect of a new central library. I really value RPL and I think that a new facility would allow the library to do even greater things!

Please see previous sections.

I think that the current location should be used without annexing any of the adjacent heritage buildings which to my knowledge would be against the wishes of the owners, who use the property regularly. It is my opinion that taking over any heritage properties in a library expansion would be an offensive solution. I would suggest that adding floors or an enclosed walkway over 12th Ave. to some of the properties on the north side of the present building would be more acceptable.

I love Central and hope that some of the original architecture can be preserved if it is renovated.

Question #11

Please provide any additional comments.

Every major city in Canada has a main Central library that showcases its library system. To treat and regard Central as just an ordinary branch is downright ridiculous considering the important collections and services (Prairie History, Dunlop, Central Children's, Outreach, etc.) that are currently housed in Central. Furthermore, simply renovating and expanding the current Library is not a practical option. If you want to do and provide everything on people's wishlist than the option is to look at building a new Library at its current location. Moving from the current location is not an option and should not be examined.

I believe the library should be renovated and expand in its current location.

The space at the central Library is satisfactory. Just use the space you have and be happy. If you really need more space move some offices out to some of the larger libraries or add onto the back of the library. You can't go any higher than 2 stories because of a city bylaw regarding buildings around Knox U.C bells.

There are other renovations at some of the branches that should be a priority before Central. They have had more renovations done in the past 20 years at Central than any other branch in the system.

I think that a library works best as an independant public space. That way it remains flexible and able to cope with changes to its role in the future.

I think some of the new programs have increased usage in the library;

Book Bag Program for Book Clubs

Electronic Databases

Online accessibility with library card and pin number increase usage

The library provides DVD's CD'S and other information for people on a limited budget who are sometimes excluded in the community, the library is one place where they are made to feel welcome and they are not judged or discriminated against.

Programming for all ages has been very good- Internet Help for Seniors, Tea Parties for Children,

Current top sellers- weekly loan has more people coming to read books

Either "a new library or renovation of Central library" to show the changes in the information age are essential, a new library concept is essential to reflect a growing and caring community!

Please do not take all the feedback and decide to do another study. Having a good library with current resources is a key compent of any city. Encouragement for people to read and learn throughout their life is key. Providing opportunities for stimulating debates and conversations would benefit a whole new group of people

It is imperative that we continue to promote libraries and spaces around libraries for learning. It is critical we bring programming to the library, such as writers' in residence, films not shown in regular theatres and places for people to congregate and meet. If there were many meeting rooms, small conventions could be held there and costs could be recouped from rental, etc...

If it was a choice between a new Taylor Field or a Library, I'd pick a new library 20 times over!!!

Question #11

Please provide any additional comments.

We have outstanding library services and whatever can be done to expand the uses of the library would be wonderful. We could provide classrooms for literacy class training, an expanded magazine and newspaper selection. It would be good to have an expanded arts and sports dvd selection. We need a comprehensive way to promote community events...for example a type of page display like the kind that are used to display posters in shops. In this condensed format for profit and nonprofit activities could be advertised: workshops; concerts; community events; classes; information about support agencies for all aspects of assistance for Regina's citizens.

It would be lovely to have quiet green conservatory spaces for people to relax and enjoy especially in the winter months. The city greenhouse could set up displays that are accessible for people who are living, working or visiting the downtown areas. There are a lot of seniors and people with disabilities as well as people who are stressed who would find a "fresh" environment restorative especially during the winter months. The library environment needs to be inviting to people who may not naturally feel comfortable or interested in the library facilities.

You need to decide what your reason for being is. My conception of a library is very much connected with books and literacy. That means enhanced reading collections -- books and magazines (not necessarily in paper format). Your book collections and magazine subscriptions have been going consistently downhill ever since you started pumping money into DVDs and free Internet hookups. To see how pathetic your reading collections are, compare (for example) your collection of play scripts versus that of the Saskatoon Public Library.

Start doing what you were mandated to do, which is to enhance reading and literacy within the community. If a new or renovated building gets the RPL back on track in terms of focusing on literacy and book collections (paper, ebook, audiobook) then I am strongly in favour of it. But if your conception of a new (or existing) library involves justifying your existence by pulling in warm bodies to check out free DVDs or play online games on more free Internet terminals, then I would favour withdrawing all tax funding from the RPL.

The Central Library should be a showcase connecting the past (in it's architecture), the future (in it's functionality) and the present (as the premiere destination in Regina's downtown). Let us keep in mind this is a facility for all so no one group is over-represented.

