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**Theme Wall Responses  
Public Consultation Meeting #5  
November 04, 2010**

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**Does the design meet your needs and desires?**

**First Floor**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Things are meeting our needs.</li><li>• We are glad you listened. Thank you!</li><li>• We love it.</li><li>• We really love the top floor space and can see it becoming a very popular “adult hang out.” Kudos!</li><li>• Love that the main program is on the first floor at street level.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Still not a feel as a library i.e. lacks books.</li><li>• Book drop off access without getting out of car ie mailbox at curbside Queen Street like Post Office.</li><li>• How serious would you like us to take you when you joke about accessibility of books that high?</li><li>• Design of book wall.</li><li>• Art integrated into the book wall so people won't want to dismantle it.</li><li>• Good positioning of new books and DVD's in easy access as opposed to third, fourth and fifth floor.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Looks good. Glass at elevators like Mic Mac Mall.</li><li>• Underground parking and access from there via stairs or elevator to first floor - number of access points.</li><li>• Escalators as opposed to stairs as majority of demographics is elderly.</li><li>• Is the focal point the stairs or could it be art?</li><li>• Don't go cheap with budget costs (main stair flimsy?)</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Do we really need another 2 cafés on Spring Garden Road?</li><li>• Reach out more at ground level at café, at city room to the street, to the school, to the south past the garden.</li><li>• The café must have a terrace.</li><li>• One of the cafés should be a gift shop related to learning, creative materials, bags.</li><li>• Who will operate the café? Prefer non-franchise.</li><li>• Can the coffee shop be locally run?</li><li>• Community bulletin board. One central location. Near coffee shop?</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Like lots of seating and interesting furniture.</li><li>• Seating outside. Current wall around library.</li><li>• Seating diversity – older population.</li><li>• Chairs – higher and rear plastic.</li></ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bicycle racks.</li> <li>• Covered bike rack.</li> <li>• It would be great to have covered exterior bike racks.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parking.</li> <li>• Drive-thru drop-off in underground parking.</li> <li>• Address parking.</li> <li>• Why only one level of parking?</li> <li>• Nothing to do with children, but why is there a full floor of parking if the building encourages sustainability? The site is well served by public transit.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Playful, inviting spaces; nice contrast from traditional library atmosphere.</li> <li>• Multi-use city space.</li> <li>• After hours use of program space at a reasonable cost.</li> <li>• Space for a group to view a movie.</li> <li>• Use of city space as general lounge/reading/teenage “slouch” space.</li> <li>• How does the city space south wall open?</li> <li>• Doing too many things with the city place but potentially nothing well. Make it a real performance space.</li> <li>• Kitchenette for city space.</li> <li>• City space needs infrastructure for performances.</li> <li>• Street-scape. Outside spaces. Plaza.</li> <li>• Will the city space be flexible enough for study/reading space?</li> <li>• Is there a space for protest?</li> <li>• Use of city room . What can take place? Is there after hours access?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public art.</li> <li>• Local art. Minimum percentage at least.</li> <li>• Great idea for public art. Wonderful opportunity for local artists!</li> <li>• Ensure the art is taken care of properly - care and curation.</li> <li>• Public shows for art installation.</li> <li>• Pleased about the recognition of art in the library. Will there be opportunity for public input?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wheelchair friendly building.</li> <li>• Wheelchair friendly drop-off.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transportation options. Mobility mix. Bikes transit, car-share.</li> <li>• Pull in area for cars off main streets.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water fountains?</li> <li>• Water features on the outside – fountain?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Durability. Sustainability. Maintenance. Materials utilized.</li> <li>• Durable flooring. Sound absorbent. Washable.</li> <li>• Will the building be easily maintained? How will it look in 10 years?</li> <li>• Maintain quality of finishes – tactile wood, leather, materials.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety of users, washrooms and around building.</li> <li>• Vandal-proof.</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep lighting. Sound and light.</li> <li>• Like openness and light.</li> <li>• Sound up through atrium. Noise and clarity transfer to upper levels.</li> <li>• Silent areas?</li> <li>• Noise.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coat check or coat room?</li> <li>• Provision for coats.</li> <li>• People can be more comfortable if they can check coats during winter months.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Periodical access coming in – entry?</li> <li>• Indication of entry?</li> <li>• Flexibility of the backroom support, specified making it modular to entrance. Flexibility of redesigned.</li> <li>• Security around circulation and multiple entries.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where is the reference section?</li> <li>• Should there be a dedicated “reference” desk?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Think about longevity of stylistic choices. Purple and orange?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long-term vision for expansion. Outward? Inward?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Winter garden will be destroyed by future development.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What happened to the outside plaza? There was no discussion or additional information.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stronger connection to Spring Garden Road.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public square. Movement through to street sides.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affiliation, connections with universities.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kiosk for information on main floor. City cultural library.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Question with holds being out of view. Who will ensure they would not be mixed up?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Language of “living.”</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extend working hours to 7 days a week.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suggestion for a MoMa type of shop, like the Vancouver public library has.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Circulation – staffed. Desks as well as self-check out.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collection issues. Make it easy to find. Catalogue/signage.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bulletin boards.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flexibility of open design.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep warmth in winter.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How will it stand up in a hurricane?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has air circulation been addressed?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do the wind tests to see effects in and outside of the building.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do the birds react to the glass building?</li> </ul>

