

**COMMUNICATION & COUNSEL**

Subject: Monthly Report

Prepared by: Barbara Clubb, City Librarian

Prepared for: Ottawa Public Library Board

Meeting of: December 12, 2011

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This is the last monthly reporting on the 2008 – 2011 OPL Strategic Directions and Priorities. It is also the last report presented by City Librarian, Barbara Clubb. Since mid-1995, Ms Clubb has signed off on more than 175 monthly reports.

OPL Mission Statement: *Building a strong Ottawa community by supporting literacy and life-long learning, fostering inspiration and enjoyment and connecting people to each other and the world.* (See Appendix A for Goals and Objectives 2008-2011)

*Order of Friendship Awarded to the Diefenbaker Steering Committee
November 14, 2011*



1. Goal A: Provide Responsive Services

General Comment: Heartwarming feedback from an avid user: *"It has been six months that I came to Canada (and Ottawa!). At times, when I did not know where to go, the Library has been a "refugee". When I wanted access to computers and books, the Library again was ready to help. It has always been welcoming. I just want to thank you. I am flying back to my country on Wednesday. Maybe I can return maybe not, but I will always remember the Library as a "home" in Ottawa."*

Greenboro: A tweet posted on Twitter: *"Thanks Greenboro library for always putting the coolest books in the "Have You Read" kids section. Have found many gems!"*

Main & Sunnyside: A heartfelt letter of appreciation from an appreciative library user: *"I am writing in support of the programs offered by the Ottawa Public Library. As a new mother, I regularly attend and sincerely appreciate the Babytime programs at the Main Branch and the Sunnyside Branch. The songs and stories promote early literacy through phonics and rhymes. I find that the bond with my daughter seems to deepen as a result of the focused interaction and play. I have learned many new songs that I sing over and over again with my child at home. In addition, I have made friends with other parents and am grateful to be connected to this informal network of advice and support. As a bilingual parent, I find it challenging to find programs offered in French and I especially appreciate any efforts to provide a bilingual learning experience for my child. I encourage the facilitators to continue to incorporate more French into the programs. These programs are wonderful and I congratulate the people who work on the activities. They are helping my daughter develop a love of reading that will hopefully continue throughout her life."*

North Gower: A comment received from a long-time library user: *"Having been a library addict for many many years and having lived all over: Ottawa, Perth, and now North Gower, I've encountered a lot of library staff. The majority of staff are very efficient and helpful. The very best, however work at the North Gower Branch. In particular **Louise Drouin Backs** and **Karen Craig**. They make it so very inviting. All the volunteers are ever wonderful and friendly."*

Stittsville: Kind words for the Stittsville Branch: *"I wish to make special note of the especially friendly and competent service I receive from **Christie Pitcher**. She is always cheerful and goes out of her way to be helpful. Thank you Christie and all the wonderful Stittsville staff."*

St-Laurent: A patron taking advantage of the Library's many services: *"Thank you for taking your time and energy in reading my compliment to the Ottawa Public Library today. I signed up for my second Computer Tutorial with Michel at the St-Laurent Branch last Thursday afternoon. **Michelle Chivers** is such a nice person to talk to and he explains all my questions so well. We worked together on how to scan an item and then download it onto my memory stick. I was excited to learn how to download onto my memory stick as tonight, November 15th at the Main Branch of the OPL, I am attending a "How to Create a Great Resume and Cover Letter" course. Eventually when I can write a great resume, etc., I will be able to download it on my own. I do thank Michel for his patience and his knowledge in helping me with my computer questions. When I have a couple more questions, I will not hesitate to sign-up with the Computer Tutorial Sessions at the St-Laurent Branch of our OPL. It is so worthwhile and again, thank you for all Michel's help and I am looking forward to the course tonight at the Main Branch. This really does mean a lot to me, and I do appreciate all your time and energy in setting up the sessions. **Emily Porter** from the St-Laurent Branch was kind enough to call me a day in advance to help remind me of my appointment. It all worked out well, thank you for your professionalism and kind service. Also, **Colette Lavigne** did originally sign me up for the Computer Tutorial and thank you to Colette too. She's great!"*

2. Goal B: Develop Partnerships for Accessible and Efficient Service

OPL Author Series Reading:

Alexander MacLeod reads from *Light Lifting*: Alexander Macleod made his presence at the Rosemount branch on Saturday December 3 and read from his recent book of short stories *Light Lifting*. The reading was part of the Ottawa Public Library's Author Series 2011. *Light Lifting* won an Atlantic Book Award in 2011, and was nominated for the Scotiabank Giller Prize, the Commonwealth Prize and the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award. The reading was followed by an informal discussion and book signing.