A new library should not be taken lightly. We have to take care that it reflects what the people want- both vocal and non-vocal. Those that do not express their opinion about this are usually happy with the way things are as a whole. Try to keep the aspects that are working well for a downtown Central Library, add new innovative ideas and combine them to make a work of art for everyone. Going all one way or the other could be disastrous.

Libraries are some of the most important spaces that society can provide to people. They are non-discriminatory and great equalizers. You can research and seek out new knowledge without being limited to what others want to tell you.

You can use a library to rise out of poverty, defend your rights, or just some innocent escapism. All that is required is the ability to read. And if you cannot read, there is no better place to start and if for some reason you cannot qualify to take out materials, you can read them there.

This is why a library must be a cultural magnet for all types of peoples, rich or poor, formally educated or not. It should be a basic right of a citizen to have easy access to a library, which is why you must ensure that the best possible work is done to support the Central branch.

Question #11

Please provide any additional comments.

I feel the core function of the library is to provide an excellent selection of books and other media. I use the library to borrow books. I hope when you renovate or build this will continue to be the main function of the library.

It all comes down to the DOLLAR number. The cost for such a project will have to be paid by the citizens of Regina .

Out of town users should help with the cost.

If need be, maybe a membership fee.

The new extension should be an educational demonstration of green architectural design and a model of energy efficiency. A year-round gardens that could provide some food for a restaurant and extra oxygen for the rest of the library. Being a demonstration of ecological design would provide many educational opportunities. Perhaps a "living machine" could be installed in a glass room so visitors could observe natural waste water and sewage treatment. The developers should consider providing affordable social housing attached to the library. The prices of living downtown are getting more expensive and many of the visitors to the library are people who cannot afford to buy books or even own a computer. If this social housing is energy efficient with ecological design then it will reduce utility bills as well as provide a low toxic and healthy environment. The whole new central library should architecturally connect through creative landscaping to the planned pedestrianization of Victoria 12th Avenue and revitalization of Victoria Park. Perhaps there could be a green walkway from the 2nd floor the library that crosses over Lorne Street down to the park.

Whatever is decided for Central Library - please expand the programs that you provide - children's, cultural, art, performance, film etc.

The RPL has great potential and its forward thinking history (including an art gallery, theatre, history room etc.) is well recognized across Canada and beyond its borders. For planning for the future, I hope the RPL and the city will be able to see the value in maintaining and expanding the innovative and dynamic institution that the library has built over the years.

This survey has been rather leading and seems to have been written with a specific outcome in mind, which is unfortunate.

The Knox Church and the Masonic Temple are private organizations that own their own land/buildings and are not related to the Library. Any "integration" (or even suggesting "integration") with said institutions should be undertaken only with their express consent and approval.

If a new Central Library is constructed it should be designed so that the interior space is not wasted, as is the case with the existing location. Much of the interior space should be adaptable and flexible with multi purpose use in mind. I would also like to see the building constructed with future expansion in mind. This would mean that all structural and mechanical systems would be engineered for a building that is larger than the initial size. That way the building could easily be expanded with less cost and disruption. I also feel the interior lighting and window space should not only provide energy efficient illumination but work to minimize glare from the exterior.

I would encourage that there be free parking to allow the citizens to utilize the public library system. Perhaps there can be opportunity to build it in the propose convention/ football center just north of the Saskatchewan Drive. (Once the railway has been redeployed to the new transportation hub west of the city).

If need please continue with fund raiser (home Lotteries) to allow flexiability for replacement and upgrading the various branch library within the city.

Question #11

Please provide any additional comments.

I am very concerned about some of the options being proposed-- particularly things like restaurants, hotels, and other private enterprises. A library should be solely focussed on public services: the lending of books & other materials, providing educations and informational resources, and providing access to arts and culture.

We don't need a hotel-library. We don't need a restaurant-library. The downtown has many hotels and restaurants, most of which excel at what they do. To integrate such things into the library is a dilution of public services, and a blatant attempt at stakeholders like Harvard Development to stick their hands into more pockets-- public pockets.

The public library is one of the last truly public services ... let's not allow it to be consumed by short-sighted, greedy, selfish stakeholders. A library that is privatized, even partially or superficially, will NOT have the public in mind as its primary mandate.

The fact that these options are even being considered is offensive to taxpayers, and everything that a library should stand for.

I'm all for private enterprise and the success of (especially local) businesses, but never when they will clearly step on the toes of the public sector.

Stay off our turf, Harvard. Just build the great library you are being paid to build instead of trying to figure out ways to continue bleeding money from this project.

The Dunlop Art Gallery must remain in the central library as it is a huge asset and educational resource. There needs to be enough room to house the Dunlop collection and that space needs to be created according to professional standards for storing works of art. The film theatre is very important and needs a decent space. Public art should be part of the building plan - incorporated into the building as has been done at the university, as well as outside the library.

