



GPC recommended to Council that the matter be referred to the Library Board. Based on the programming design, please report on the impact to branch libraries, what services (if any) will be duplicated by the new library functional program, and if the library will be competing with any private sector such as room rentals.

The primary purpose of SPL's rooms and spaces is to offer free programs and services in support of lifelong learning and inclusivity. The spaces planned for the new central library are core to delivering programs and services to the community and are aligned with SPL's vision. They were identified and validated through our consultation process as spaces the community wants to see in a new central library.

The central library has been and will continue to serve as the heart of the library's operations. Central libraries contain the largest collection of materials, house unique collections, and provide access to more specialized services and spaces not available at branch libraries. Many of the planned spaces are already available at the current central library and will be amplified and re-imagined with community input in the design phase. Where we can, we're adding innovation labs at branches that contain elements of the technology-rich specialty spaces that will be in the new central library. Everything included in the new central library will strengthen the overall library system, and will not be a duplication of offerings.

When not in use for library programs or by library partners, some of the spaces (four in total) will be available for rental. However, no spaces planned for the central library are solely to create revenue sources for the library. This approach is consistent with SPL's existing Rental Policy & Regulations, which places limitations and restrictions on how the rooms are used. Namely, the renter cannot charge for attendance at their event, and the rooms cannot be used for commercial ventures. Rates are nominal, and not-for-profit organizations receive an additional 20% discount.

At the request of the Governance & Priorities Committee, SPL has provided samples of comparative services based on publicly available information. This report should be used only to highlight service and access gaps that SPL fills in the community. The library creates equitable access for everyone in the community, in particular, to create inclusion and opportunity for those who face social isolation and poverty. The public library is both free and welcoming to everyone, regardless of social status or economic privilege. Use is not predicated on a purchase—be it a coffee, newspaper, or admission—one uses the library by simply visiting it.

Programming & Discovery Spaces

Free learning spaces for patrons to explore and use for creative pursuits.

Space allocation: 18% of the new central library

Space Type	Primary Use Description	Existing Library Space	Impact on Branches	User Cost / Available for Rental	Other City Offerings	Other Identified Offerings
Children’s story room (1 room, ~60 seats)	The children’s story room will be designed to create magical memories for children as our existing space has done.	The central library currently offers a story room. The current space is very well used, but not accessible.	Branch library operations not impacted. Every branch library has a story room.	Cost: Free. Patrons can use the space by attending programs. Available for rental: No	None.	None.
Gallery (Same as current space)	The gallery space in a central library will be used to showcase new and emerging local artists. I will also be used to host programs and library events.	A gallery for new and emerging artists is available at the existing central library. SPL also uses the gallery to host some programming and other events.	Branch library operations not impacted.	Cost: Free. Patrons can use the space by visiting the library. Available for rental: No	Remai Modern Cost: \$12 admission.	Private commercial galleries also exist.

Space Type	Primary Use Description	Existing Library Space	Impact on Branches	User Cost / Available for Rental	Other City Offerings	Other Identified Offerings
<p>Flexible programming rooms</p> <p>(1 room, ~100 seats)</p> <p>(2 rooms, ~25 seats each)</p>	<p>Rooms are for the delivery and provision of library programs and partnerships.</p> <p>These rooms will also be used for employee meeting rooms when not used for programming.</p>	<p>The central library offers one programming space for a group of approximately 100 people.</p> <p>With a lack of space available, it is difficult to host programs at the central library.</p>	<p>Branch library operations not impacted.</p> <p>Most branches have a large auditorium and a small meeting room already.</p>	<p>Cost: Free. Patrons can use the space by attending programs.</p> <p>Available for rental: Yes, when not in use for library needs.</p> <p>Existing rates range from \$40-\$65 for a three-hour booking.</p>	<p>City of Saskatoon Leisure Centres</p> <p>Cost: \$20-30 per hour.</p>	<p>School Gymnasiums</p> <p>Cost: \$45.50 per hour.</p> <p>Village Guitar</p> <p>Cost: \$700.</p> <p>Paved Arts</p> <p>Cost: \$25 – 100 for with annual Membership of \$25-\$100 per year.</p> <p>Nutrien Wunderhub</p> <p>Cost: \$50- \$200.</p>
<p>Theatre</p> <p>(1 theatre, ~200 seats)</p>	<p>The theatre show documentaries and film series, as well as free new releases and family films. It is also used to host speakers, author readings, panel discussions, and citizenship ceremonies.</p>	<p>The central library currently offers a 192 seat theatre.</p>	<p>Branch library operations not impacted.</p> <p>There are no theatres elsewhere in the SPL system.</p>	<p>Cost: Free. Patrons can use the space by attending programs.</p> <p>Available for rental: Yes, when not in use for library needs.</p> <p>Existing rates are approximately \$65 for a three-hour booking.</p>	<p>Remai Modern</p> <p>147 seats</p> <p>Cost: \$12 for admission.</p> <p>Rental: \$700 & up.</p> <p>Cosmo Civic Centre</p> <p>Cost: \$30.30 per hour.</p>	<p>Cineplex Odeon, Broadway Theatre, Roxy, Scotiabank Theatre & Landmark Cinemas</p> <p>Cost: \$12.99 & up (ticket).</p> <p>Rental: Cost dependent on event needs.</p> <p>Nutrien Wunderhub Performance Hall</p> <p>Rental: \$600.</p>

