

Raw community input from all sources. November 4 – 10, 2015

November 10, 2015 (Youth oriented)

- Young people need a place to hang out, close to downtown.
- deCoste location is a good spot: downtown, close to the Jitney Trail, Dollar Store, waterfront.
- Would like own space in the building, where you can be quiet or be loud ... and not 'on display', some privacy, don't want to bother others. A place to socialize.
- WiFi, TV, computers, comfortable couches.
- Access to language programs (to learn languages).
- Also quiet study spaces - with comfortable seating and good light, calm and relaxing.
- A good kitchen with a fridge and to be able to make meals, prepare snacks, help in learning to make healthy meals.
- Activities - movie nights, dances, concerts, open mic night, games, cards.
- Liked the idea of a sound booth to create music with some help and access to instruments.
- Outdoor activity equipment loan: snowshoes, cross country skis, bicycles, etc.
- Energy efficient, environmentally-friendly building & space is very important.
- School work help - from printers, to hands on projects (such as science, astronomy, chemistry).
- Dog watering station, covered kennels.
- Horse hitching post (... that's what the Jitney was used for !!)
- The building should look cultural - to fit in with the Town (like the deCoste Centre - wood siding), not something too "out there".
- Summer/seasonal kiosks for youth job opportunities training/entrepreneurs think there would be interest.
- Telescopes - binoculars, viewing observatory deck, want to see the harbour in all directions.
- Good time lengths to use public computers (desktops!), like an hour or longer and IT training.
- Tablets would be okay but still like the workstations.
- Balcony, on roof - with harbour view for a viewing/observatory.
- Skateboarder friendly.
- A place to go to kill time on a boring day. Welcoming.

November 9, 2015 (Family oriented, written and email submissions)

- Flat roof area, open to air, chairs, outdoor activities, observation.
- Make sure railings on porch / deck are see through for younger visitors.
- A "snuzzle room/area" (mood, quiet, relaxing, black lighting, music through headphones - Summer Street Industries has one).
- Music library - downloadable (local musicians?)
- Public art participation projects (like the mosaic front bench in Antigonish).
- Greenhouse, garden planters.
- Hammocks!
- Rolls of paper for impromptu projects.
- Big digital display (like Yarmouth visitor's centre).
- Puzzle and chess tables (with drawers for pieces). Make sure there are sides and have a "log book" for puzzle users.
- Magnet board walls (magnetic paint) for art display.

- Skylight with clouds (painted on ceiling - offered help).
- Visually appealing, interesting, exciting entrance that draws you in. Use entrance for receptions, event hosting when library is closed.
- Upward slanting roof (as in pictures) but not with individual timbers (falling snow and ice hazard).
- Transition from active street feel to quieter feel then waterfront feel.
- Strong connection to the Trans Canada Trail, library as a hub of activity supporting the trails.
- Children's area should be near Water Street.
- No carpets or if necessary low VOC's and non-microbial.
- All products in build should have low VOC's. Healthy.
- Accessibility is critical.
- Library to be a meeting place with play area.
- Places to hang coats that are reasonably secure.
- Lots of glass.
- Good recycling stations.
- Window seats/benches.
- Washrooms - lots and very accessible.
- Fireplace (in the round?)
- Cozy areas and nooks.
- Classes with artists with good natural light (and appropriate artificial lighting).
- Whiteboard walls for kids to write and draw on.
- Think of homeschoolers in design, area where homeschoolers visiting and learning should be set up for a range of ages (as homeschoolers come as a group rather than one specific grade).
- Places for tutoring.
- One entrance or two for library? Preference is for two.
- One good entrance to the library and deCoste.
- Consult with neighbouring businesses so as to respect their needs (access, visibility, etc).
- Place to bring coffee and lunch.
- Lots of lights along new walking areas for safety.
- Where to put circulation desk? Central but also so staff can greet people. Staff are a main reason many people come to the library.
- Circular or half circle circulation desk. Two heights.
- On Water Street, an accessible drop off / pick up parking spot, also for dropping off books in book drop. Perhaps near end of Dawson Lane?
- Aquarium / fish.
- Outside water feature.
- Cheerful, colorful walls, use art for this as well.
- Open spaces but also small spaces as well.
- Outdoor nook (as seen in PowerPoint image)
- Bring the patio around the back end of the deCoste more, take advantage of the view and the Jitney Trail.
- A highpoint or tower for lookout (telescope for viewing)
- Harbour cam (underwater).
- A community science exploration room.
- A strong connection to nature, inside and out.
- A Guide Book to the Great Tree (Guardians of Ga'hoole) mentioned.