As I have mentioned in this survey, I would like to see the library's main function remain the same. Truly public spaces seem to be getting few and far between to find and the library is one of the last, truly democratic public spaces in the city. Commercial ventures, in my opinion, should not be explored because they take away from the function of the library space - by making it more for the purpose of housing, holding meetings, etc and not for holding and maintaining knowledge. I appreciate the Dunlop gallery's presence in the library - I think it attracts a different group of people that would normally not go to the Mackenzie to see art. The work is also more contemporary and often showcases local artists. The gallery also does a good job of being a liason with the library to integrate the shows with library programming, etc. I also think that the film theatre plays an important role in downtown Regina's cultural scene. Since it is not a commercial, first run theatre and serves more of an "art theatre" purpose, it brings many films to residents that would normally not be exposed to them.

I appreciate the architecture of the Central Library and strongly support renovating and expanding the space as opposed to simply replacing it. As the building is still quite young in its lifespan, and is an important example of Modernist architecture in the City, I think that maintaining and expanding/better integrating it's presence is very important.

Please do not make our library a side note in a larger multipurpose facility... it is a library, not a multiplex. Regina citizens need an area that they can still call their own, that is not tied up in private enterprise and interests.

Question #11

Please provide any additional comments.

I am very excited about the redevelopment of the Central Library - I have lived in Regina for 30+ years, and my family (husband and 2 children) have used the libraries extensively over the years. It is a great resource for our city, and I can't imagine not having access to it. I'm always amazed when I hear of people who have never set foot in one of our libraries - they are missing out on so much! Thanks for your efforts to spearhead this project.

I think the money would be better spent on facilities that enabled more people in Regina and the surrounding area to enjoy a comprehensive cultural, leisure, and recreational facility instead of pouring money into a stadium that only a smaller proportion of the public actually uses.

We have been worried about the future of the Modernist Central RPL for a time. The elegance of its modernism glows on this site, and it would be very embarrassing for Regina if this building were knocked down. It would mean that we value nothing of our past, and that we think very little of ourselves. Great little buildings are rare, and great little functional buildings are a gem to look at and a gem to use. This is a very functional and charming building and institution, great people, great services, great programming, and it serves our needs.

Yes, I would appreciate it if the pipes of bathroom beside the RPL Film Theatre did not smell of the sewer; yes, I would appreciate a Film Theatre where the furnace noises would not be in competition with the sound track, but I will assume that these can all be fixed.

A sensitive expansion within the spirit of the existing building would be welcome, and it can be done. Winnipeg's Library is a great success, and the addition to Ontario College of Art and Design is very intelligent. We need not be as grandiose as the Louvre expansion, which used the existing buildings and worked its way underground to keep what was there. We could go higher, we could use the empty bit of land on the west side.

Thoughtful sensitive creativity is encouraged, and I have great faith in P3 Architects to do just that!

Thank you.

The libraries first and primary function should be to keep people interested in the past, present, and future quality of the written word in all its various applications (film), and provide appropriate programming to engage all age groups in continuing to consider the library an amazing resource.

This includes both accessibility and province wide access.

A population that understands the importance of a Library is likely one that will progress with the education and general advancement of its citizens.

It is very important that this service be as low cost as possible as it reaches a much wider audience.

Additional areas such as Gallery and Performance Space broaden the appeal and achieve "cross marketing" with people who come for one reason and stay for another. Certainly a more efficient use of public dollars than isolated, single purpose facilities.

Hopefully some of that would be achieved by bringing services together under one roof in an appropriately designed facility, and not by having the library taking on an every expanding role.

Question #11

Please provide any additional comments.

I am a friend of and know Joe Pettick well and as I recall both the existing Library and the City Hall Parking garage across Smith to the West were designed with enough pilling under them to support at least one more floor for the sole purpose of allowing Library expansion and parking with a cross walk over Smith.

If the good old boys in the Masonic Lodge and the Church on the Corner could be bribed into allowing their Temple and Church to become involved both buildings could be used for executive offices and or small meeting rooms, all connected with cross walks.

As far as I know the Feds are not really using the old income tax building, a few offices for important people, well let them (important people) keep the top floor of that building and prevail on the Feds to give you guys the rest and connect it with overhead cross walks to the Library and City Hall.

You guys could end up with so much space you would not have to go up the floor that Joe (Pettik) had orginally planned for, spend the money on cross walks and cosmetic stuff. E.R. Lee, cell phone #526-2075

I think it should be relocated to a different area. The downtown is not a safe area after 6 O'clock at night.

