

KFPL Report to the Board

Subject: Kingston East Library Service Community Consultation

Date: December 5, 2017

Prepared by: Laura Carter, Director, Branch Experience

Background:

In October 2017, the Library was presented with an opportunity to potentially join the Kingston East Community Centre (KECC) project and construct a new library branch in the KECC, which is to be built at the corner of Highway 15 and Grenadier Drive.

Stakeholders' consultation:

The level of community engagement for this project was determined to be consultation.

Feedback was sought through an online and paper survey on two questions between November 3 and 30, 2017. The questions were "What do you thinking of building a new library branch in the Kingston East Community Centre?" and "Are there other sites or options that you would like the library to consider when exploring relocation or expansion of library service in Kingston East?" A handout was developed to provide information on the KECC project and on some of the challenges of the current library space (see Appendix A).

An Open House was held on November 15, 2017 between 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. and 5:30 and 7:30pm at the Pittsburgh Branch. Members of the Library's management team and Library Board, along with Gerry Shoalts, from Shoalts and Zaback Architects (SZA) were present to answer questions and discuss the options for expanding library service. SZA designed the current library branch and have been engaged by the Library to study the options for expansion of library service in Kingston East. Their report will be presented at the January 2018 Library Board meeting.

Results:

39 people attended the open house on November 15, and 57 people submitted survey forms.

The results were as follows:

28 people wanted the library remain at the current site and renovate or expand; 1 person said the library should stay at the current site or should consider an alternate location in Greenwood Park.

25 people supported moving the library to the Kingston East Community Centre; 1 person chose KECC or an alternate location, and suggested somewhere near Startek on Innovation Drive.

2 people chose an alternate site and suggested one farther north up Hwy 15 in Countryside District and the former J.E. Horton Public School Building.

Concern was expressed for the future of the current library building if the library were to move, and comments were also made about the need to expand library hours at the Pittsburgh Branch.