

To the Mayor and Councillors for the City of Guelph,

Under normal circumstances we would have address this letter to our Ward Councillors' Gibson and Bell, along with Mayor Guthrie, but feel they don't share our view on the new library. We hope you will be kind enough to consider our views on the issue of the Main Library.

So here we go again. This issue of a new library in the downtown core has been debated and debated for nearly 3 decades or more and it needs to come to an end. It was passed by council and yet we are back at the tables. The issue of building the Library has not changed and the only vote should be on the new location.

Our main library desperately needs to be replaced. Who wants patrons and staff to be exposed on a constant bases to a building that is need of repairs (being faced with asbestos in the building, inadequate heating and most of all accessibility options for patrons). In light of what we are face with during a pandemic I believe library is even more essential now. There has been endless hours and money spent on this issue and we feel that it is time the Mayor and Councillors get together and work as a team. It is also no surprise to that the Mayor has never been supportive of the Library, putting his interests ahead of the city as a whole.

As a responsible city and those who have been given the privilege of being the guardians of our interests it is time to stop talking and start doing. The length of delays have cost us the taxpayers far too much money not to mention the costs that keep going up as time goes on trying to get this project off the ground. We need the library now in the downtown core to take place.

There are other areas of the city that need attention to services but the issue at hand is the a new library and that should take precedence. The debate has gone long enough - you Mayor Guthrie and Councillors need to act NOW.

Regards,
Bryan and Susan Neath