Thus, the reason I don't go to that branch.

The ease of access to information via the web has largely negated the need for physical books, catalogs etc. The rate of world wide knowledge growth far exceeds a library's ability to keep up. This is not a fad, it is a trend (and will continue).

Further - the cost of literature and its availability has also improved significantly.

I question the value of having a library at all. I haven't been to one in 15 years and have no foreseeable intention of going.

The library should be a library and not everything - it should not be a movie rental place it should not be a film theatre. What part of library does the library management not understand - no where in the dictionary do I see that library means movie rental or movie theatre. . Go back to what a library is supposed to be and do not build ataj mahal multiu use facility - how many multi use facilites does this city need one thing is certain a library should be a library.

Lets consider the tax payers and not the dreams of the library management and the library board.

Also it should be a user pay facility - those that use should pay and not have everybody pay even if they do not use it.

Libraries should be mostly about books.

I would like to see more fine arts classes, and possibly creative IT classes that make use of the library in some way. There are existing places for these, but the depth and breadth is often limited.

Question #11**Please provide any additional comments.**

I have lived in several other major cities in my life in Canada and Europe and the Regina Central library is the best that I've ever been to. It has so much to offer---the film theatre, an exciting art gallery, new releases in print and on dvd all the time, a wonderful, friendly children's library, and the best of all, the ability to take out research materials (which many other city libraries do not allow--very inconvenient!). The look of the library exterior is unique and interesting--varied materials, textures, lines and shapes. The addition of a little history with pieces of the old library integrated into the new is wonderful and appealing. the addition of art works outside is also another appealing and sophisticated feature. The interior space is open, refreshing and easy to navigate. It is user friendly and comfortable. I do not know personally if the library is in need of more space for work or for collections but if it is then I would recommend adding additional floors to the existing library as per the allowances of the original architectural design. This would retain the present fantastic building and complement the present facade. Art work could be attached to the outside of the upper levels which would add another appealing feature. For the interior, renovations or additions should mirror the present open, bright and friendly atmosphere. I love the central library, please don't destroy it or move it. I use it all the time and it is one of Regina's most redeeming features--its loss would clinch a desire to leave a city that regards its architectural landmarks with a carelessness that is abominable.

I think the new library board has done some very positive things to re-vitalize the library system.

I take it the site is boned. Jumped from question 3 to 11, this one. And probably ironic...since any decision is likely going to be short sighted and as flawed as this survey.

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to replace a drab, limited building with something that truly represents the cultural/educational/recreational history and aspirations of this city. It must, however, not become a shopping centre/arcade/restaurant/parkade/residence/office building with the library functions off to the side or hidden in shame or it will have failed -- it should be seen as a library first and foremost -- a library in the 21st century, yes, but still a library.

While I no longer live in Regina, a weekly visit to the downtown central branch was a ritual as a child. I became a life long reader thanks to the RPL. It's hard to overstate how central such a place is in the development of children.

It also helps to make downtown a destination. Growing up in Regina, there were very few reasons to come downtown - the library was a key reason. A reason that still continues to bring my retired father downtown every day.

The architectural design currently there must be maintained and when expansion on the current site is done, the new design must be either the same as the current style or at least compatible.

The existing Central must be retained. I would support the construction of an addition, but it must be of significant architectural merit.

I hope the library is not selling out to big development.

Regina needs its library service and a central location must be a part of and a partner to our downtown.

The central library is in a beautiful downtown location and serves people from all walks of life. I would not be happy to see that perhaps those marginalized would not have access to yet another important service.

ESL classes & literacy classes

Question #11

Please provide any additional comments.

I am happy with the Central library as it is. I go there often, and find that it meets my needs admirably. I do understand that it needs renovation in order to continue, since some of the infrastructure needs renewing. I would like to see the renovation occur with environmental sustainability as a top priority. If more space is needed for collections, perhaps some of the offices could be moved to a nearby building. The lower level could be expanded, reclaiming the area that is now a slightly strange and largely unused 'courtyard.' The parking seems to be sufficient as it is, since many people walk or take the bus to the library. Whenever I have driven there, I have always found parking in close proximity.

Libraries are important cultural institutions and should be preserved and expanded. It is not the job of libraries to be drivers of economic or commercial development. There are other numerous entities that can do this more effectively.

I get concerned that -- in spite of the supposed connections to other facilities -- that the "big picture" is fuzzy. I worry, for example about the fact that there are no schools or supermarkets downtown (discouraging families). I also feel concerned about the "winter denial" that means there is nowhere for kids to play, nowhere (except at specified times) for adults to walk indoors while getting places (exception: that corridor on the east side of Scarth between 11th and 12th).

