

## Culture Hub

Recent Questions, Comments, and Answers – Up to and including January 27, 2020

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The following were submitted through the Pictou Library or Culture Hub website [www.culturehubpc.ca](http://www.culturehubpc.ca). Replies were sent to those who indicated they wished a response and are included below.

We encourage everyone to view the [Business Plan](#) and [Designs](#) and offer their comments and questions.

- A quick charge station for electric cars.
- Maybe you can add on an area for kids to write some stories, and then we can have the stories shown so people can read them? Also, maybe another computer or 2 so more kids can play?

**Answer:** An excellent idea and we will include this with the plans. And yes, there will be computers for children to explore, learn & play.

- I hope there will be extra handicapped parking spots. Parking will be a problem at busy times. Has the planning considered that climate change is causing more flooding and bigger storms means heavier tides and wave action or is this being ignored.

**Answer:** Thank you for your comments. We have two handicapped parking spots but have asked the architect to review recent standards to ensure we will have sufficient and in the right location. We are also adding a drop-off area on Water Street that will accommodate wheelchairs & scooters.

The building will be above storm surge levels and extra storm drains will be added. Climate change is being addressed in the system being used ( more energy efficient) and in added insulation and wraps. The community was very clear in wishing a green building that showcased solutions.

- Please make sure you install large doors or double doors for wheelchair accessibility.

**Answer:** Thank you very much for your comment/question regarding your new Culture Hub for Pictou.

You are quite correct in pointing out the need for large doors and wheelchair accessibility, so the simple answer is “Yes”. As our population ages, and we include people of all abilities, wheelchairs and motorized chairs are becoming a more common and welcome sight.

The Government of Nova Scotia has recently set out new building standards, especially for public buildings. They take into account basic accessibility needs. However, we heard during the public consultations back in 2016 that residents of Pictou and Pictou West expect better. With this in mind, the decision was made to ensure the building would meet “Rick Hansen Standards”, a much more rigorous test. You can find out more about these at <http://www.richhansen.com/become-accessible/rating-certification>

I trust this answers your question but if you have further questions, comments, ideas, please do not hesitate to [contact me at any time.](#)

- Great to see a new library and it looks like a lovely space. But is there enough shelf space for BOOKS!

**Answer:** Thank you very much for your comment/question regarding your new Culture Hub for Pictou.

A very valid comment for a library! The designs indicate where shelving might go, to give an overall concept. Actual shelving placement on the designs will be done by the shelving supplier, which has not been started yet.

However, in the design specifications we submitted to the architect Dale Archibald, the following book capacity was required, so he has made space:

- 20,000 + book capacity (we currently have about 12,000). This is a nationwide standard based upon population size.
- - 40% will be adult and Large Print
- -30% children
- -10% youth
- -10% paperback
- -10% other which includes magazines, graphic novels, DVDs, etc.

This is using a 6 foot stack height with nothing on the bottom shelf to avoid leaning too far over. Except of course for children’s shelving, which will be lower.

I trust this answers your question but if you have further questions, comments, ideas, please do not hesitate to [contact me at any time.](#)

- I think they should upgrade their computers, ASAP.
- They should make a gaming room
- In looking at “Proposed Floor Plan” A3 where is the Box Office for the DeCoste Centre?

**Answer:** Thank you very much for your comment/question regarding your new Culture Hub for Pictou.

The library circulation desk and the deCoste Centre box office will be combined and is shown on the plans as a rounded “Control” desk as you come in the Water Street entrance (plans are available online at [www.CultureHubPC.ca](http://www.CultureHubPC.ca)). One of the goals is to share resources for a more rounded service. deCoste staff will be present much of their current hours but the library staff can also assist with basic tasks such as selling tickets or ticket pick up. More complicated questions would be referred to deCoste staff. This means many more service hours for the deCoste and one stop for users.