November 8, 2015 (General session, written and email submissions).

- Roof top observation patio.
- Widows walk.
- Telescope, astronomy feature (an analema, obelisk).
- Solstice features/art, sundial.
- Display space, built-in cabinets, storage space.
- More open hours in the evening.
- Parking conflicts, with concurrent events downtown.
- Acoustics from the street and theatre - into quiet spaces in the library.
- Public art inclusion, local artists (3%).
- Carved footstools/small seats of wood, featuring animals (a menagerie!) for children's area, or throughout.
- Conjoined spaces - shared usage of public spaces, youth theatre, music practice rooms, study areas.
- Loaning of some musical instruments.
- Bistro/café area... possibly with cafe service.
- In the front entrance area, very busy streetscape ... quieter towards the back end, facing the water front (secondary entrance).
- Community kitchen.
- Family accessibility - bathrooms at a lower height, and kid-proofed.
- Nice bike rack with integrated locks - that can also be used for strollers, in a covered outdoor porch area.
- Fish tanks, planters for community/teaching gardens for children's programs
- Storage area for equipment.
- Dog watering station, sheltered dog kennels (like Masstown Market).
- Cultural inclusion of heritage elements, ... people seeing themselves as part of the community space.
- Sculpture walk.
- Interior labyrinth.
- Reach out to Pictou County Continuous Learning Association (Piccola) for inclusion in project.
- Social spacing, of tiled flooring.
- Rainbow of stained glass window panes, IWK (donation of little colored window panes).
- Please maintain some view of the water, to Water street.
- Round stone patio out front = winter, a small outdoor skating oval /summer = a splash pad for children, or performance area.
- Outdoor kiosk area = seasonal service for bike, kayak rentals, or tourist information and ensure proper utility hook-ups are available.
- Include local stone, wood elements (ballast stone, quarried stone, shipbuilding timbers).
- Telescope.
- Fireplace.
- Observatory, astronomical deck.
- Geocaching (inside the building, in the library).
- Will the height of the building change.
- Impact on the deCoste during construction.
- Will it all be on one level? All accessible?
- Heating and cooling, & environmental sustainability important.
- Will there be a dedicated Teen Area?
- Makerspaces, recording studio/office, storage area.
- How married will the spaces be? Sharing of some purposes?

- Youth theatre, music practice, author readings, meeting spaces, study spaces.
- Programming outreach, artist talks.
- Engage newcomer and immigrant communities.
- Use the "sunny side" of Water Street in design.
- Meeting rooms for events.
- Café
- Access to Internet.
- Convenient bookdrop.
- Computer learning lab.
- Self checkout.
- Wheelchair accessible.
- Fireplace.
- Recording studio.
- Stage.
- Patio areas.
- Books for learning new languages.
- Foreign language books for newcomers.
- Song circle
- Old stone and clap board on the outside
- Dock posts for bike racks outside or outside seating.
- Dog water stations in the front and back of the building
- Nautical themes reflective of shipbuilding and maritime past.
- A nice floor motif of ships, perhaps of ships that were built here in Pictou.
- Inside could have port holes in the walls
- Indoor hammocks in the teen or children areas.
- Love the idea of the building being green, if we can make 2 place (library and Decoste) self-sufficient it may encourage more people to do this.
- The fire place in the adult area is lovely idea with leather back chairs (again Nautical) and old (looking) trunks.
- Activities (submitted on paper by participant): live theatre performances (puppetry, mime, masks), book launches, movie days, pre-teen knitting, kinetic engineering (making things move), lego, after school drop-in (gaming, art, hands on science, health), holiday crafts, chess club, homeschoolers at the library, printmaking, language skills program, drawing classes, family game time, coding hour, STEM programming (Science Technology Engineering Math), Mad for Art Series - various artists, all things minecraft, CEED workshops and entrepreneur education, coloring drop-in, Pokeman trading club, holiday cooking and decorating, yoga classes, general health classes.
- Comment submitted in writing afterwards: Regarding the extension close to the street - if it was rounded, sort of like half a rotunda, and wrapped backward towards the deCoste wall about where the Murray Room bar is, it would create a sort of a sheltered alcove which could provide a new entry. Then the existing big windows could be extended right over to the entrance by Dawson Lane. The patio (stone?) could fit curve organically between the bulge of the rounded part and where the windows are, and extend across the front of the building to access Dawson Lane via stairs or ramp along the west side of the building. The front west corner of the property could still have a garden and a couple benches, sculpture, pergola (too busy-busy?) or the like. The bulge/half-rotunda could house the children's section. I think teens might enjoy the patio at the front. I like the pic of the 'hole in the wall' for teens in Scandinavia (image part of Powerpoint) - there might be an option here to do something similar.