I hope that the library will continue to house the Dunlop Art Gallery - this is an important contribution to the city's artistic life. I also hope that they will keep the amazing facade of the current building.

Above all, the library should remain a public library, a unique and truly democratic public service. This purpose should not be lost in any expansion.

Please, seriously consider making a brand new central library. That, to me, is very important. It would get new people into the library and perhaps start something great.

Good luck!

I do not think we NEED a larger building downtown .If space is at a premium then move the library offices OUT of the building to the burbs so the Regina Citizens who USE the space have adequate room.The building may need retrofitting but it is a beAUTIFUL ADDITION TO THE DOWNTOWN LANDSCAPE...and a heritage site that should be preserved.

I am not sure about the parkade. Parking needs to be provided but maybe it can be shared parking with City Hall or some other institution. Designated space for Seniors would be nice but I didn't check it because there are other Seniors Centres near the downtown.

The library needs to maintain its commitment to public access, arts and culture while also providing quiet and quality space for research and study.

As I previously said, Central needs replacement!

It is in terrible physical condition and the mechanical (air, heat) are not even functional half the time!

We need to be a library, not an art gallery for avant garde presentations. How money does this cost us?

It also takes huge amounts of physical space. When I am in Central, the only persons I see in the gallery are the employees or people setting up presentations. The film theatre is pretty much the same. It does bring in some "different" films, but is this the job of the library?

LET'S STICK TO BEING A LIBRARY!!!!

Question #11

Please provide any additional comments.

Due to many political and status quo decisions of the past Regina has lost some great architecture, and history. The Capital Theatre being a prime example where a major corporation wanted the prime corner lot and got it--destroying a major focal point of downtown Regina--then the company abandoned Regina a few years later and Our History was destroyed. Make the new library with that in mind.

The existing library is an attractive building and I would not like to see it replace with a glass and concrete structure that is the common form of public use buildings now. these are boring and cold and Regina needs to maintain its appeal, partly by not succumbing to the uniformity of current buildings, which are generally unattractive and boxlike.

The library needs to be available for the least advantaged of the community, in a welcoming and non-judgmental way and a change in service direction to electronic format and services can be intimidating. We do need to keep up with changes in delivery systems for information, but we do not need to abandon the traditional way so please, keep the books and papers and periodicals, along with the likes of Kindle and wikipedia and Google searches.

An addition to existing building would be most important. Preserving present building, with an addition (perhaps in the form of a tower) building will:

Existing building already has a history

There exist a lovely sculpture of 'Howard' a security person (perhaps no longer living) sculpted by J. Faffard and this is a part of existing branch's history

Continue to attract tourists

All busses arriving near

Lovely historical pictures facing the street on right had of bulding

Lovely building - lots of windows, lovely view to park and trees, non-slippery entrance, etc

Central but away from commercial area

Park, where so many fantastic events happen, only across the street

Children have developed a great fondness for Central Branch and so do many adults

Follow Richard Florida,

multi-use facility, incorporating temporary business revenues from restaurants and parkade to subsidize the Library, allowing for mandate of culture, literacy, people's university, art gallery and with links to Transit hub, (with free city commuter transportation such as cars running on electric plugins for hybrids and bikes), City Hall, Farmer's market, and even affordable accomodation in upper levels, is needed before a footbal stadium. Libraries Matter before Nuclear reactors or football stadia.

One Province System of Regional Libraries and urban resource centers to serve the entire province is the goal, where urban density supports rural equalization in services, facilities, standards of service and compensation levels.

Cheers,

Question #11

Please provide any additional comments.

The central library is an excellent resource for the city.

Any renovation or expansion should be focused on improving the library's primary services and bringing those information sharing services up to par relative to what modern technologies provide as the main priority. Although I believe that improved meeting facilities fits within the current library mandate other expenditures linked to tying the library in to previously unrelated things should only be considered if the additional function is self funding and more than pays for itself.

The Library Board should seriously start on a long-range capital fundraising drive to realise their planning. An annual house lottery is not the solution; nor is the raising of the mill rate to finance anything other than operational costs. In raising capital for a new central or branch redevelopment, the amount of needed funding is such that the City and provincial governments and prominent businesses should be approached for a portion of strategic funding. Anything else can be seen as poor, amateurish, planning, unworthy to attract significant contributions.

This survey seems fishy. There isn't enough information to make any valuable suggestions, because the scope of "other uses" is not defined. Are you suggesting putting a shop inside the library? If so, who gets to decide what they are selling? or is it a rented space? Does that make sense in a publicly funded building?

Please do NOT give into public/private partnerships. Keep the LIBRARY public and FREE and run by the people of Regina and not the businesses who want to capitalize.