Phoenix, the Life of Norman Bethune: The OPL hosted a reading from *Phoenix, the Life of Norman Bethune* by authors Roderick and Sharon Stewart at the Sunnyside branch on Saturday November 12. The reading was followed by an informal discussion and book signing.

Randy Boyagoda reads from *Beggar's Feast*: Randy Boyagoda read from his new book *Beggar's Feast* at the Nepean Centrepointe branch on Saturday November 19. Boyagoda's previous book, *Governor of the Northern Province* was nominated for the Scotiabank Giller in 2006.

Scott Thornley reads from *Erasing Memory*: Scott Thornley read from his critically acclaimed new crime novel, *Erasing Memory* at the Elmvale Acres branch on Saturday, November 25. "For crime fiction junkies, Scott Thornley's first novel, *Erasing Memory*, a beautifully written police procedural set in a fictional version of Hamilton, was well received.

Civil Rights & Liberties, Law Enforcement, Police Action & Police Conduct: The OPL and the Civil Liberties Association: National Capital Association presented Civil Rights & Liberties, Law Enforcement, Police Action & Police Conduct. This panel discussion took place on Sunday, December 4 in the Main Library Auditorium. David Burton, of the Civil Liberties Association-National Capital Association moderated the event. The panel included Vern White, Chief of the Ottawa Police Service, Eli El-Chantiry, Chair of the Police Board, Lawrence Greenspon, Honorary General Counsel for the Civil Liberties Association-National Capital Region, Darryl Davies, Professor, Carleton University, Nathalie Des Rosiers, General Counsel, Canadian Civil Liberties Association, and Blair Crew, General Counsel, University of Ottawa Legal Aid.

Great Canadian Theatre Company: OPL and the Great Canadian Theatre Company (GCTC) have come together in a special partnership to help explore the themes and topics raised in each play during GCTC's 2011-2012 season. OPL's Readers' Advisory librarians have read the scripts for each of the plays, and recommended resources to further the exploration of their themes through fiction, non-fiction, films, documentaries, periodicals, websites, or a combination of all of these. These materials, along with the published scripts, are now part of OPL's collection and free to borrow. The resources will only add to the experience of seeing the show, and can be explored before or after being part of the audience. A full listing is available on OPL's website at the following link: <http://bibliooottawalibrary.ca/en/main/interest/read/stages>.

Growing Up Great in Ottawa: On November 28, the OPL was well represented at the launch of a new and exciting community initiative. OPL had a full table at the luncheon event that saw the announcement of the new Growing Up Great initiative and Framework to Promote the Healthy Development of Children and Youth. The event also celebrated the presentation of the first Growing Up Great Community awards. **Jane Venus**, Manager of Lifelong Learning and Literacy serves as co-chair of the Growing Up Great Community Network.

Ride-Along on the Bookmobile: The OPL hosted a ride-along for Judy Green from the Canadian Library Association, Wendy Robbins from the School of Information Studies, Ottawa University, and Katherine Dunn from CKCU. This was produced for Week's End, a current affairs radio program on CKCU every Friday from 1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Week's End is a production of the Carleton School of Journalism and Communication. The interview outlines the relevancy of the bookmobile, even with today's ever changing world of technology. The Ottawa Public Library has run a bookmobile service for almost sixty years. Katherine Dunn's interview is available here: <http://soundcloud.com/katherinedunn/a-ride-a-long-with-ottawas>

The Meaning of Children: The OPL will be welcoming Beverly Akerman to the Main Library on Monday December 12 at 7 p.m. She will read from her award-winning collection of short stories, entitled *The Meaning of Children*. Copies will be available for purchase. After a long career in molecular genetics research, Beverly Akerman turned her attention to writing. *The Meaning of Children* received the 2010 David Adams Richards Prize (Writers Federation of New Brunswick prize for fiction). Other recent honours include nominations for the Pushcart Prize in fiction and nonfiction and for the National Magazine Awards. Her work has appeared in such publications as *The Antigonish Review*, *Best New Writing 2011*, *The Dalhousie Review*, *Descant*, *Maclean's*, *The Toronto Star*, *The National Post*, and CBC Radio's *Sunday Edition*.

