



St. Marys
Community Commons

Love your Library. Build a Legacy.

THE PROPOSAL

Library Expansion

- The Library is in need of space to grow our programs and services. The last investment in additional space was in 1988. Library services have changed a lot since then - we now offer computers, makerspaces, and diverse lendable items. We also provide a full range of programs for all ages to attend. To continue to offer all of this, we need to grow!

Downtown Revitalization

- The New Community Commons will transform a derelict building in the downtown core into Library and community space! With the Library as the anchor tenant and with the community's support, the space will transform into a welcoming destination where our community can meet, explore, learn, delight and grow skills for the future.

Community Space Growth

- As the Province and the Town encourage higher-density development, residents will have less personal space and will need places to gather. The Community Commons at 14 Church Street will provide opportunities for community connection, supporting the Town's growth plans.

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE THIS HAPPEN





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COMMUNITY CHALLENGES

Participation in Library and Town delivered programs is at an all-time high. There is pent-up demand for programs for youth, adults, and seniors and the current space is limiting growth and participation in programs.

- The Library's 2024 space needs review identified the Library will need an additional 2,638 sq.ft by 2034.
- The public service impacts of retiring Baby Boomers are forecasted to peak in the mid-to-late 2030s through to the 2040s. This demographic is already creating increased demand on public services, particularly at the Friendship Centre (50+) and Museum. Both service areas now need additional space to keep up with program demands.
- As social issues grow more complex, service agencies such as Adult Learning, Employment Services, Ontario Works (OW), Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP), and Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) are working to meet clients in the community but have no dedicated space. A coordinated, wrap-around approach is needed using a shared facility.
- Small rural communities face out-migration of youth and young families. The community needs programs that help youth feel connected to their community so they return as adults. The Town also needs to be an attractive place for young families to settle.

COMMUNITY SOLUTION

The Town of St. Marys purchased 14 Church Street North with a vision to create additional programming and service partner spaces in the downtown core.

Through a public-led process, a master plan has been developed to renovate the building. This includes:

Programming space for the Library, Friendship Centre, Museum, and Early Learning Services;

Permanent space for Adult Learning, and shared meeting spaces for social service agencies to collaborate;

Flexible spaces for service clubs, community groups, the arts, and the general public to use for various needs.

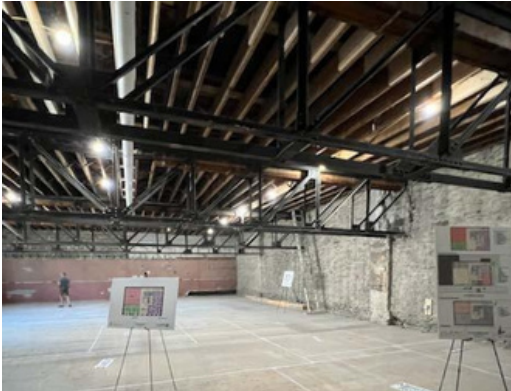


The Library is excited to move programming to the Commons, as well as the Adult Learning Program and Friends of the Library storage.



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GROUND FLOOR PLAN





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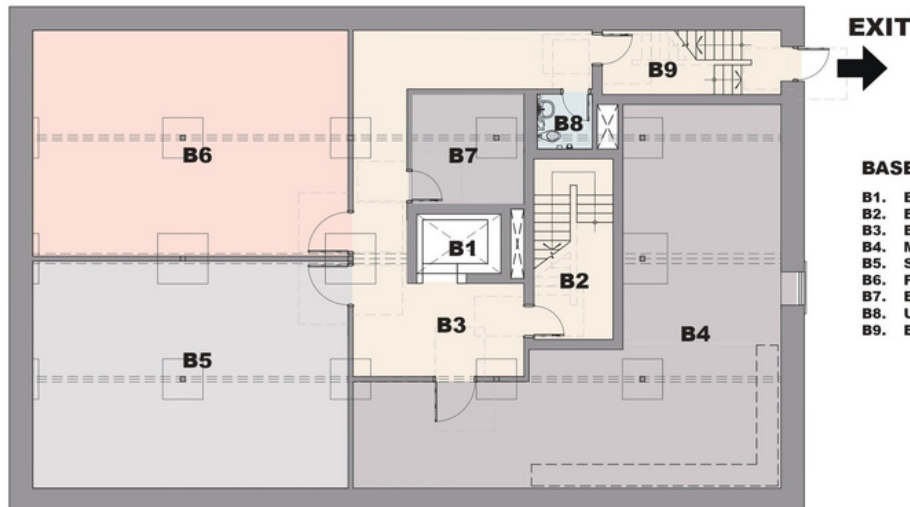
SECOND FLOOR PLAN



SECOND FLOOR - LEGEND

- 20. ELEVATOR SHAFT
- 21. EXIT STAIR #1
- 22. SECOND FLOOR LOBBY
- 23. OFFICE / MEETING ZONE
- 24. MEETING ROOM
- 25. OFFICE / STUDY SPACE #1
- 26. OFFICE / STUDY SPACE #2
- 27. OFFICE / STUDY SPACE #3
- 28. OFFICE / STUDY SPACE #4
- 29. LARGE MEETING ROOM / CLASSROOM
- 30. ADULT LEARNING OFFICE
- 31. MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM #2
- 32. STORAGE
- 33. B/F UNISEX WASHROOM
- 34. UNISEX WASHROOM #4
- 35. EXIT STAIR #1

BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN



BASEMENT - LEGEND

- B1. ELEVATOR
- B2. EXIT STAIR #1
- B3. BASEMENT LOBBY
- B4. MECH. / ELEC. ROOM
- B5. STORAGE
- B6. FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY
- B7. ELEVATOR MACHINE ROOM
- B8. UNISEX WASHROOM #5
- B9. EXIT STAIR #2