## Second Floor

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Preschool space.</li><li>• With all the glass and open spaces, will there be anywhere to display “art” that the children might make in their programs and craft spaces?</li><li>• Young children (and parents) will use the elevator. The elevators are in the teen area away from the young children area. Either elevator needs to change or spaces need to be reversed.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gallery/exhibition space for children’s art work – in the children/teen area?</li><li>• Young persons art gallery on this floor.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stroller security.</li><li>• Strollers great.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nursing moms.</li><li>• Is there a place for nursing mothers?</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Things for adults to do while watching children – computers, reading, seating, information access.</li><li>• What do parents do while children are playing on the second floor? Is there and adult “scale” to the area, reading material?</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Make it work for kids – sitting on the floor with soft cushions.</li><li>• Furnishings scaled for small children.</li><li>• Floor mosaic for kids.</li><li>• Nooks for children to read. Love the tube.</li><li>• Open space is great but little nooks are really conducive to reading and all ages should have access to these varieties.</li><li>• Big comfy chairs for parents and children to read together.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• With so much glass walls, where will children’s art work be displayed?</li><li>• Will there be display space available on the backs of book shelves perhaps?</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Will the railings around the atrium opening be child climbing proof?</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Is music area too small? If not functional, it won’t be used. Will teens bring own instruments? How large a group or will it just be a remix studio?</li><li>• Music space big enough for a band.</li><li>• Instruments to borrow e.g. a drum kit.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Challenge of site lines to music lots. Ensure there’s appropriate behavior.</li><li>• Sight lines.</li><li>• Site lines for staff – no hidden corners.</li><li>• Delineation between spaces especially using different materials to create “feel.”</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We are concerned that the glass will allow too much light in and may fade the books or the children’s finger prints may be all over the glass.</li><li>• Glare on computers.</li><li>• How will the glazing affect your views of the computer screens? Glare.</li></ul>

- Teens are generally loud. Seems strange that they have the double height space.
- Food is important to teens. They'll all be in the café. What about teens all alone on fifth floor. Drama.
- Separating teens from adults. Not meeting needs. Questions.
- Teen socializing is good.
- Teen café. Quiet vs. noisy spaces for all age groups.
- How will teens feel being on the same floor as very young children?
- Activities/games on one side of teens/children's area and study on the other.
- Teen area. Have a number of cheap reading tablets that people can sign out that will have books loaded on them and staff can load new or requested books or short stories on them.
- How can the teen area express the value of books as well as provide the usual teen magnet technology?
- Large projection screen in the front in the teen sections would facilitate movie screenings.
- I would like a divider or something between teen and kids area or another floor.

