

A vital city service

William Kennaley

The Kitchener Public Library has been an important part of my life almost from the day of my arrival in Kitchener more than 40 years ago.

Apart from the usual city services such as water, sewer and public safety services, no other City of Kitchener facility has been used by me as much as the library.

I cannot recall being in the Kitchener Memorial Auditorium, for example, more than two dozen times. Even so, I would not for a minute suggest that its role in the community should be downgraded in any way. Similarly for the pools, soccer pitches, ball diamonds and other recreational facilities the taxpayers provide.

But my use of the public library has been continuous and, at times during my life here, almost daily. During my working career I used libraries all over this continent. Until recently few were the equal of our library. Its range and quality of services for a city this size is fantastic.

Now, cities and towns as widely scattered as West Palm Beach, Fla., Richmond, B.C. (and even the Hespeler branch of the Cambridge Public Library), have newly built and renovated their libraries to accommodate the future.

The Kitchener Public Library needs new space and modern plans. Its board has developed do-able and cost effective plans for providing them.

I believe those plans are worthy of the support of every citizen and I urge every user of the library to ensure that our councillors know that the public supports these plans.

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Kitchener