

Central Library Focus Group Results - February 2008

4 <i>Business & Merchants</i>	2 <i>Municipal (Councillors/HRM Staff)</i>	3 <i>Arts Community</i>	5 <i>Teens</i>	1 <i>Library Board/ Capital Campaign Steering Committee</i>	6 <i>Community Partnerships</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take older citizen's needs into account • Library services for age 15-65 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collection quality & depth - Linkages to other facilities & services - Meeting rooms - Partnerships • Distinguish between Needs and Benefits / Opportunity for Community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Arts - Concepts / Auditorium - Lectures - Public Space for Art, Literature, Performance • Strengthen other branches - (Politics & Reality) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Better /Enriched collection - Better delivery - Programs - possible because of Central - with out-shoots - "Field trips" Build Library use - Allows branches to focus on local communities - Tourism Destination • Library appearance - attractive - transparent • Skateboard example Commons vs. Local Community All build interest • Can it be all things to all people?? Must be careful to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify needs / desires / and what is not -desirable • Devonian Gardens Concept • Natural Light • No Publications of Spaces (Theatres Neptune ex.) • Vison • Bringing people to live and work downtown • Figure out Synergies • Need Programming • Space - Fun, Dynamic • Unique - Better than Theatre • Public Consultation • Size of Programming Space - Under 250?? • Flexibility • Architecture - So Not reflect Historic Arch. • Not Square • A Beacon • Strong Demand • Opportunities could be missed - Can be too flexible - Not good for Anything • Technology Challenge / Opportunity • Building for future technologies, needs generations • Public Archives • Quiet Room in a noisy city • Local History resource • Access to music...movies, Podcasts • Open. Accessible - Blown away 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Film Coop uses existing library room for screening; use other space as well - repertory cinema in town - could be used for regular programming (100 seats optimum) • Can it be used for other types of programs. Projection booth. • Library 'model' - for library school students - interns • Learning spaces for community • Places to meet, to congregate-programming room • Reach out to diverse population • An escape- refuge • Common ground space - connection to world of ideas • Library should meet our greatest aspirations • Library ought to represent the best of what it should be • Represent culture of Nova Scotia - friendly • Public outdoor space; openness & receptivity; physical qualities important; green space • Space for older adults • Incorporating local arts & artisans works; gallery space • Discovery Centre • 24 hour function • Local history & planning/ design centre, ongoing laboratory • building - impact on city • Workshops in library, experiential learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • meeting spaces • research/homework • groups around computer - access to headphones or quiet rooms • For higher grades at school we go to Killam Library at Dalhousie • practice for SATS etc.. • amenities - café like to eat - come during lunch • rent video games (bigger collection) • video game stations • don't read books on computer • round tables • internet access • squishy cool chairs for computers • SMART BOARD – meeting room specific for teens • don't want the new spaces to be too impersonal • like light/glass • glass walls- to let in natural light • specific task lighting • laptop plugs • incorporate the older architecture • tying in the old • BUT - good to still move towards the future • creative space • private spaces • better, faster computers • film-making space • ART GALLERY for partner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is 'Central Library' the right term for this building? • Define the 'Mission' and the 'Message' • Technology opportunities • Physical Embodiment of social networking • Innovation centre; learning centre • A meeting place of the minds and imagination • Synergy; commons; people place; facilitator • Investment in future of Halifax • Lack of capacity in existing building • No good public space • Redefine the "Library" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -meeting place -Tech. training centre -focal point in downtown -destination; re-energize area -capacity-building for knowledge -smart city -better access to technology information -defining new public space -better space; readers & users; programs; collections -collaboration & catalyst -engagement -community understanding <p>A place where Halifax comes together to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • meet • learn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessibility and the perception of accessibility • Face Out / Visibility of materials • Local History / Genealogy currently in public archives, not needed in Central Library except in Partnership • Spring Garden Library has collection as well • Local Genealogy society looking for public venue • Work in partnership with Public Archives - maximize use of resources • Architectural Character - Glass Openness / <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - something that fits in to environment - urban design, important - visibility into the building is important - understanding what the building is from outside - how to access • Emphasis on Public in Public Library • Inside and outside space • Room for teens - focused space • Gardens - indoor /outdoor contemplative green space • Community Meeting rooms & Auditorium. Warm welcoming 200 - 250 Seat Comfortable Seats Flexibility • Auditorium... Presentation. Bells & Whistles

4 <i>Business & Merchants</i>	2 <i>Municipal (Councillors/HRM Staff)</i>	3 <i>Arts Community</i>	5 <i>Teens</i>	1 <i>Library Board/ Capital Campaign Steering Committee</i>	6 <i>Community Partnerships</i>
<p>focus resources - use Partnerships - leverage different sources of Financing/ Sponsorship</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Library spin-off Synergy for surrounding development - Economic growth Aesthetics - World Class Design Balancing Vision and program scope - for now and the future Look at Urban Growth Models + 30,000 - 50,000 pop. 	<p>by what's inside</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Think Big - Non-traditional Glass Diamond Leed silver target - celebrate this in Public building Demonstration Building Public Leadership in Design, Quality of Public space Iconic...Functional using space economically Relationship of Retail - food - to Library program Partnering opportunities Gift Shops -? Profits? Real Restaurants Relationship to Infirmiry site - 3 Frontages Opportunity for Revenue generation Public Art Archives ? Naming, Selling Program Components "Art Show" concerning vision for Central Library (display of building concepts) Multi-faceted, Momentum Thinking of educational / training opportunities for school/colleges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Green Don't miss the opportunity Universal access Partnerships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auditorium space for local schools Atlantic Film Co-op as partnership Place to show movies - comfortably Video, Game Room Wii Room TYPING TUTORS Children's Room seating Different books & collections Ex. Collections for books small, cozy areas in meeting areas uses the website a lot to put books on hold young adult section have DVD's & music longer time allowed on computers shorter wait times for computers computers in meeting rooms printing (colour) more scanners, printers, computers SGL 2 printers - B/W Screening Room - small theatre place for plays Wii stations more books - bigger range (varied) want to find books easier GPS for books/library locations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> big, modern, fun Like "BRAIN" library Bright, windows, relaxing, films, theatre partner in film school - screening more books more light, natural, environment, waterfall 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> exchange ideas relax read renew discover be amazed build the future 	<p>All the technology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Don't place computers / technology on room perimeter views / etc.. Armchairs - comfortable space Computer keyboards in different languages Food & beverages - services important Don't compete with bookstores on Spring Garden Rd. Construction materials conscious of environmental sensitivities Building life-cycle - 50 years? Parking -TBD - agreement that parking (some amount) should be built - needs to be highly accessible Tourists - email Different appropriate spaces for different groups Don't forget the Books!! Programming - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boardroom for non-profits Meeting spaces Flexibility important but sound isolation is vital

4 <i>Business & Merchants</i>	2 <i>Municipal (Councillors/HRM Staff)</i>	3 <i>Arts Community</i>	5 <i>Teens</i>	1 <i>Library Board/ Capital Campaign Steering Committee</i>	6 <i>Community Partnerships</i>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenhouse library - trees inside/rooftop • Studio workshop space • Soccer field in library • Partner with Bull - Dog Interactive fitness • PSP - Playstation Portable • Studios - for art, printing, sun place, music playing, workshops, "artistic expression" • age appropriate activities • career - resume building "Career Works" - CAREER RESOURCES IN ADDITION TO WHAT'S PROVIDED AT SCHOOL • able to come to library to build extra skills 		