

## Mr. Dewey and Friends

Newsletter of the Friends of the Guelph Public Library

### *ARE WE ANY CLOSER TO A NEW MAIN LIBRARY?*

.....Well.....maybe a little....

At least we aren't further away than we were a year ago.

For a number of years, Council followed a policy of listing projects on the capital budget forecast only if they already had identified funding attached to them. As a result, the Library has not been on the capital forecast for many years.

More recently, Council has reverted to listing desirable projects even if funding is not obvious. So...this year for the first time in many years, a new main library is on the list...with 2020 as the proposed year for construction. The Library 'is' identified as not having defined funding; however the other hopeful aspect to the 2017 budget is a 1%, cumulative, infrastructure levy, specifically intended to address the fact that Guelph's infrastructure needs have been long neglected and a way must be found to fund them.

So.....we are on the list, and there is a plan to fund infrastructure needs. That is still quite a long way from a firm commitment, but it is a baby step in the right direction.

It remains important to keep up the pressure, and to keep public awareness of this issue high. Library supporters need to remain informed, to talk to Council members, to disseminate accurate information and to clarify misperceptions.

**We *WILL* do this! 2020 is only 3 years away!**

*V Gillham*, Chair,  
Friends of the Guelph Public Library

The City website indicates that five years after Guelph's Downtown Secondary Plan was approved by Council as a long term vision for growth and development, a new, 2017 Downtown Guelph Implementation Strategy is emerging. This strategy will focus the City's activities for the next five to 10 years to address those DSP projects that have not yet been realized. The criteria to be used to identify priority projects for Council's consideration stipulate that the proposed projects:

- Support the economic development of the downtown core
- Be financially responsible
- Contribute to excellence in urban design
- Address capital asset management needs
- Contribute to community and cultural benefits
- Enhance and maintain health and safety requirements
- Meet legislative and legal obligations
- Support improved mobility and transportation access



The plan already in place for a new main library as part of the Baker Street redevelopment clearly exemplifies each of the first five points. City staff will hold a minimum of three related Council workshops. The first, which took place on February 16 was intended to establish criteria to prioritize downtown projects and directions. Public observation was welcome, but there was no opportunity for public input. Public contributions will be possible for the remaining two workshops in June and September to refine and confirm the plan.

Library supporters are urged to participate.



**Friends  
of the Guelph Public Library**

**Executive 2016-2017**

Virginia Gillham, Chair

Mary Mulholland, Vice Chair

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(Adjunct) Secretary

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Representative

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Mei-fei Elrick

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Graham Smith

Ian Findlay

Paul Young

Steve Kraft

Library CEO

Lisa Cunningham,  
Library Liaison

**"Mr Dewey" Editors**  
(Adjunct Executive Members)

Marilyn Crooks

Susan Ratcliffe

**Technical Support**

Linda Kearns

The Executive welcomes your comments and suggestions. Executive members may be contacted individually, through the organization email address [friendsguelphlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:friendsguelphlibrary@gmail.com) -, or by written submissions clearly addressed to *Friends of the GPL Executive* and dropped off at any Library branch.

**AGM**  
Annual General Meeting

**Friends of the Guelph Public Library**

**Annual General Meeting**

**Save the Date! April 19, 2017**

The Friends of the Guelph Public Library

Annual General Meeting

will take place in the second-floor meeting room

of the Main Library, on

**Wednesday, April 19, at 7:30 pm.**

There will be a brief business meeting, including the election of an Executive for the coming year and the presentation of the audited financial statement.

This will be followed by the appointment of an honorary member who has been an anonymous benefactor to the book sale in recent years.

The evening will feature our special guest

**Jim Estill,**



who has been central to refugee support initiatives in Guelph over the past two years. Mr. Estill will update us on the current situation and answer your questions on this crucial subject.

