

Halifax Central Library

Fact Sheet



Significant dates

1994	Talk of a new Central Library begins
2006	Best location determined to be Spring Garden Road and Queen Street
August 12, 2008	Approved by council
February 6, 2008	First round of public consultations for Building Program & Space Requirements
October 2009	Canada and Nova Scotia funding support confirmed
March 30, 2010	HRM Council commits money and approves architects
June 10, 2010	Second round of public consultations for Building Design
December 2, 2010	Public art process begins
November 2, 2011	Groundbreaking for construction

Visit <http://www.halifaxcentrallibrary.ca/timeline.html> for more dates.

Dollars

\$23,700,000 funding from Halifax Regional Municipality

\$18,300,000 funding from federal government's Build Canada Fund

\$13,000,000 funding from government of Nova Scotia

Noteworthy Features & Facts

- 900,000 people expected to visit in the first year
- 300 capacity City Space on the first floor is double the height, highly flexible, and can be subdivided for a range of diverse and multicultural events
- 3 creative studios allow for music recording, art, and creative workshops
- 2 plazas planned by HRM as prominent outdoor public spaces in front and back
- 2 cafés might be the most surprising feature as drinks and food are now welcomed in the library environment on the first and top floors. The café is a commercial space that will be open outside of Library hours
- 2 types of study spaces will allow groups to privately gather and discuss and 'niches' for individual use
- Halifax Living Room on the fifth floor is likely to become the main feature due to its dramatic view of downtown Halifax and Citadel Hill
- Book Tree in the children's area is a sculptural feature for creative play with books and toys
- Memorial display on the fourth floor by the Local History collection is one of the key attractions
- Gaming area for school age children (5-12) features fun and funky seating
- 'Spring Garden' façade recalls the old garden formerly located on the site and demonstrates a popular design style called ceramic frit
- Landscaped green roof is another reference to the old 'spring garden' and the Library's highest point