Space Type	Primary Use Description	Existing Library Space	Impact on Branches	User Cost / Available for Rental	Other City Offerings	Other Identified Offerings
<p>Visual production studio (1 studio)</p>	<p>This space will be used by patrons to create movies & videos.</p> <p>It is assumed the space will include a video camera, lighting, green screens.</p> <p>Public consultation will inform the type of equipment available.</p>	<p>New service offering for SPL. It is identified as a desire during community consultation.</p> <p>Standard service offering in modern library systems.</p> <p>Service is already available at Regina Public Central Library.</p>	<p>This will complement existing branch library offerings.</p> <p>Rusty Macdonald & Round Prairie branch libraries have Innovation Labs that offer some of this equipment.</p>	<p>Cost: Free. Patrons can use the space by coming to the library. Reservations will be offered for patron convenience but will not be required based on availability.</p> <p>Available for rental: No</p>	<p>None.</p>	<p>Paved Arts Cost: \$10 per day with an annual membership.</p> <p>A number of private video production companies exist. Studios can be rented, though equipment would not be supplied.</p> <p>Cost: Will vary depending on the project.</p>
<p>Audio recording studio & recording booths (1 studio & 2 recording booths)</p>	<p>This space will be used by patrons to record music, podcasts, stories, or any audio recording.</p> <p>It is assumed the space will include digital recording & sound mixing equipment, and some musical instruments.</p> <p>Public consultation will inform the type of equipment available.</p>	<p>New service offering for SPL. Identified as a desire during community consultation.</p> <p>Standard service offering in modern library systems.</p> <p>Service is already available at Regina Public Central Library.</p>	<p>This will complement existing branch library offerings.</p> <p>Some branch libraries have Innovation Labs that offer some of this equipment.</p>	<p>Cost: Free. Patrons can use the space by coming to the library. Reservations will be offered for patron convenience but will not be required based on availability.</p> <p>Available for rental: No.</p>	<p>None.</p>	<p>Paved Arts Cost: \$10 per day with an annual membership of \$25-100 per year.</p> <p>A number of private audio production recording studios exist. Studios can be rented. Cost: Will vary depending on the project.</p>

Space Type	Primary Use Description	Existing Library Space	Impact on Branches	User Cost / Available for Rental	Other City Offerings	Other Identified Offerings
<p>Post-production studio (1 studio)</p>	<p>Space will be available for patrons to edit photos and create graphics and design on the computer systems.</p> <p>It is assumed that the space will have computers with software such as Adobe products and peripherals.</p> <p>Public consultation will inform the type of equipment available.</p>	<p>New service offering for SPL. Identified as a desire during community consultation.</p> <p>Standard service offering in modern library systems.</p> <p>Service is already available at Regina Public Central Library</p>	<p>This will complement existing branch library offerings.</p> <p>MacBook Pros & a green screen are available in some SPL Innovation Labs.</p>	<p>Cost: Free. Patrons can use the space by coming to the library. Reservations will be offered for patron convenience but will not be required based on availability.</p> <p>Available for rental: No.</p>	<p>None.</p>	<p>Paved Arts Cost: \$10 per day with an annual membership of \$25-100 per year.</p>
<p>Digital tools workstations (4 stations)</p>	<p>This will be a space where patrons can convert physical materials such as CDs, photos, VHS, & film to digital files.</p> <p>Public consultation will inform the type of equipment available.</p>	<p>New service offering for SPL. Identified as a desire during community consultation.</p> <p>Standard service offering in modern library systems. Service is available at Regina Public Library.</p>	<p>Branch library operations not impacted.</p>	<p>Cost: Free. Patrons can use the space by coming to the library. Reservations will be offered for patron convenience but will not be required based on availability.</p> <p>Available for rental: No.</p>	<p>None.</p>	<p>Paved Arts Cost: \$5 per day with an annual membership of \$25-100 per year. Digital photo studio only.</p>