- Are study areas glassed-in? Quiet?
- How do we make the teen study area quiet beside open space/sound recording studio?
- Can the arcade be monitored for violent content? Can it be situated next to a study room?

- Program space – flex space to open up teen area (#9).
- More specific program space. Individual, small groups, medium groups. Not just furniture.
- Noise from program space. Flexibility.
- Big program room should have sliding doors.

- Have you put any thought into the possibility of the ability of blocking off the performance space if it gets too loud which is great but how will it affect other users?
- Noise absorbing furniture. Well designed. Nice furnishings in this well designed building like book tree.
- Noise concerns with open space. Study next to program. Noise through atrium.
- Will noise and circulation be contained?
- Physical light etc. noise.
- Noise levels going up through the atrium.
- Youth. Noise/dropping stuff on the first floor.
- Sound of the "activities" carrying throughout the building could be an issue.
- Good acoustics. Limit the travel of sound.
- Sound absorption especially in children's spaces.

- Monitoring computers.
- Maybe the atrium should have computers for people watching.

- Mitigation heat/cold.
- Would like to know more about heating and cooling of the people.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• French books for kids and teens.</li> <li>• Needs a room for language translation for visitors from other countries.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generally we are pleased with the design of the second floor.</li> <li>• Instead of child floor and adult floor have different floors with different feels and people can seek out what they want.</li> <li>• Combination of children's and teens on same floor. Need for clear definition between the two. Lack of clear definition might be less ideal for teens. What would you call this floor?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do you have any dim spaces?</li> <li>• Work with ceilings to articulate space differences.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can the fretting be photo sensitive in an affordable way?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Different rooms with different feels might be more accessible than categorizing every level by age.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steps – good design</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bike cages/lock ups.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Tech lab” to test new technology and teach people to use it.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elevator access. Parking to upper level is a big distance.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Switch rooms 9 and 10.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff located where?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Living wall? Plants.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why orange color? Photo sensitive glass. Season - can the color change? Like the bold design element but not loving the color.</li> </ul>

