



Ground breaking for replacement library

The urgent need for a new Acton library was underscored on Friday when dignitaries, library officials and school kids waited in the rain as one of the invited guests, Acton's Sydney Weaver, was helped from her wheelchair and carried down the stairs so she could participate in the ground breaking ceremony on the front lawn of the River Street facility.

In her opening remarks at the ceremony, Jane Diamanti, the Director of Library Services, noted they loved the old library for more than 40 years and detailed what the new \$4.2-million library will mean to the community.

"First, we will have a facility that will be accessible to all, regardless of age or ability. Second, because it will be almost three times the size of the

current branch, we'll be able to have more collections in all formats, offer more public computers, provide a greater variety of reading, studying and conversation space. We will have a properly sized room dedicated to children's programming and, for the first time ever, we will have a meeting room for community use," Diamanti said, adding that the building will also have an

environmentally-friendly geothermal heating/cooling system.

Mayor Rick Bonnette called the ground breaking a "momentous occasion," and noted that the project is possible because of federal/provincial infrastructure stimulus grants that will cover two-thirds of the original cost.

Bonnette said public libraries have never been more relevant.

"It continues to be a place to seek knowledge, upgrade skills, share ideas and enjoy the best our culture has to offer... There's no doubt that the new Acton library will be a vibrant community hub - a place to come as a family to meet your neighbours and catch up with friends," Bonnette said.

Wellington-Halton Hills MP Michael Chong said he was "thrilled" to be at the ground breaking because libraries and education are two of the most important essential services that governments can provide.

Chong told the crowd, including Sydney Weaver whose dad carried her downstairs to the crowded children's library, that before there were paved roads and modern infrastructure, there was education and libraries because the pioneers who settled Wellington and Halton understood the value of learning.

"This new library is carrying on in that tradition. This is an essential service (and) not just for enriching individuals like Sydney (Weaver) but also for building the future prosperity of tomorrow," Chong said, adding that without learning, the kind of modern economy that Canada needs for the 21st century won't be built.

In a press release, Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott, the PC critic to the Minister of Culture that is responsible for libraries, said libraries serve a vital function.

"...They are the centre of culture and information in our communities,"

Arnott said, adding that even with federal and provincial money, the project would not be going ahead without the vision and creativity of the local council, staff and volunteers.

Project manager Geoff Cannon, Manager of Public Services, said that since the project was not in the budget until 2012 or 2013, staff is having a hard time believing it is finally happening. He pointed to the many "Believe It" signs around the site and "Believe It" T-shirts on staff and guests.

"Believe It - no more watching customers struggle to make it up or down the stairs. Believe It - no more wondering if we can jam another book on the shelf. Believe It - there will be rooms for studying..." Cannon said, adding the new library will be a "very green" building in a beautiful setting.

To receive the federal and provincial grants, the library must be complete by March 2011.

Crown
PAVING LTD.



Member of
Consumer Protection Bureau

www.crownpaving.com

Specializing in

- ▶ ASPHALT PAVING
- ▶ INTERLOCKING CONCRETE
- ▶ EXPOSED AGGREGATE
- ▶ STAMPED CONCRETE DRIVEWAYS
- ▶ RURAL PAVING
- ▶ PARKING LOTS
- ▶ WALKWAYS & CURBS
- ▶ GARAGE FLOORS
- ▶ EXCAVATION
- ▶ GRADING

BOOK NOW & SAVE!!!
www.crownpaving.com

LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED

Toll Free

1-888-695-7293 (PAVE)

Quality & Service

We use heavy-duty equipment for better compaction.
All work undertaken carries a written warranty. References proudly available

Acton Tire Stop

Tires + Wheels - New, Used, Repairs and Service

SPECIAL

Snow Tire Change Over - \$10 per tire
Includes balance and new valve

Quality/Service/Price with 24 years experience

Tel: 519-853-8530

www.besttiredeals.ca

12865, Hwy 25

Acton, ON.