



Edson & District Public Library

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Edson & District Public Library
4726 8 Ave.
Edson, Alberta,
T7E 1E3

November 20, 2023

We are excited to share with you that the renovation and expansion of the Edson & District Public Library is underway. Serving more than 13,000 people in Edson and the surrounding area, the library is the second most used public building in Edson with over 250 people on average coming through our doors each day.

Although the project has been fully funded by the Town of Edson, the Government of Alberta, and Yellowhead County, **we need your help to furnish the new spaces including an enlarged children's area, dedicated teen zone, and quiet room.** We are seeking donations from our community to raise \$250,000 for furniture, equipment and other expenses needed for our move back into the expanded and renovated building in the spring of 2024.

This project will add years of life to our facility, making it more welcoming, accessible, and inclusive to everyone in the community. Upgrades will increase energy efficiency, improve air quality, ensure code compliance, and address the needs of our patrons as identified during multiple public consultations.

Our goal is to reach and support all residents. Library membership, programming, and services including Wi-Fi and computer access are provided free of charge fulfilling important community needs. We provide a safe and accessible space for our patrons including children, teens, families, seniors, the Indigenous community, newcomers to Canada, those with special needs and vulnerable populations. We are attuned to the changing needs of the community and partner extensively with other agencies and organizations.

Donations of any size will be gratefully accepted to help furnish our new spaces. Tax receipts and various levels of public recognition including sponsorship opportunities inside the library are offered to celebrate and recognize our donors. The attached donor level and recognition list provides more details.

With your support, we will accomplish the revitalization of this essential public resource. Please see the additional information attached to learn more about this exciting project that will benefit our community and citizens for many years to come.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours truly,

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Teen Zone in Expanded Area



Children's Area

Edson & District Public Library Renovation and Expansion Project

Donor Levels and Recognition

We sincerely appreciate the vision and generosity of our donors without whom this project, so important to our community, would not become a reality.

Corporate Donors

Supporter: \$500 - \$2,999

- ☐ Donor wall recognition
- ☐ Recognition on library website project donor page, with prior consent
- ☐ Donor group recognition advertisement in local print media, with prior consent

Bronze: \$3,000 - \$9,999

- ☐ All recognition as per the Supporter Level
- ☐ Plus, recognition on library social media sites at the time of donation and photo in local print media, with prior consent.

Silver: \$10,000 - \$24,999

- ☐ All recognition as per the Bronze Level
- ☐ Plus, local press release at time of donation including photo with name on giant cheque, with prior consent
- ☐ And sponsorship opportunities for Furniture, Study Cubicles and Bookshelves. Please contact us for more information.

Gold: \$25,000 - \$49,999

- ☐ All recognition as per the Silver Level
- ☐ Plus, invitation to Donor Recognition Events such as Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies
- ☐ And sponsorship opportunities for Break Out Rooms, Book Collections and Displays. Please contact us for more information.

Platinum: \$50,000 +

- ☐ All recognition as per the Gold Level
- ☐ Plus, sponsorship opportunities for the Teen Zone, Multi-Use Room and Quiet Room. Please contact us for more information.

Individual Donors

Supporter: \$250 - \$499

Bronze: \$500 - \$999

Silver: \$1,000 - \$2,499

Gold: \$2,500 - \$4,999

Platinum: \$5,000 +

In Memorium

Recognition for our Individual Donors in these levels will include:

- ☐ Donor wall recognition
- ☐ Recognition on library website project donor page, with prior consent
- ☐ Donor group recognition advertisement in local print media, with prior consent

****Charitable donation tax receipts are available for any donation of \$20 or more.**

The floor plan of the University of the Pacific Library building is divided into several functional areas, each color-coded and labeled with its name and area in square meters (m²). The layout includes a central lobby, a large collections area, and various study and administrative spaces.

Room List and Areas:

- Pottery Room:** 102 m²
- Community Room:** 67 m²
- Art Club Room:** 68 m²
- Men:** 15 m²
- Women:** 18 m²
- Lobby:** 59 m²
- Work Room:** 29 m²
- Reference:** 31 m²
- Collections:** 292 m²
- Program:** 15 m²
- Computers:** 25 m²
- Office:** 10 m²
- Staff:** 11 m²
- Restrooms (A-K):**
 - A: 10 m²
 - B: 4 m²
 - C: 19 m²
 - D: 4 m²
 - E: 3 m²
 - F: 6 m²
 - G: 11 m²
 - H: 4 m²
 - J: 4 m²
 - K: 15 m²

Other Features:

- Courtyard:** Located between the Pottery/Community rooms and the Office/Work Room.
- North Arrow:** Located in the bottom left corner, pointing towards the top left.
- Entrance:** Indicated by a large white arrow pointing into the Lobby area.
- Staircase:** Located near the entrance, adjacent to the Lobby and Art Club Room.
- Seating:** Rows of tables and chairs are shown in the Collections and Program areas.
- Computer Terminals:** A row of computer terminals is shown in the Computers area.