Space Type	Primary Use Description	Existing Library Space	Impact on Branches	User Cost / Available for Rental	Other City Offerings	Other Identified Offerings
<p>In-residence spaces for writers, artists and Elder</p> <p>(3 offices)</p>	<p>In a new central library, SPL plans to expand the in-residence program expansion beyond writer-in-residence to include opportunities for artists and Elder residencies.</p>	<p>There is a writer-in-residence program (and office) at the central library. The program has been in place at SPL since 1982.</p>	<p>Branch library operations not impacted.</p>	<p>Cost: Free. Patrons can book appointments for advice and guidance from advisors.</p> <p>Available for rental: No</p>	<p>None.</p>	<p>Unknown.</p>
<p>Group video gaming stations</p> <p>(4 stations, ~4 seats per station)</p>	<p>The new central library is planned to include four groups of four video gaming stations, where patrons can play alone or with a group.</p> <p>Public consultation will inform the type of equipment available.</p>	<p>The central library currently does not have video game stations.</p>	<p>Video game rooms are located at branches including Round Prairie, Rusty Macdonald and planned for Cliff Wright.</p> <p>Other branches offer video game programs.</p>	<p>Cost: Free. Patrons can use the space by coming to the library. Reservations will be offered for patron convenience but will not be required based on availability.</p> <p>Available for rental: No</p>	<p>None.</p>	<p>Bartari Cost: \$5 per person (plus food and drinks).</p> <p>Ruckers Cost: \$1 for 3 tokens (one game); quantity discounts are available.</p> <p>Stoked Centre (Wilson's) Cost: \$2 per gameplay.</p>

Space Type	Primary Use Description	Existing Library Space	Impact on Branches	User Cost / Available for Rental	Other City Offerings	Other Identified Offerings
<p>Indigenous-based space (1 space)</p>	<p>Space will be designed based on public consultation.</p> <p>There will be ventilation so ceremony can take place within the room.</p> <p>It will have a flexible design for a variety of different programs.</p> <p>Space can also be used for meetings and community gathering space, such as for Reconciliation Saskatoon meetings.</p>	<p>SPL does not have any space where ventilation is adequate for smudging.</p>	<p>Branch library operations not impacted.</p>	<p>Cost: Free. Patrons can use the space by attending programs and events. Partners will also have access to the use of the room.</p> <p>Available for rental: No.</p>	<p>None.</p>	<p>Gordon Oakes Red Bear Student Centre</p> <p>White Buffalo Youth Lodge</p> <p>Central Urban Métis Federation</p> <p>Community Service Village</p> <p>SIMFC (Saskatoon Indian & Metis Friendship Centre)</p>
<p>Kitchen (1 room, ~30 seats)</p>	<p>The demonstration kitchen will enable SPL to provide health-literacy programming in partnership with community organizations.</p> <p>Public consultation will inform the type of equipment available.</p> <p>Sized to accommodate class visits.</p>	<p>This will be a new space for SPL.</p> <p>Standard service offering in modern library systems. Halifax central library is currently renovating to add a kitchen based on need.</p>	<p>Branch library operations not impacted.</p>	<p>Cost: Free. Patrons can use the space by attending programs.</p> <p>Available for rental: No.</p>	<p>None.</p>	<p>CHEP Cost: \$10-20 per person & subsidies available.</p> <p>The Local Kitchen Cost: \$65 to \$135 per person.</p> <p>Simon's Fine Foods Cost: \$65 to \$100 per person.</p> <p>Sobey's (Stonebridge) Cost: Free.</p>