City Librarian's Comings and Goings: In addition to the regular meetings of the OPL board committees, FOPLA and OPLF executives etc, the City Librarian officiated at retirement events for OPL staffers Marina O'Grady-Lamont (Collection Management) and Ann Claener (Carlingwood) and for William Young, Librarian of Parliament. Additional events included the 120th anniversary celebrations of library service in North Gower; Global Awareness-Sri Lanka's multicultural celebrations entitled Connecting Sri Lankans with Canadians (Hazeldean Branch); Friends of the Library and Archives Canada celebrations honouring the lives and work of Jean-Pierre Wallot, National Archivist (1985-1997) and Guy Sylvestre, National Librarian (1968-1983) at Library and Archives Canada. Both gentlemen died in 2010. Ms Clubb was also interviewed by 88.5 LIVE for broadcast in the new year.

3. Goal C: Develop our Places and Spaces

West District Library Public Consultation: OPL is inviting members of the public to have their say as to what they would like their Library to offer, for them to share their dreams and ideas. Participants will attend a presentation then take part in their choice of roundtable workshops. Themes will include services for children, teens and seniors, functional elements, sustainability, Kanata's personality and the ideal library. The Pre-design public consultation for the West District Library will be held on Thursday, December 15, 2011 from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at the Mlacak Community Centre.

4. Goal D: Build a New Central Library

Building Condition Assessment for Main Library: A proposal has been received from Morrison Hershfield and reviewed in accordance with the Terms of Reference. Total fees for the Building Condition Assessment and Structural Review are \$64,300 (including Seismic Investigation), plus HST. Morrison Hershfield will act as the prime or lead consultant on the Condition Audit project, and will primarily coordinate all the engineering disciplines (architectural, structural, mechanical, electrical, etc.) needed to produce the required report. Adjeleian, Allen, Rubeli are the original design structural engineers, and will address all the structural issues relating to the report, as a sub-consultant to Morrison Hershfield. A Contract Approval Request (CAR) has been prepared by the City's Asset Management Branch for approval by the City Manager pending approval by the General Manager, Infrastructure Services. This approval process is expected to take approximately 4-6 weeks from November 21st. We are currently anticipating a project completion (final report) by April 30, 2012.

Central Libraries Around the World: Over the past 20 years, there has been an incredible surge of public library construction. Dozens of cities across the world have recognized the importance of central libraries as cornerstones of healthy and vibrant communities.

Populations continue to grow; technology improves by leaps and bounds and demands for library services increase with each passing year.



Central library construction is often the solution to these rising pressures. In each of the cases in the appendix attached, central libraries serve not only as civic investments with significant and measurable rates of return (economic, social, educational and cultural) but as points of pride that civic leaders can showcase worldwide. *See also Appendix B of this report.*



5. Goal E: Be an Accountable and Innovative Organization

2012 OPL Budget: City Council approved the Library's 2012 Operating and Capital budget on Wednesday November 30, 2011. The 2012 net operating budget is \$41.161 million, an increase of \$1.745 million. The 2012 capital budget program for OPL is \$4.43 million; this includes lifecycle requirements, growth, maintenance and strategic initiatives. The 2012 budget also identifies Radio-Frequency Identification (RFID) as a key strategic initiative for OPL for the next several years. The OPL Board has approved self-funding RFID initially to ensure that it is a prominent and strategic priority for the Library. As an organization, OPL will continue to seek additional external funding in order to accelerate the implementation process.

OPL Closures over the Festive Season: For Saturdays December 24 and 31, branches which are normally open after 3:00 pm will close at 3:00 pm; For December 25, 26 and Jan 1, all branches will be CLOSED. Branches will be open their normal hours on December 27, 28, 29 and 30th.

