

Smithers Public Library
Planning Session 2012
Summary Report

How we work together

- Allow silence
- Balance our time for discussing and deciding
- Keep it fun
- Be challenged
- Encourage outside of normal thinking
- Build consensus through openness, listening and appreciation

Values – What we re committed to.

The following is a list of deeply held values that guide the library's work, decisions, and actions.

Universal Access

- The library strives to be accessible to all through a non-judgmental and supportive environment

Life Long Learning

- The Library provides learning opportunities and access to new ideas
- The Library fosters democracy through literacy and knowledge development.
- The Library is democratic in that all are equal

Relevancy

- The library is more than books and stays innovative, connected to world and provides a continuity of services.

Community

- The Library builds community by providing a safe place where people can experience a sense of belonging
- The Library serves the community with joy and creativity.

Accountability

- The Library is reliable and accountable to all its stakeholders

***“We make our future dreams come true by action on our own values today” –
Marvin Weisbord***

What we have learned

- Takes a community to build a library
- Marketing works – need to reach more
 - Attitude reflects outcomes
 - Have a fundraising plateau
- It only takes something small to see a change

Vision - Where we want to be by 2014

Courtyard

- Opened by August 2012
- Includes art murals, interactive sculptures
- We offer coffee by partnering with a mobile vendor by 2013
- There is outdoor entertainment
- New bike rack

Technology

- The library is technologically updated
- Staff and patrons received the help and support they need from
 - Permanent tech person is hired
- Staff are trained in tech services
- Provide technology tutorials - computer literacy
- Purchase more technology

Programs and Services

- Ongoing year round youth and children programming e.g. Mother goose, story time, board games, crafts, movie nights
- In our backyard series is expanded and includes hands on workshops
- Offer movie documentary evenings and virtual author readings
- Some workshop admission is by donation
- Membership increased 20% by December 2013

Space

- Looked at our mix of technology, books/collection, services and how it redefines our space
- We have an e-book download station
- We creatively reconfigured:
 - Circulation desk area
 - Back room space
 - How we deliver content e.g. use a book warehouse
- We have:
 - An automatic check in/out
 - A new toilet and updated washrooms by end of 2012
 - New windows and blinds removed
 - Paint inside and out.

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Funding

- Major funding secured by April 2012 – new library
- Final funding secured by 2014 – new library
- Received government funding – technology, programs, services

<p>Assets we can build on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workable Team • Common goals • Open, welcoming, accessible, responsive • Committed Board
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Time Line

Date	Court Yard	Technology	Services	Space	Funding
Feb 2012	Presentation to Council – Wally Review layout – Board and Staff <i>COMPLETED</i>		Create time space calendar - Staff		
Mar	Council approval – Board, Phil <i>COMPLETED</i>			Maintenance evaluation – Staff and Board	
Apr	Secure volunteers and materials - Board	Connect with NW Federation – Tracy <i>COMPLETED</i>	Trade show survey – Board, Friends, staff Create and distribute in depth survey – Tracy <i>COMPLETED</i>		Major funding secured
May	Break ground – Board <i>COMPLETED</i>		Develop alternative space list and collaborator list- Staff		
June	Construction – Board, Town				

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Date	Court Yard	Technology	Services	Space	Funding
July August	Grand opening and outdoor book sale and music - Friends and Board <i>COMPLETED</i>	Government technology funding application to renew tech position- Tracy <i>COMPLETED</i>			
Sept		Technology plan developed (future needs and actions identified) <i>COMPLETED</i>			
Oct			Put together budget request – Tracy and Board		
Nov	Decide phase 2 – art, bike rack - Board		Include centennial planning - Staff	Washroom upgrade completed <i>COMPLETED</i>	
Feb 2013			FN outreach and relationship building plan- Staff	Space assessment - Staff	
Mar			Explore program sponsors and funding partnerships		
April			Trade show		
June				Decision on space	
July				Space quotes	
Dec				Membership has increased by 20%	
Feb 2014					Final

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Date	Court Yard	Technology	Services	Space	Funding
					funding secured.

Ongoing activities

Conversation with North Coast Library Federation members and the Federal government about technology support and training.

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