I love the current location of the Central Library. I would favour renovation of the current building only if another location could not be built near Victoria Park. I'm not sure if the library has determined other suitable sites in the downtown area, but it would be a mistake to build even a few blocks from Victoria Park. I think it's important to have a library as one of the major hubs of a downtown as its an accessible place for all citizens regardless of class. And to be that hub, it needs to be in the centre of the action.

The current location undoubtedly needs extensive upgrades and renovations. Air quality is an issue for both patrons and staff, for example, as it can be chilly in one area, and uncomfortably hot in another area. There needs to be bathrooms on the main floor, two elevators, the A/V collection needs to be presented in a better way, and perhaps even in its own area where items would have to be checked out before leaving the area. I would love a solarium/reading room added to the west-side of the building as it's not a desirable outdoor space at the moment (if Central was to be renovated). I like that the library houses an art gallery and a film theatre, which I hope will be maintained. It would be great if the children's library could be in a different location within the library, and then that space could be a YA area, for example. I'm sure there are many structural upgrades required as well.

This is an exciting time to envision what our downtown could be like, and the role Central could play in a vibrant downtown. It's coming in bits and pieces, but to build too far from Victoria Park would be a mistake, in my opinion. I'm having trouble imagining where a brand new building would fit in the downtown, bordering or close to Victoria Park. If the space is available, the Canada Life building could be worth investigating as a possible location.

I hope all avenues and options are investigated before proceeding with a plan.

Question #11**Please provide any additional comments.**

I hope we actually put some real thought and money into this project to create a beautiful space for patrons and staff. The library, especially the Central Branch, is so important. I loved coming to the Main Branch as a child and I think of all the wonderful exhibits at the Dunlop I've seen over the years. It is so important for the citizens of Regina to take care of this community resource. And to remember that a library is free and open to all.

It is simply preposterous to think that Regina may actually be contemplating this ridiculous Dome (Doom?) when we will "nickle and dime" a real resource like our libraries.

Whether there is a new facility built or the current one is renovated/expanded there should be lots of natural light. This is one thing I do like about the current central library. More space for Prairie History Room.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond. A draft design would help to envision the possibilities for the library.

The Dunlop needs proper collection space - the current vault is inadequate. I am deeply troubled that this survey frames the gallery and the film theatre as potential 'additional' activities.

I very much hope that the present architectural gem of Modern Architecture is KEPT AS PART OF AN EXPANDED PUBLIC LIBRARY.

I use the library system extensively. Anything that adds to that experience for me and attracts future patrons is a good thing. Above all, a vibrant central library downtown (or any library) should be a place where, when you enter, the possibilities of new learning seem limitless. A downtown central library is a must. Without it, Regina would be a poorer place.

Central Library is a very important building for downtown Regina. The only movie theatre that is still located in downtown Regina is in Central. Central has been a part of my life since I was a child and I don't want to lose either the existing building or all of the important functions that Central has provided through time.

I think the library should be expanded and not relocated. We should make use of what we already have instead of wasting resources on new buildings.

A coffee shop with lots of comfortable seating and Wi-Fi internet access could provide a nice little revenue stream while encouraging people to visit the central library. I would rather go there than Chapters/Starbucks.

thanks for the opportunity to comment - the central library , the art gallery and the film theatre are one of the few reasons which will bring me downtown on a weekday or weeknight - it is absolutely essential to the health of the downtown !

The replacement of Central Library is much needed and long overdue. I would strongly urge that the project NOT go ahead as a P3, as this has proven in other jurisdictions to be a more expensive alternative in the long run. I would not want any private businesses to profit from their "partnership" in the project. If rich developers and private corporations want to contribute financially to the public project as a duty to the community, great! But no condos, no office towers, no restaurants, no connections to private businesses!! Citizen's do not want their tax-supported public institutions hijacked by private interests. We already have one of the best public library systems in the country; now let's build our city the most innovative, most beautiful, and best PUBLIC library building in Canada!!

It may be time to get out of lending tapes and CD's etc. There are plenty of commercial outlets for these and the cost and space could be directed to other uses.

I don't know if it's legal or not but a charge of \$10 per year for a library card is not unrealistic but would raise funds to go toward improvements.

Question #11

Please provide any additional comments.

I like the idea of having a quiet space where I could peruse books of interest without taking them home while sipping on a coffee, tea, etc.

I think it is vital to integrate the wonderful current modernist architecture into a renovated space. It is vital to retain an autonomous space that is not dependent on market whims to maintain our cultural life.