2012 Public Holidays / Closure of Branches: In 2012, library branches will be closed on the following days:

HOLIDAY	DATE
New Year's Day	January 1
Family Day	February 20
Good Friday	April 6
Easter Sunday	April 8
Easter Monday	April 9
Victoria Day	May 21
Canada Day	July 1
Colonel By Day	August 6
Labour Day	September 3
Thanksgiving	October 8
Remembrance Day	November 11
Christmas Day	December 25
Boxing Day	December 26

The following branches are open on the 1st Sunday after Labour Day to the 1st Sunday in June (inclusive). These include Main, Cumberland, Greenboro, Nepean Centrepointe, Beaverbrook, Hazeldean, North Gloucester, Orléans, Ruth E. Dickinson, and Stittsville branches. Counting week will take place from Monday November 19 to Sunday November 25.

Archibald Lampman Award for Poetry 2011: The Archibald Lampman Award for Poetry 2011 winner was our very own **Paul Tyler**, who works at Carlingwood Branch, for his beautiful book of poetry, *A Short History of Forgetting*, published by Gaspereau Press. The Archibald Lampman Award is presented annually to an outstanding collection of English-language poetry by an author living in the National Capital Region by ARC Poetry Magazine. The award is named in honour of Archibald Lampman (1861—1899), one of Canada's finest 19th-century poetry. Congratulations Paul for your well-deserved achievement.

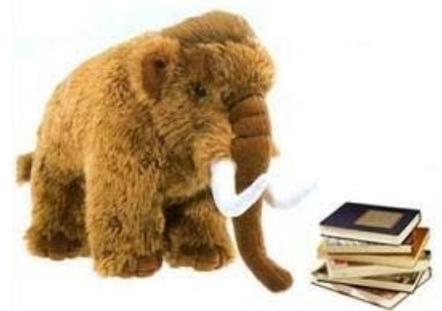
Creation of Lifelong Learning and Literacy Department: OPL has been restructured to create to create a new department called "Lifelong Learning and Literacy". Lifelong Learning and Literacy will include the former Adult and Information Services department, and the Children and Teen Services department and be focused on literacy and learning for all ages. The new department is managed by **Jane Venus**, who reports directly to the Division Manager, System-Wide Services and Innovation. The new department is a system-wide service responsible for the planning, development, and implementation of:

- Children, teen, adult, and information service initiatives including service strategies for targeted groups such as early literacy, newcomer teens, seniors, small business, and job seekers
- Literacy, reading development, and reading-related service initiatives including readers' advisory for children, teen, and adults
- Adult literacy service initiatives
- Coordinated development and roll-out of system-wide children's, teen, adult, and information services and strategies including programs
- InfoService, the city-wide library call centre

The creation of the Lifelong Learning and Literacy department has also resulted in some changes for Diversity and Accessibility Services department, led by Manager, Nelly Beylouni-Zamat. Responsibility for system-wide adult literacy initiatives and services for healthy seniors will move from Diversity and Accessibility Services to Lifelong Learning and Literacy. Responsibility for system-wide services supporting the frail elderly, Aboriginals, and populations at risk will now be part of Diversity and Accessibility Services. These changes and the creation of the Lifelong Learning and Literacy department, will result in an improved focus on lifelong learning and literacies for the 21st century.

6. Friends of the Ottawa Public Library Association

November mini-Mammoth sale brings in over \$1,000: FOPLA's November mini-Mammoth book sale at 100 Tallwood Drive featured books ranging in price from 1 to 10 for a dollar! Even at our incredibly low prices, we raised \$1,040 for the Ottawa Public Library thanks to everyone who came to the sale to show their support. We've still got six sales left, so don't worry if you missed us this time. We'll be back in December to offer great books at great prices once again.



7. Ottawa Public Library Foundation



2011 Literary Evening: The event was in support of OPL's places and spaces. The final count was 319 guests. Overall, there was good preliminary feedback and the event has been deemed as an excellent venue and program. There was good media coverage including the Ottawa Citizen and CBC Ottawa Morning. Roslyn Bern of the Leacross Foundation made a gift of \$10K in support of the event.

