

Partnership between LAC and the Ottawa Public Library

At a meeting of the Ottawa Public Library Board on January 12, 2016, it was announced that the Ottawa Public Library (OPL) and Library and Archives Canada (LAC) will explore a potential and innovative partnership opportunity with respect to the new Central Library project and the development of a landmark facility in the nation's capital.

While acknowledging the differences and unique qualities respective to our two organizations, we both provide public services that are a source of tremendous synergy. Our goal is to explore the possibility of partnering together in a shared-use facility to offer value-added services to our clients.

Over the coming months, we will consider the terms of an innovative partnership opportunity that would allow LAC to move some activities and services from 395 Wellington Street to a joint facility with the OPL at a site in close proximity to our current location in central Ottawa.

I am very enthusiastic about this opportunity to significantly expand our client base.

I also want to assure you that there are no plans to reduce staff as part of this initiative.

This is an exciting time for LAC and the OPL, and for the National Capital Region, as we explore opportunities on this incredible city-building initiative on the eve of Canada's 150th birthday.

I will keep you informed as we move ahead.

Guy Berthiaume
Librarian and Archivist of Canada