I trust this answers your question but if you have further questions, comments, ideas, please do not hesitate to [contact me at any time.](#)

- Please consider providing what our Alberta Library called study rooms, enclosed private areas that would facilitate those people who are pursuing a second language vi online instruction. The Gaelic College of Cape Breton offers “class room” instruction through Skype. This requires the student to participate in class discussion. Small study rooms would be perfect for this scenario. I personally would be grateful for a place to go that provides wifi and a quiet room to participate in these community classes.

**Answer:** Thank you for your comment/idea regarding the Pictou Culture Hub.

Yes, we have planned for a community office and smaller meeting room with complete technology available. This need was mentioned several times during the initial consultations. The public will be able to book these at no cost ( not for profit activities). The entire complex, including outdoor areas, will have high speed wireless. So in answer to your request, yes we will have this available.

We very much appreciate your ideas and input. Our goal is to ensure the entire community feels at home in “your” library. If there are any other ideas or questions, please do not hesitate to [contact me at any time](#).

- I applaud the work you guys have done! The one addition I would have liked to see and haven't in any of the plans is a café area where people could gather downtown and have a conversation over coffee, or work on a laptop and have a light snack. The Halifax Library Café is very busy every time I visit. While it is true there are options for coffee in the downtown area, there is no true café where people can gather freely without the expectation of a larger food purchase. I think having the comfort of a warm beverage on a winters day would go a long way in encourage the community hub feeling, as well it could become an income stream for the town.
- The concept of the renovations are very well done, although, I would love to have seen something reflective of the stone building across the street of the Decoste Centre, for example the use of sandstone somewhere in the design. Wood flooring could be considered as tiles can be very dangerous, slippery and not good sound barriers. With such high ceilings this could be a very loud area with gatherings etc. Outside sitting benches with backs would be so much more comfortable for sitting, especially for someone with disabilities, chronic pain etc. Looking forward to more public meetings on the renovations!

**Answer:** Thank you for your feedback regarding the current plans and for your observations.

We will pass along the comments to the architects. We expect in the finals construction details there will be sandstone treatments as well as the use of sandstone in items not connected directly to the building (low walls that act as seating, etc.)

For flooring we have used typically used linoleum as it is recycled material, easy to clean, low VOC and quiet. Acoustic panels are typically hung on walls and ceilings to dampen sound transmission.

Regarding outdoor sitting we propose using an Adirondack-type seating but without the low recline and depth to make them easier to get out of. And with arms. We have worked with Arthritis societies for seating selection in the past and would likely

do so again.

We will add your name to our list and let you know of upcoming meetings. In the meantime certainly send along any ideas you have.

- Music & the arts /Library to join makes community. Culture, History Enjoy seeing pictures of library
- Bin of toys tent or playhouse in youth
- Outdoor exercise stations – similar to Goodman Park New Glasgow
- The Plans look amazing so exciting. Can't wait to see it come together. My concern during construction, the availability of the parking for the existing business parking.
- This will be so great for the downtown and everyone. Lets all support it.
- After quick view of plans – has overall shelving issue been addressed, ie bigger? – Have handicapped aids been added? These were not available before – Have bills to prove it. Have you included lower shelving for chair-bound? Are aisles wide enough for hairs/ scooters? Have you included more large print? Visually impaired are usually lifers when reading is involved.
- Put two doors at the back of the building (off of the storage space) opening to the outside add a deck. For use in outdoor summer performances.
- This is a great idea and long overdue!!
- Love the idea for this project. Count on my support! Maybe a room where yoga could be practised?
- Aesthetics does not match the façade of the community. Which is a historic town consisting of stone, brick & wood.
- A Community room with hardwood flooring for an exercise/ activity space.
- I like all the ideas, really looks good, should bring a lot of tourist in town to stay longer

- Beautiful plans can't wait to see it all come together!
- Good idea Happy to see the Town is thinking progressively.
- I want to see our indigenous community & culture reflected in the design