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Library After Renovation & Expansion

Quiet Room

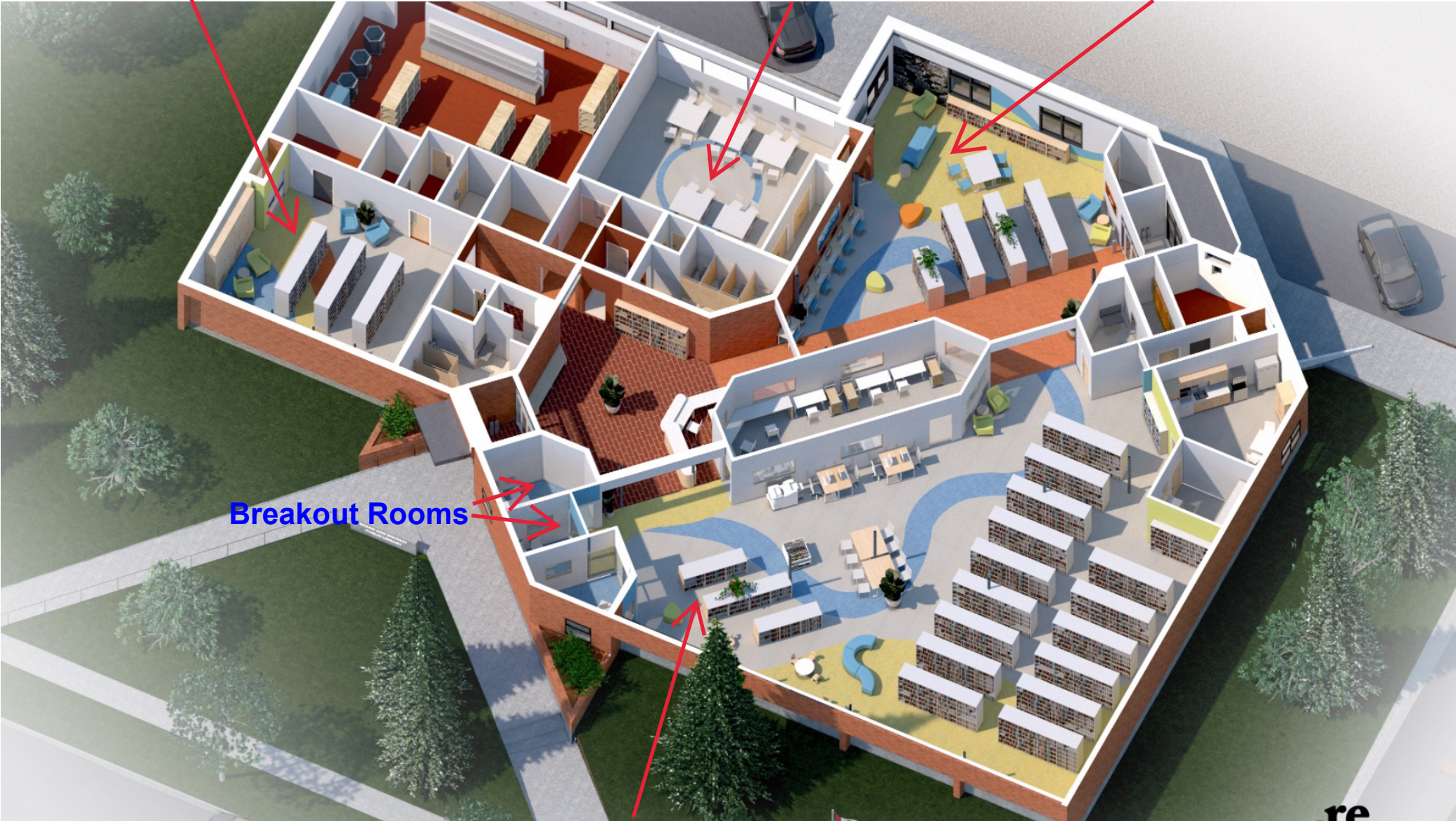
Multi-Use Room

Teen Zone

Breakout Rooms

Children's Area

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Edson & District Public Library Renovation and Expansion

Project Background and Details

The driving force behind this project was a decade of public consultations which consistently identified the need for an accessible and inclusive design with more space for activities and programming, defined areas for children and teens, dedicated quiet areas and room to expand and diversify our physical collection.