November 5, 2015 (General session and email submissions)

- Keep the positives the deCoste facility now has (particularly mingling and intermission areas). Natural light, windows, and views.
- Ensure easy access to new deck area from deCoste auditorium and mingling intermission areas.
- Repurpose Dawson Lane. Request Town decommission it as a street and redesign as trail link from Main Street entrance to Jitney Trail with lighting. Retain and celebrate Dawson name.
- Will this project increase my taxes? Financial sustainability needs to be strongly considered.
- Ensure the entire facility acts as one complex, maximum shared use of spaces and one main, welcoming entrance that provides a "statement" about Pictou and area (unique).
- A "green" facility is a must, not only for environmental sustainability but financial sustainability for both library and deCoste.
- Creating a "green" facility as a source of community pride and learning.
- A water wall or water feature.
- Public art and involvement of the artistic community is critical.
- All cultures should be reflected in the design through art, features as part of the structure/design. Use materials with a link to the history of the area (wood, stone, fossils, quarries, shipbuilding, forestry, etc.)
- Respectful of the area's history and tell the story of the town and all of its people.
- Fireplace.
- Coffee and refreshments available.
- Arts area, not only for display but for demonstration/instruction also.
- Circulation/reception desk could incorporate elements of the Hector story as a symbol of arrival.
- Tourist information presence for the downtown, including shoulder seasons.
- Front street area should have a "Main Street, gathering area, café type" look and feel.
- The facility should exceed accessibility standards for an aging population (washrooms, doors, larger washroom stall availability.)
- Consider older adults and those with arthritis/joint challenges when selecting furnishings.
- Use local artisans for furnishings where possible.
- Think of the Water Street curb appeal in the design, particularly pedestrian traffic coming from all directions (just not one-way vehicular traffic).
- Bicycle and recreation equipment rental - work with Town recreation.
- Think of garden and green spaces throughout the project for both inside and outside. Engage with the garden club.
- Fish tank or live fish feature.
- A dog friendly area with covered watering station, hitching post, and dog biscuits.
- Rocking chair.
- Careful construction so as not to lose all the trees, relocate some and re-purpose the wood in the building for others.
- Lots of accessible parking.
- Community demonstration kitchen in community room.
- Carrels for study and home based business people. Also for tutoring purposes.
- Family washroom.
- Clear signage from rotary, through town and to facility.
- Bicycle racks, small boat storage (kayak, rowing shells).
- Consider floor covering careful (health).
- A real need for a public gathering place for Pictou and area.
- Outdoor performance areas.
- Community office space for short term usage (festivals, tutoring, projects, etc.)

November 4, 2015 (General sessions and email submissions)

- More room for informal group activities (ie: reading circles, knitting circles) with storage.
- Community demonstration kitchen
- An environmentally sustainable building, "green", (ie: geothermal, solar, cutting edge options), natural materials, fresh air.
- Accessible and convenient washrooms suitable for occupancy of both facilities.
- Washrooms accessible by general public.
- Family washroom.
- Improved and adequate lighting around building and site.
- Building should relay a statement about the community.
- Need for building to engage both the street and waterfront.
- Street entrance (main). Common entrance for all activities? Need to keep clarity for all users of the building.
- Effective use of shared spaces important. There needs to be a gain in functionality and opportunities by bringing the two facilities together.
- Parking. Recognition that parking is important for downtown and facility success. A better rationalization of parking in the surrounding areas to accommodate this.
- Lots of glass, natural light.
- View planes from inside the building to the water/waterfront and activities on the waterfront.
- Street presence, activities on patio area next to street.
- Stone and wood in building materials.
- Respectful of the surrounding architecture.
- Opportunities for teens.
- Welcoming for teens through activities.
- Sound recording booth/studio (as in Halifax Central Library). Involve local musicians with youth.
- Need quiet and contemplative spots.
- Electric vehicle charging stations.
- Walkability to and from the facility to other destinations in Pictou.
- Express community pride, particularly in "green" features.
- Look for other facilities that have successfully combined a library with a performing arts venue.