### Third/Fourth/Fifth Floors

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion on parking, costs, access.</li> <li>• Parking? Less is best.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Used furniture may be from the old library. Themes. Materials – wood, glass, etc.</li> <li>• Furniture must be suitable for adults.</li> <li>• Is the furniture making all the spaces? Can the architecture define space? How flexible is too flexible?</li> <li>• Furniture selection needs to have some sturdiness.</li> <li>• Requires individualized furniture that will age well.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional collection space behind the scenes.</li> <li>• Free formal meeting space for public use.</li> <li>• Flexible classroom/meeting space? Formal and informal.</li> <li>• Flexibility of meeting rooms is key.</li> <li>• Reservations for meeting space.</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Like the Halifax Living Room.</li> <li>• Living walls?</li> <li>• Glass floor area on 5<sup>th</sup> level – Halifax Living Room.</li> <li>• Proportions of living room space? Mechanical can be on floor plate reducing by half.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Round corners – soften some corners. Recognize rounded corners influence sight line. Difficult to watch.</li> <li>• Soften impact of the fifth floor boxy design.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical environment. Heat, light, etc.</li> <li>• Heating concerns. All glass. Hard to heat i.e. no solar panels.</li> <li>• How will the glass be for heating the building? How will it be heated? Any use of solar panels or other green technology? Sustainable architecture (taught by Kim Thompson at Dal) would be something worth looking into incorporating. Earch plaster and such. Very interesting stuff.</li> <li>• What is the heating/cooling system?</li> <li>• Too much light in summer for heat or viewing screens?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can local history area be emphasized? Special collection. Museum aspect. Attraction for tourists/ destination. For school kids.</li> <li>• Local Nova Scotian flora on roof with bird feeders.</li> <li>• Need staff in Local History room.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are there curtains or means to control light at different times of the day in different spaces to ensure although open that all space is usable at all times of the day.</li> <li>• Are adult learning rooms able to be darkened enough for presentations?</li> <li>• Desk lamps – for personal light adjustment.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three cafés seem excessive for one intersection.</li> <li>• Cafés: Smell of coffee. A lot of cafés inside and around the library. Coffee and books...?</li> <li>• Who is running/owning these cafés? Can we ensure that these be local? Not Tim's.</li> <li>• Too many coffee shops.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visual language that identifies which zone you are in on the floor. Way finding vocabulary. "Hey! Meet me on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor at _____."</li> <li>• Way finding? Flow of building – is it an intuitive flow?</li> <li>• How are non-fiction stacks planned for way finding? Technology within catalogue to give location?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study area should switch with glass room/program room.</li> <li>• The square study areas (2/4/6 people) able to reserve by study group (high school, college)?</li> <li>• Is gaming space next to study area? Sound?</li> <li>• Are there silent rooms or areas in the building or are the study cells the only quiet spaces?</li> <li>• Like the study cells! Flexible spaces are good.</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will sound travel up the atrium? We hope not.</li> <li>• Acoustic materials/furnishings.</li> <li>• Acoustics will be a challenge.</li> <li>• Silent areas?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Designated Mi'kmaq history/language/knowledge and Black History space. Community consultation on development of this.</li> <li>• Dedicated reference desk and librarian.</li> <li>• What is local history? How does it fit with the Public Archives? Will it include history of African Nova Scotians?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacity for collection to grow? Weed out collection.</li> <li>• Collection issues. Easy to find. Catalogue/signage.</li> <li>• Where will periodicals go?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sensitive separation of integration of various types of people and ages (e.g. elderly, homeless).</li> <li>• Quiet area from second floor for parents and children.</li> <li>• Very wary of segregated youth/adult programming (and labeling). Also, adults are watching over youth via atrium.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seating diversity – older population.</li> <li>• Furnishings to accommodate different needs – materials, hard/soft, height.</li> <li>• You are always talking about soft seating. That sounds uncomfortable to me. I would prefer well-designed, comfortable, firm, easy to keep clean seating.</li> <li>• Love the bar seating – include lots of it!</li> <li>• Flooring types?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to download books onto computer pads?</li> <li>• Are there enough computers?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Music room/space for adults.</li> <li>• Listening stations for music?</li> <li>• Music lab to include listening lab?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They're taken care of most/all of our ideas. Making the top floor public was the biggest/best idea.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We're more likely to meet people, friends and teammates in this building where there is so much flexible space. Hooray.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lots of room for the art and we really like this.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should information desk and circulation desks be separate?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A gathering place where we don't need to spend money.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work to achieve distinguished and different feels between the floors.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How will the building weather and how will it look? Sustainability technology.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have the building be a learning experience in itself. Make mechanical and other system visible.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Escalators please.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People watching from upper floors.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will there be enough cozy nooks?</li> </ul>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Glass projection screen of one outdoor wall, for public screening. Maybe partner with the Film Festival?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Book tree in adult section.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• View telescopes – ocean, city, night sky.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Listening zone for all ages (not just teens).</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Traffic flow from glass rooms/programs to elevator and washroom could be hectic and distracting to everyone.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the post information age removes the need for public information/data access do we have any thoughts on what the building can be used for?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reference/remembering the old library in the new to help make the transition.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We want happy staff – lots of space for them!</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan for future use (data changing – cloud computing).</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bicycle access and storage.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instead of paying fines people should have the option of cleaning the glass!</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prefer adult area over rest of building.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will the annual Jazz Fest be held along the ground floor/city space?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will Sexton Library (Dal Campus) be incorporated into the public library or will university students have access to the services through Novanet?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can we borrow and trade out?</li> </ul>