

# Library is twice the size of the old building

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He said it did take some time for staff, however, to tag all the books for the new Radio Frequency Identification system in place at the library.

The system allows patrons to check out their own books if they choose. They scan their card then check out the books, or have a library staff member check them out.

The new library is two-and-a-half times the size of the old building, which is slated to be taken down this week.

"It's an absolutely incredible building," said Cannon. "It's just overwhelming."

He said the new building has lots more seating, and more computers. The number of Internet stations is up from four to eight. There are two quiet study rooms with glass sliding doors for small groups of up to four people.

"If the library is noisy you can go in there to study," said Cannon. There is also a multi-purpose room that can be rented by the community with capacity for approximately 25 to 30 people.

The children's programming room is

larger than it was in the old building, and there are several windows. There is also a teen lounge.

The new library also has a new Acton branch librarian, Mary Land, who is the first degreed librarian to work at that branch.

"She will be doing a lot more of the administrative stuff, outreach into the community. It's going to be a busier facility and it's important to have that professional librarian on staff," said Cannon.

The new library is also environmentally friendly—striving for silver LEEDS certification. It includes a geo-thermal system, eco-friendly paints, extensive natural light, and lighting for example in the washrooms that goes on only when occupied.

Cannon said there "will be an opportunity for the community to give if they would like" through fundraising efforts for the library which haven't yet been formalized.

He said in the future there will fundraising efforts for an outdoor reading deck, and a marquee to be placed near the road high-lighting events at the library.



The boxed up books are moved from one building to the other by means of dollies and ramps in the libraries.

Photo by Ted Brown

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