Space Type	Primary Use Description	Existing Library Space	Impact on Branches	User Cost / Available for Rental	Other City Offerings	Other Identified Offerings
<p>Multi-purpose for STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, math) programs</p> <p>(1 room, ~30 seats)</p>	<p>This space will enable SPL to provide STEAM programming to develop a multitude of literacies.</p> <p>The size will be large enough to host visits from school classrooms and be used for regular programming.</p> <p>Public consultation will inform the type of equipment available.</p> <p>Sized to accommodate class visits.</p>	<p>SPL has been offering STEAM programming for a number of years elsewhere in the system but has been restricted due to lack of space to offer it in, at the central library.</p>	<p>Branch library operations not impacted.</p> <p>Rusty Macdonald & Round Prairie branch libraries have Innovation Labs that offer STEAM activities.</p> <p>Other branches offer STEAM programming in other rooms.</p>	<p>Cost: Free. Patrons can use the space by attending programs.</p> <p>Available for rental: No.</p>	<p>Remai Modern Cost: Free art-making.</p>	<p>Nutrien Wonderhub Cost: \$8 per person.</p> <p>Saskatoon Makerspace Cost: membership \$50 per month.</p> <p>Saskatoon Techworks Cost: membership \$50 per month (1-year membership).</p>
<p>Technology training space</p> <p>(1 room, ~25 seats)</p>	<p>This will be a lab where computer literacy and job readiness programming will be held.</p>	<p>The central library currently has a similar space for computer literacy programming.</p>	<p>Branch library operations not impacted.</p>	<p>Cost: Free. Patrons can use the space by attending programs.</p> <p>Available for rental: No.</p>	<p>None.</p>	<p>YMCA Cost: \$275 for 8 hours of instruction.</p> <p>International Women of Saskatchewan Cost: Free for newcomers.</p>

Public Seating, Collaboration & Bookable Spaces

A mix of quiet and animated spaces, individual and group spaces, and table/chair, and casual seating.

Space allocation: 15% of the new central library. Total seats increase from 240 in the existing central library to 550.

Space Type	Primary Use Description	Existing Library Space	Impact on Branches	User Cost / Available for Rental	Other City Offerings	Other Identified Offerings
Quiet reading space	The new central library is planned to have a quiet reading room, which will enable patrons who need a quiet place to read or work will be able to use.	The central library has almost no quiet space due to overcrowding.	This will take pressure off branches they are smaller and more animated, and providing quiet space can be challenging.	Cost: Free. Patrons can use the space by coming to the library. Available for rental: No.	None.	Bookstores & coffee shops Cost: Space provided for customers only.
Civic commons space with casual seating	The new central library is planned to have casual spaces where people who want to collaborate or have conversations without disturbing other patrons will be welcome to sit.	The central library currently has a reading room with casual seating. However, the casual seating is very limited.	Branch library operations not impacted.	Cost: Free. Patrons can use the space by coming to the library. Available for rental: No.	None.	Bookstores & coffee shops Cost: Space provided for customers only. Shopping mall food courts Cost: Space provided for customers only.

Space Type	Primary Use Description & Identified Service Gap	Existing Library Space	Impact on Branches	User Cost / Available for Rental	Other City Offerings	Other Identified Offerings
Table seating integrated throughout	Throughout the library a mix of casual seating will be integrated with table seating for the convenience of patrons.	There is table seating at the current central library.	Branch library operations not impacted.	Cost: Free. Patrons can use the space by coming to the library. Available for rental: No.	None.	University & Polytechnic Libraries Cost: Free, but for use by students & alumni.
Group study carrels	There will be dedicated group study booths to facilitate private group work.	1 group study space available at Frances Morrison Central Library. 2 spaces are available at Rusty Macdonald.	Branch library operations not impacted. Space permitting, group study areas are being incorporated into branch library refreshes.	Cost: Free. Patrons can use the space by coming to the library. Available for rental: No.	None.	University & Polytechnic Libraries Cost: Free, but for use by students & alumni.
Individual study carrels	Individual study carrels will be integrated into the space for patrons.	There are currently a small number of study carrels in the teen area at the central library and they are well used.	Branch library operations not impacted.	Cost: Free. Patrons can use the space by coming to the library. Available for rental: No.	None.	University & Polytechnic Libraries Cost: Free, but for use by students & alumni.