Since it was built in 1981, our present library's service population has more than doubled to over 13,000 residents. We provide essential services to our community by creating a place where everyone is welcome and safe. We offer:

- ☐ Free membership
- ☐ A physical collection that includes books, magazines, games, movies, and music
- ☐ Public access to information through free use of computers and Wi-Fi
- ☐ Both physical and online information and resources with one-on-one assistance, as needed
- ☐ Free programming for children, teens, and other groups

Libraries of the past were quiet, with books to browse or study. Today, libraries not only house books and provide quiet spaces for individual pursuits but also offer programming and access to information and the tools needed to succeed today and into the future. Services are helpful to many in the community but essential to those who may not have access to resources to improve their lives: books, computers, and 'hands-on' help from library staff. Libraries are a vital part of community development and resiliency.

Free computer access, Wi-Fi, and loanable hubs for at home use are provided by the library in a region with limited internet options, particularly for our rural patrons. These services are vital for underserved and high needs people who cannot afford technology and/or internet or have an unreliable internet connection. Library staff also support many employees from various sectors who use the library frequently for completing training certifications, exams, and corporate onboarding.

In consultation with the public, including Indigenous and marginalized community members, we developed a design that is welcoming and inclusive to all our patrons. The design focuses on repurposing available spaces, in-filling the courtyard to expand the usable area, addressing energy efficiency, safety and code compliance issues and includes:

- ☐ barrier free access into and throughout the building,
- ☐ updated accessible washroom facilities and new universal washrooms,
- ☐ a new quiet room for reading and study,
- ☐ a new teen zone,
- ☐ and an expanded children's area.

Revitalization of the children's area and the addition of a teen zone were two very important considerations in the design. The library provides one of the few safe places for teens and children to gather in our community outside of school and sports venues. Many of them come to the library after school before going home. After recent funding cuts and subsequent closure of the local Boys' and Girls' Club and Parent Link, the demand for this service has become even greater.

The dedicated teen zone has been added with their needs in mind, providing a welcoming afterschool space for teens to read, game and socialize in a safe and positive environment leaving parents confident

that their teens are staying out of trouble. It will encourage healthy social development and face-to-face collaboration, allowing them to spend time together, do homework and play board games, with a chalk board to encourage artistic expression and dialogue.

The larger, brighter, and revitalized children's area will have more room to play, explore, and learn, giving children and their parents a place to meet other families. It will provide opportunities to expand programs aimed at new parents and their children to foster the development of early childhood literacy and socialization skills.

Feedback expressed by our patrons for many years has highlighted the lack of quiet spaces in the library for study and reading. The new design includes a separate room to provide a retreat from the main library area for those who prefer to be in a quieter environment. This room will be furnished with study carrels and comfortable seating areas for reading and relaxation.

Two breakout rooms have been added for tutoring, exam invigilation, learning English as another language (EAL), telecommuting and in-person meetings. These rooms will also serve as accessible spaces for patrons who need quiet space for sensory regulation. The building design includes a beadwork inspired mural created by local Indigenous artists that will be painted on the exterior wall of the expansion and a circle with universal significance will be incorporated into the floor of the public meeting space.

Renovations will remove doors, walls, and uneven flooring transitions to eliminate barriers for patrons with mobility challenges. Two universal washrooms will be added and the existing men's and women's washrooms will be renovated to provide code compliant barrier free access and facilities. The aisles between shelving stacks will be widened and dead ends removed to make them navigable for those with mobility aids.

Access into the building will be improved by replacing the front entrance ramp and stairway, resurfacing the parking area, adding barrier free parking stalls, and upgrading the sidewalks. Improving access into and throughout the library will allow more individuals with disabilities and physical challenges to enjoy the library and all that we offer to our patrons.

Our library is a communal, flexible space that accommodates a wide variety of activities where people come to learn, think, discuss, and create. This project will revitalize our library and ensure that the quality of this essential resource is maintained and enhanced well into the future.