I fully support an expansion or redesign of the central library. I use this facility all the time with my 3 kids. It is always a hub of activity. The extended hours are great for busy people and the downtown location is handy for all. Increased parking spaces - and safer parking (not having to cross the street) would be great. Also spots designated for parents with small children would also be appreciated.

Keep up the good work keeping our downtown rejuvenated and our libraries exciting to all.

I find the idea behind this survey disturbing. And potentially ruinously expensive. Libraries don't have to be all things to all people. Their purpose will be lost in that kind of vague and whimsical construction. I've been a patron of the central library for decades. I go to it for books, films, the art gallery and historical research - for culture and knowledge. If I want to socialize or be entertained, I have other options. I want the library to remain a haven from the outside world, a place to nurture the inner selves of citizens.

The concept of age-segregated areas is counter to my concept of community.

As my previous frustrated explosion -- "Talk about a loaded survey" -- already indicates, I am disgusted by this survey. It is obviously intended to try and show support for a new library. There are no questions about our satisfaction with the current building. The last question, which allows a participant to indicate his or her opinion that no changes be made can be used by those who never darken the doors of Central Library, or any library for that matter, and don't think money should be spent on libraries at all. I do use Central Library and I do want our taxes to support it generously, but this survey does not encourage me to voice my opinion that this wonderful example of mid-century modern architecture be maintained as an integral, working part of our downtown life. Maybe management feels crowded but, as a taxpayer and a frequent user and therefore, I believe, an important voice in determining the future of our current Central Library, I would like a less biased survey to be issued.

Thank you.

Margaret Hryniuk

I believe a central library is vital for the downtown area of any city. When I travel, I often visit a library when it is central. So not only for our own use, but for visitors to our city, I would like to see a face lift and improvement in function. We are a big enough city now with lots of visitors so improve our image and attract people, leaving a more favorable impression. I feel the library could promote community learning activities for the downtown core residents.

Question #11

Please provide any additional comments.

In this electronic age, books and reading are more important than ever. "Read for Your Life: Literature As a Life Support System" by Joseph Gold (1990) and "A History of Reading" by Alberto Manguel (1996) are just two examples of the benefits of reading. For centuries libraries have been cherished and feared because of their influence on society. In our free society where we cherish freedom, we must continue to nourish the

mind as well as the spirit.

I have attended classes reading and discussing the "Great Books of the Western World." Also, I have co-ordinated a book discussion group for twelve years. Many in the group value enormously being able to borrow the reading selections from the library. For many citizens not able to buy books, the Book Club in a Bag program is absolutely splendid.

Recent history can attest to the fact that the people of Regina will fight for and support their libraries.

A tribute to reading in the form of a new central library is essential.

P.S. Forget a domed stadium. Build the new central library.

A new Central library would be lovely but I can't see where the library would get the money. In all seriousness I think the covered sports dome should not be built but the money for this cover used to build a new library. Saskatchewan football fans love the challenge of the open air in all kinds of weather. Seriously they do.

The film theatre and art gallery spaces must be preserved and enhanced.

Please consider as a model the recent renovation of the Winnipeg Public Library, which admirably balanced the need for expansion and better functionality with the goal of preserving modernist architectural heritage--a heritage which is quickly disappearing. The Regina Central Library is a building which was singled out for praise during the 2007 national architectural symposium co-organized by the Dunlop Art Gallery and MacKenzie Art Gallery, "The Ordinary Amazing: The Cultural Value of Modernist Architecture," which featured a stellar line-up of architectural experts from across Canada. As we all know, it often takes an outside view to recognize the value of local treasures that, over time, we have come to take for granted. The existing Central Library is a beautiful building with some of the finest public spaces in the city. This fact should be recognized, celebrated and incorporated into any plans for renovation or expansion. It should be emphasized as well that the Dunlop Art Gallery and RPL Film Theatre are not "additions," but are central to the mission of visual literacy which the Central Library has fostered since the days of Marjorie Dunlop!

The Central Library is one of Regina's finest examples of modernist architecture and I would be horribly disappointed to see it torn down and built back up.

The Dunlop is one of the best and most attractive features of the Regina Public Library. Also, the theatre area is important and enjoyed by many.

Keep politics out of the final choice, and insure monies are spent wisely.

I think the RPL is a beautiful building and any additions to it should be in its style - whether you annex another building or not....the actual space is a perfect place for a community gathering as it has been used all of these years.

There is no need to add to the accessibility to the park - restaurants - etc....all within easy walking distances at any time of the year... we do not want to create a mall-like appearance - especially another outdoor mall.....Why spoil a beauty?

Question #11

Please provide any additional comments.