Space Type	Primary Use Description & Identified Service Gap	Existing Library Space	Impact on Branches	User Cost / Available for Rental	Other City Offerings	Other Identified Offerings
<p>Rooms for group study</p> <p>(18 rooms with seating for ~3 per room)</p>	<p>For patrons who need a more collaborative space to work, small rooms will be available for booking.</p> <p>These will also serve as employee meeting areas as well.</p>	<p>There is nothing like this available at the central library.</p> <p>These are becoming standard in modern libraries.</p>	<p>Branch library operations not impacted.</p>	<p>Cost: Free. Patrons can use the space by coming to the library.</p> <p>Available for rental: No.</p>	<p>City of Saskatoon Leisure Centres Cost: \$20-30 per hour.</p>	<p>Two Twenty Cost: \$400 and up per month for physical space. Membership of \$25-\$200 for access to building and resources.</p> <p>Assembly Studio Cost: \$100 per month.</p>

Open & Gathering Spaces

The majority of the space in this area includes public stairwells, entrances, foyers, a central greeting & service point, and marshalling areas for children and school groups waiting for bus pick-up & drop off.

Space allocation: 9% of the new central library.

Space Type	Primary Use Description & Identified Service Gap	Existing Library Space	Impact on Branches	User Cost / Available for Rental	Other City Offerings	Other Identified Offerings
Indoor children's play area (1 space)	A need was identified based on both Saskatoon being a winter city that having an indoor climbing structure for use in the winter by families with young children would be beneficial. It was also noted that downtown lacks children's amenities.	The existing central library has a large play area with toys.	The branches also have children's areas with toys.	Cost: Free. Patrons can use the space by coming to the library. Available for rental: No.	No indoor play areas. The closest outdoor playground is in Riversdale.	Nutrien Wonderhub, Flynn's Forest, The Fun Factory, Learn & Play Café, Kid's Castle, Stoked Centre Cost: \$5- \$15 per child.
Indoor green space	The new central library will have plants and greenery incorporated into throughout the design to provide a natural atmosphere year-round. Greenspace was identified as a priority during community consultations.	The current central library does not have a natural or inviting ambience.	Branch library operations not impacted.	Cost: Free. Patrons can use the space by coming to the library.	None.	Nutrien Wonderhub (Conservatory) Cost: Not currently available.

Space Type	Primary Use Description & Identified Service Gap	Existing Library Space	Impact on Branches	User Cost / Available for Rental	Other City Offerings	Other Identified Offerings
<p>Consultation space for outreach workers to assist patrons</p> <p>(1 room)</p>	<p>The consultation space will enable SPL Outreach Workers to meet privately with patrons in order to assist with making community connections to access appropriate resources.</p>	<p>A consultation space is available in the central library.</p>	<p>Branch library operations not impacted.</p>	<p>Cost: Free. Patrons can use the space by coming to the library.</p> <p>Available for rental: No.</p>	<p>None.</p>	<p>Lighthouse Cost: Free.</p> <p>Market Mall Community Health Clinic Cost: Free (Thurs).</p> <p>Kinsmen Activity Place Cost: Free (Tues).</p> <p>Saskatoon Food Bank & Learning Centre Cost: Free (Mon).</p> <p>Community Adult Mental Health Services Cost: Free with a referral.</p>

The outdoor space is not assigned square footage, as the site selection and configuration will the size of this, SPL is committed to providing exterior public greenspace in the downtown core.

<p>Outdoor green space</p>	<p>Community input showed a strong desire for outdoor greenspace.</p>	<p>The central library has no outdoor greenspace or plaza.</p>	<p>Branch library operations not impacted.</p>	<p>Cost: Free. Patrons can use the space by coming to the library.</p>	<p>Civic Square (City Hall) Cost: Free.</p> <p>Parks Cost: Free.</p>	<p>Nutrien Playland Cost: Park is free. Rides are additional.</p> <p>Forestry Farm Park & Zoo Cost: \$2 (to park facilities only).</p>
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