

Thursday October 1, 2020

To Guelph City Council,

I am writing to express my very strong belief that as a city we need to move forward with the plan to build the new library in the downtown core. As an institution the library is an integral part of a kind and caring community that offers **all** citizens access to support and materials to enrich their lives. I am a constant user of the library as a member of 2 book clubs and a big reader. I have also been able to see the 3-D printer in action and have received help with a genealogy search. The library is not just about books; it is about curiosity, lifelong learning and community.

When my children were young the library was their first exposure to an institution and their first piece of ID. They were proud and excited to have a place to go, borrow books and get homework help.

The current building that houses the main library is a mess! The elevator and washrooms are substandard and we as a city have to continually spend money on that space but never fixing main problems. This is bad management and a waste of money.

Please be forward thinking and see that a new main library is a very good investment in our community, good for the downtown and the city. Since Covid we have seen many businesses in the downtown core falter. The library would be a destination for many. It would bring more people into the area and they would spend money. We should avoid a boarded up downtown with no real reason to come there – nothing ruins a city faster!

Best regards,

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