

RECREATION: Residents, new council will have say

Library complex to transform into 'lifestyle centre'

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When the Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library and leisure centre were first constructed, residents complained it was too far out of town.

Now, the facility is slated to be expanded and become a "lifestyle centre" in the middle of the community, according to Carolyn Nordheimer James, the library's CEO.

About 50 residents attended the first information meeting last Thursday to get a high-level look at concept designs created by Diamond Schmitt Architects.

"By no means is it what we're going to be moving forward with, but it could be," said Micol Ongman, manger of recreation for the town.

Ms Nordheimer James said getting the layout of all of its components — second

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pool, fitness area, multipurpose space, older adults' area and library — is critical and "not just a bunch of disjointed activity centres plunked together in a green space".

Construction of the \$30.5-million project is expected to begin in 2016 and be completed in 2017. A gym expansion is proposed for 2019.

Part of the plan is to construct a facility

that will meet the demands of the community for the next 10 years, but also enable future expansions.

The concept drawings were based on the 2013 leisure facilities strategy update and 2012 library space requirement update.

The library is set to expand from about 14,215 to 36,131 square feet.

The 2012 report recommended the library needs to be about 36,000 square feet in size in order to accommodate a built-out population of 55,000.

Since that report, the municipality's population has been revamped and is now expected to reach 60,600 upon build-out in 2031.

"If we grow to 60,600 (residents), 36,000 square feet isn't going to be enough," Ms Nordheimer James said.

She added the new council, which takes

office Dec. 2, will have to look at the design and decide if they want to build a library now for 60,600 residents or wait and do another expansion down the road.

Construction of the \$30.5-million project is expected to begin in 2016 and be completed in 2017. A gym expansion is proposed for 2019.

Ms Nordheimer James is hoping the leisure centre/library expansion will be on their agenda early into their term.

A second community information meeting is slated for early May with a final report and recommendation expected to go before council in June.

IN OUR COMMUNITY



Back Row - L-R: Jason Stronach, Chris Baggs, Ben Weatherbee, Brayden Todd, Chris Leonard, Kevin Stevens, Dave Fockler
Front Row - L-R: Dr Bob Boadway, Hailey Boadway-Weatherbee (holding Dr. Bob's grand-daughter Paige Weatherbee), Max Wert, Quincy Boadway, Amber Boadway, Clay Huntley. Missing Players: Ken Burrows and Harrison Snowdon.

**Dr Bob's
Park Drive
Dental Centre
Hockey Team
Wins Gold
Patty Madigan
Charity
Tournament 2014**

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IN OUR COMMUNITY



Grand Re-opening of the Girls Bra Boutique

Marilyn Monroe made a surprise guest appearance for the re-opening of The Girls Bra Boutique. Councillor Susanne Hilton was on hand to cut the pink ribbon. After the ceremony, Marilyn entertained the group with a couple of her famous songs and helped serve champagne and chocolates to those joining in the festivities.

The Girls recently moved and is now located within the Chic Thrills shop at 6316 Main Street.
Call 905-642-3339 for more information.



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