Watch this recent "Daytime" interview with Denise Mare on Rogers TV-Durham:

<https://youtube/Pq4hoJn4SJ0>

## Guelph Reads 2017

The Friends present the 2017 edition of *Guelph Reads*  
**Wednesday, May 24 2017**

in the Main Library This is the sixth year that the Friends of the Guelph Public Library have hosted the event since we inherited it in 2012.

The dynamic Marva Wisdom will moderate the evening for the third time. She will be joined by some outstanding members the Guelph community.

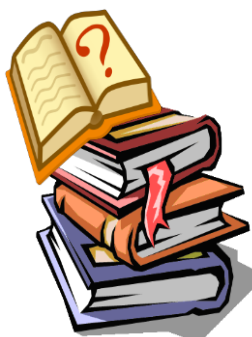
Panel contestants will be

**Marty Williams**, executive director, Downtown  
Guelph Business Association;

**Jenn Haines**, owner of Dragon, a downtown store  
specializing in graphic novels;

**Sarah Sayyed** from the Muslim Society of Guelph; and

**Butch Carter**, head of the Canadian Basketball League and former  
Raptors coach.



Last year's event choice was selected by audience vote. The most popular book, *Flint and Feather*, a biography of Pauline Johnson, was presented, defended and "won" by Brenda Lewis.

The books selected by this year's panelists are: *Walking Home* by Eric Waters, *The Hidden Keys* by Andre Alexis, *Music for Love or War* by Martyn Burke and *Underwater Welder* by Jeff Lemire. Keep an eye on the Friends website and Facebook page for the latest news about *Guelph Reads*.

### WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

Profits from ten years of book sales have been used for a variety of Library support initiatives. A significant proportion is accruing toward a major gift for the Library (the investment balance presently exceeds \$500,000) when the sod is finally turned for a new central library building.

In addition, in recent years The Friends:

- made the lead gift of \$10,000 to establish the Library's endowment fund.
- supported the cost of two pieces of library-related art.
- funded the purchase of the new Charging unit in the main library.
- supported the cost of the internal fittings for the new bookmobile,
- agreed to fund a program to provide library packages including board books for each of the more than 6000 babies born in Guelph every year.

Support for the Friends of the Library assists with current as well as future initiatives to help make our Library one of the best in the country.



## 2017 Booksale

For the second year in succession, the 2016 booksale netted more than \$100,000 and played host to about 8000 eager shoppers. .

**...and yes....we are going to do it again!**

Mark your calendar for the weekend of **October 20 - 22, 2017.**

The location has not yet been confirmed, but we are hopeful that we can use last year's space again. Stand by for confirmation of that.

Donations will be accepted beginning immediately after the Aug 1 holiday weekend, and an opportunity to volunteer will be made available online at about the same time.

**Start gathering your donations and plan to come along and join the fun!**



The annual book sale is the major fundraising activity of the Friends of the Guelph Public Library. It has been an annual autumn event since 2007. The first sale happened in the Old Quebec St. Mall. It lasted only one day, offered slightly under 20,000 books for sale and earned about \$10,000.

Each sale since has been increasingly larger and more complex and has netted increasingly larger sums of money. 2016 was the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the sale and it is fitting that the gross and net incomes were more than 10 times those of 2007.



**Watch for a completely updated  
Friends of the Library website,  
coming soon, with a new domain name**

***[www.fgpl.ca](http://www.fgpl.ca)***

Facts from Book Sale 2016 have been updated in an information handout  
for 2017 Book Sale Volunteers.



