

Issue 3 – April 26, 2010

## FROM THE GROUND UP

### **Council approves revised budget – River Street door stays open**

Town Council unanimously approved a revised budget of \$4.1-million for the new Acton Library on Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. The higher costs stem from unexpectedly deep retaining walls to offset the site's slope, compliance with new provincial accessibility standards, and higher-than-expected bids for some aspects of the project.

Geoff Cannon, Manager of Library Public Services and project lead, presented Council with several options. Council agreed to support the first option, which was to keep the structure as originally designed by the architect. This required adding \$353,000 to the budget. The River Street entrance, tagged at \$64,000, was also approved. The other entrance is located on the side of School Lane, where there will be parking for up to 23 cars.

Council narrowly voted against funding the plaza (\$328,000) and reading deck (\$30,000), both of which are exterior features.

The federal and provincial governments are funding \$2.3-million in total towards the cost through their Infrastructure Stimulus Funds. Geothermal energy will power the building's heating and cooling (HVAC) system and is being funded through alternate sources.

Mayor Bonnette called the building "a good news story" on April 12<sup>th</sup>. Several community members agreed, speaking in support of the new facility that evening. Acton resident Norm Elliott, a former Councillor and Library Board member and a current Director for the Friends of the Library, and Paul Rostrup, President of the Friends of the Library and former Library Board member, were eloquent about the library's role in the community. Crowd favourite, though, was clearly 9-year-old Sydney Weaver, an Ambassador for Easter Seals' "We Care," who explained how much the new facility means to her.

To see the full report presented to Council on April 12<sup>th</sup>, please go to <http://www.haltonhills.ca/calendars/2010/LIB-2010-0006.pdf>

## Construction Begins

"When are you starting?" That's a question Acton Library staff hears all the time.

The answer is **now**. You should see a trailer from *Melloul-Blamey Construction Inc.*, the firm overseeing the project, appear during this last week of April. Fences will also be going up during the week of April 26<sup>th</sup>. There will be a chain link fence, backed by a 2-foot-high silt fence that traps dirt but allows water to flow and a third fence made of filter fabric that reduces dust. Plywood siding, painted white, will also edge part of the site.

Once these basics are in place, site preparation, excavation and foundation work can begin. *Melloul-Blamey* will first bring in electrical and mechanical services, followed by geothermal piping and structural steel. The first tasks will be to create the building's "footprint" or foundation and then the parking lot.

Work will start near Black Creek (the River Street side), at the curving part of the building, and progress toward School Lane.

A complete construction schedule has not yet been issued but please check the Library's website in May. We should have a full schedule posted by then.

For concept drawings and project site plans, please visit  
[http://www.hhpl.on.ca/acton\\_project.asp](http://www.hhpl.on.ca/acton_project.asp)

## Fundraising for Halton Hills Public Library

Would you donate to the new Acton Library? That's what *RBR Development Associates Ltd.*, a professional fundraising company, will be studying over the next months. The plaza, the reading deck, and the fireplace in the lounge are all areas that require community support.

\* \* \*

Please contact Geoff Cannon at [cannong@hhpl.on.ca](mailto:cannong@hhpl.on.ca) if you have questions or concerns.

Yours truly,



Geoff Cannon, 905-873-2681 Ext. 2513  
Manager of Public Services  
Halton Hills Public Library



Jay Jackson, Chair  
Acton Branch Planning Committee  
& Halton Hills Public Library Board