

Town may double up construction in bid to save money

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Not only would the Town save money to do the work at the same time as the library expansion, the local neighbourhood would be impacted only once by construction, he said.

Funding for the enhancements will be separate from the capital funding set aside for the library expansion, and must still be voted on by council at a future meeting.

Director of Library Services Jane Diamanti said she is comfortable with the approach the Recreation and Parks Department is taking, especially after getting assurance that there will be no encroachment on library space.

Both she and library board building committee chair Sheila Taylor participated in the visioning exercise, and was happy there could be improvements to the lobby, entrance and washrooms, which the library board has been wanting for a long time.

The Georgetown branch library was given the go-ahead last year to expand onto a property immediately to the south on Market Street. Early estimates suggest that this expansion might be in the range of 14,000 square feet, meaning that the Georgetown branch would double its



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current size. Construction is not scheduled to begin until 2008.

Phase one of the expansion project has already begun with consultation sessions with key stakeholders, and an opportunity for the public to comment on preliminary designs will likely be held in early April. No specific dates have been set yet.

After gathering feedback from the public and staff, Chamberlain will produce a number of site/concept drawings, to be presented to town council in the late spring.

Chamberlain has much experience with the construction of public libraries—having designed eight in the last 10 years across Ontario, several of which required the integration of historic buildings.

Diamanti said the library board and staff welcome the opportunity to work closely with the community, and with such a knowledgeable and well-regarded architectural team.

"Together we will create a library that is functional, accessible, attractive and complementary of the church's heritage features—it will be a civic asset of which we can all be proud," she said.

(Cynthia Gamble can be reached at cgamble@independentfreepress.com)

Web site woes nearing an end

The Independent & Free Press web site is still undergoing work and while some progress has been made, we still have some bugs to work out.

On Tuesday of this week we made the transition to switch all existing content and domains for *The Independent & Free Press* online publication to the new Torstar Digital servers now used to host our editorial site.

However, because of this change users should not use any old bookmarks for *The Independent & Free Press* as the bookmarks will direct users to the main page of our sister paper—*The Brampton Guardian*.

Users should access *The Independent & Free Press* site: www.independentfreepress.com.

As well, this new system will only cater to the top 10 most used browsers and versions. Users should upgrade to one of the following browsers.

Internet Explorer 6+
FireFox 1.5+
Mozilla 1.5+
Opera
Safari

We apologize for the inconvenience caused by this work and hope to have the new and improved site in proper working order as soon as possible.

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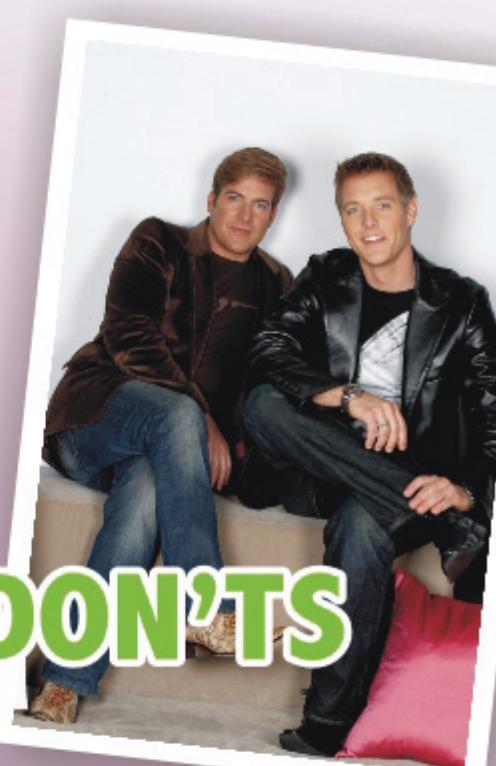
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