## BOOK SALE FACTS 2016

2012	4,474 shoppers (noThursday stats available)
2013	6,250 shoppers (including Thursday) 5,950 shoppers (not including Thursday)
2014	@ 7000 shoppers (not including Thursday)
2015	7726 shoppers (not including Thursday) 8101 shoppers (including Thursday)
2016`	7735 shoppers (not including Thursday)

Increased number of shoppers 2013/2012 without Thursday @ 1500 or @ 33% Increased  
number of shoppers 2014/2013 without Thursday @ 1050 or @ 17.65% Increased  
number of shoppers 2015/2014 without Thursday @ 725 or @ 10%

**Increased number of shoppers 2016/2015 without Thursday 9 (not statistically significant)**

**Approximately 275 volunteers**

**97,366 items for sale**

**80% sold**

<u>Year</u>	<u>G r o s s Revenue</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Net Revenue</u>
2007	\$10,253.50	\$1,966.75	\$8,286.75
2008	\$16,235.58	\$4,447.15	\$11,788.43
<i>In 2008 we paid for utilities during sorting</i>			
2009	\$21,439.98	\$3,174.69	\$18,266.29
2010	\$27,660.71	\$3,662.94	\$23,997.77
2011	\$42,201.55	\$3,697.56	\$38,503.99
2012	\$67,357.71	\$7,729.24	\$59,628.47
2013	\$88,172.70	@ \$7,003.27	\$81,169.43
2014	\$100,465.86	\$8,980.64	\$91,485.21
<i>In 2014 we paid about \$3000 to upgrade the lighting in the sale location.</i>			
2015	\$119,663.03	\$9,112.86	\$110,550.11
2016	\$121,043.07	\$16,592.23	\$104,450.78

*Treasurer's note: The 2016 expenses were \$7479.37 higher than 2015.  
The building owner was paid \$4068 in utilities, and there were extra  
expenses for signage to direct shoppers to the new location.*

## GUELPH PUBLIC LIBRARY

100 Norfolk Street  
Guelph ON  
N1H 4J6  
www.library.guelph.on.ca

**Mr. Dewey and Friends,**  
the newsletter of the Friends  
of the Guelph Public Library, is  
published three times annually:  
Spring, Fall and Winter  
Next issue: Fall 2017

Submissions, photos and com-  
ments are welcome. They may  
be delivered to the Friends mailbox  
at the Main Library or branch  
libraries or online. Website:  
<https://www.fgpl.ca/>

Newsletter Editors

Susan Ratcliffe,  
Marilyn Crooks

### What's New in the Library?

Virtual Reality (VR) has arrived in the Main Library!



Wearing a special headset displaying the  
selected situation, patrons envision and  
react to what they are seeing as though  
actually there. Two programs are available  
in the Main Library.

#### OCULUS Rift

Patrons can join the Oculus community from around  
the world and play cooperatively with other members  
or, as individuals, participate in variety games and  
experiences.

#### SPHERO

Robotic sphero balls lead to several unique VR  
experiences include gaming, movies and exploring  
far-away places - or spending time with friends in VR.

Spectators near patrons using the VR programs are  
entertained by the responses (e.g. dancing, laughter,  
screaming) to what VR programs are being watched



### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

April 2017 - April 2018

Enclosed is my/our annual membership fee and/or donation.

- ☐ New ☐ Renewal ☐ Cash ☐ Cheque (payable to Friends of the Guelph Public Library)
- ☐ \$10 Individual ☐ \$20 Family (list all members)
- ☐ Donation (donations meeting Revenue Canada terms and conditions will qualify for a tax receipt)

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: ( ) - - Evening Phone: ( ) - -

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Your address is used exclusively for Friends communication and is NOT shared with any third party. Providing  
your email address implies your permission to use it to communicate with you.

**Friends Activities:** ☐ Fundraising ☐ Publicity ☐ Newsletter ☐ Advocacy ☐ Author Visits ☐ Special Events  
☐ Membership

**Please Note:** If you wish to participate as a volunteer in the ANNUAL BOOKSALE please go to this page on our website  
<https://fgpl.ca/book-sale/volunteer/> ...and follow the directions there for signing up.

MAIL (or drop off) COMPLETED FORM & CHEQUE PAYABLE TO : Friends of the Guelph Public Library, c/o Guelph  
Public Library, 100 Norfolk St., Guelph, N1H 4J6