The current location is imparative, leaving that area would be unfortunate. If expansion is necessary it should be vertical if possible or moving south down the block to take some of the alley-parking space. Vertical is prefeable. Keeping as much of the current architechture as possible is very important. Keeping the library a public space is also important. For me, the library is fine as it is, but I understand that the board and staff would like more facilities, so hopefully a larger space can result without relocation or destruction of the current building.

no further comment

Although I think expansion of the library is a wonderful idea I think the architectural heritage of the building should be preserved. As a patron of the library I have been enjoying the space and beauty of this building for approximately thirty years now. I have always enjoyed not only the wonders the library contained but the beauty of the building, it has always given me a sense of wonder upon entering the doors. I find that I still feel that way and now that I am a parent I enjoy sharing those feelings with my daughter who finds it a wondrous and interesting place as well. It would be a shame to lose this building.

[name removed]

The library should be a public space for books, films, DVD and the internet. What on earth would the connection be between rental housing or restaurants and a library? Get real and keep it simple.

Whatever is decided, please consider rusty.

I love going to the library, it has been a very important aspect all my life. I love books and reading and researching.

I get a rush when I get home from a library visit with a bag full of new books to look at or to read and learn new things.

Books are one of my passions.

I go to the library at least twice a month all my life.

I would like to see a greater collection of books, I would like to take out more art resource books and magazines.

I would like to see a coffee shop at the library.

I hope the Dunlop Art Gallery remains, it is very nice to have an art gallery at the library.

I hope the theatre remains as well, nice to see alternative movies.

The library is my most important cultural hub, it takes me to new worlds and feeds my passions!

Central Library is a valuable hub in the downtown area. It serves many functions and meets many different people's many different needs. The Dunlop Art Gallery and the Film Theatre are vital to the library and to the downtown.

The library needs to take the lead role keeping Regina on the cutting edge of the information age and being the hub of bringing information from the world to Regina. This needs to include appropriate space for groups to meet around various areas of interest to Reginans. The central library is an important part in keeping Regina's downtown vital. Drawing people back to the downtown core is especially critical in terms of creating a more environmentally appropriate lifestyle in the city.

Question #11**Please provide any additional comments.**

Please do not tear down the beautiful, functional, and structurally sound central library building. This is a wonderful opportunity to grow, expand, renovate and dream of an even better library, but we must not forget that what we have is an incredibly well-designed and beautiful building. A prime example of everything that was right about mid-century modern design, The Regina Public Library Central branch is one of Regina's great treasures, and the integrity of the original design must be retained at all costs.

The RPL has been visionary in its design and scope of services. Let's maintain this and expand into the future.

I think the RPL is a beautiful building & any additions to it should be in its style - whether you annex another building or acquire a bit of space available - the actual space is a perfect place for a community gathering as it has been used all of these years.

Reading these questions makes me shudder to think what is behind it all. They have been moving activities from central library and trying to diminish its importances...with all the unrest it must not be an easy place in which to work - such a change from previous times where staff were obviously happy - must be a strain for them - close the library, downsize the library, move it away...how unsettling - even for citizens.

There is no need to add to the accessibility to the park - restaurants, etc. all within easy walking distances at any time of the year..overheads are ugly at best - go underground - may be more costly but in the end prove to be more efficient, less costly and doesn't create more eyesores..We do not want to create a mall-like appearance - especially another outdoor mall...why spoil a Beauty!

Perhaps if more information were supplied - questions had more background to them, it would be easier to consider some more fully....No.7 no place to make remarks..Renovate, only?expand?

I am very excited by the idea of a new central library. We visit the central library in many of the cities we travel to and they are certainly the cultural and tourist hub of their towns.

If you're going to do it, do it right! Make this a place where non-bookworms will want to be as well . . . make it a true cultural center phenomena! This is Regina . . . we can do it!

It can operate like a library branch does. It doesn't need the non-library facilities such as the art gallery and film theatre. They are a waste of space and money.

The collection could be housed in a smaller building or even a building of the same size if the art gallery and film theatre were done away with. These two areas are not the responsibility of a publicly funded library.

I'm very pleased to see that the central library and resources are being reviewed as to sustainability through development/improvement. Major cities come to rely heavily upon such a resource once in place - look to cities like Hamilton, Calgary and Vancouver. Cities that "ponder and procrastinate" (like Victoria) are only serving their populations by not serving them at all. Libraries are far more than simply books. They serve as a meeting place for culture of all description. Indeed, it is the values that we as Reginans that are on display for all to see; I would hope that a more modern and flexible resource will demonstrate that the values the people of Regina hold include an emphasis on literacy (reading, writing), media sourcing, and the arts in general.

I find that using a developer in the present context is strange. The library has the land and the activity. It needs an architect and a builder.