Community Outreach: Gerard Seguin and Nelly Beylouni-Zamat met with Visita Leelaratna of the Sirin Foundation, to discuss the possibility of establishing a fund at the Foundation, to support the promotion of cultural diversity and sensitivity, through the purchase of special collections for the Library. Hunter McGill attended the celebration of the North Gower 120th Anniversary celebration.

8. Upcoming Events

2011

- December 12, 2011 (5:00 p.m.) OPL Board Meeting (Honeywell Room, City Hall)
- December 13, 2011 (6:30 p.m.) Barbara Clubb, City Librarian's Retirement (Jean Piggot Hall, City Hall)

2012

- January 28, 2012 Human Library Launch
- February 1-4, 2012 2012 Ontario Library Association Super Conference (Toronto, ON)
- March 13-17, 2012 2012 Public Library Association Conference (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)
- May 30-June 2, 2012 CLA 2012 National Conference & Trade Show (Ottawa, ON)

Barbara Clubb
City Librarian and CEO

Appendix A.

The Ottawa Public Library Strategic Work Program is based on the Library's, mission, goals and objectives approved by the OPL Board of Trustees for the term 2008-2011.

Mission: Building a strong Ottawa community by supporting literacy and life-long learning, fostering inspiration and enjoyment and connecting people to each other and the world.

Goal A Provide Responsive Services

- A1 Focus on our future leaders: engage and support key groups who will influence Ottawa's future success: youth, newcomers and entrepreneurs and small business, seniors and job seekers
- A2 Catch up: build our print and electronic collections to address the gap between growing demand and current supply
- A3 Be virtual: enhance technology-based access and services
- A4 Good reads and the right information: support life-long learning, literacy and reading for all
- A5 Stay 'open' for our citizens: provide more and better hours of service

Goal B Develop partnerships for accessible and efficient service

- B1 Add value: leverage public investment by working with other city departments and partners on key initiatives
- B2 Be a window to the City: extend public access to City information and services through the Library's 33 branches, mobile services and website

Goal C Develop our places and spaces

- C1 Care for what we have: implement upgrades and improvements in existing branches
- C2 Build community – fill the 'holes': develop new branches to support growth and address service gaps
- C3 Reduce the barriers: enhance accessibility to our services through physical and technology upgrades
- C4 Go green: Demonstrate environmental leadership in all future facility development

Goal D Build a New Central Library

- D1 Transform our future and preserve our past: Develop a new Central Library as a civic and cultural focal point, which supports the City's goals of being inclusive, creative, innovative, proud and liveable

Goal E Be an Accountable and Innovative Organization

- E1 Develop our people: ensure effective staff and volunteer development, including the Board, the Friends and the Foundation
- E2 Use technology wisely: Utilize the power of technology to extend our services, make connections with our citizens, and realize ongoing efficiencies
- E3 Measure what matters: implement a new approach to performance measurement that informs our continuous improvement and more accurately reflects the value-added roles the Library is playing
- E4 Tell our story: build increased awareness of what the Library has to offer and report on progress to the public and taxpayers
- E5 Support OPL Board Governance and Priority Setting

Appendix B.

New Central Libraries of Canada, the United States and the World

Public Library	Opening	Architect/Designer	Facility Type	Project Type	Area (ft2)	Cost	Population
Canadian Sites							
Calgary	2015 (est.)	Undetermined	Undetermined	New	N/A	\$225M	988K
Grande Bibliotheque, Montréal	2005	Patkau Architects	Stand alone	New	355,000	\$90M	1.62M
Halifax	2013	Fauler, Bauld & Mitchell, w/ Schmidt Hammer Lassen	Stand alone	New	109,000	\$55M	372K
North Vancouver	2009	Diamond & Schmidt	Shared	New	36,500	\$36M	45K
Vancouver	1995	Moshie Safdie	Shared	New	398,000	\$107M	578K
Winnipeg	2005	LM Architectural w/ Patkau	Stand alone	Addition	189,000	\$21M	633K
American Sites							
Cambridge, Massachusetts	2009	William Rawn	Stand alone	Addition	104,000	\$90M US	105K
Denver, Colorado	1995	Michael Graves	Stand alone	Retrofit	540,000	\$92M US	600K
Indianapolis, Indiana	2008	Woollen, Molzan & Partners	Stand alone	Addition	293,000	\$150M US	839K
Kansas City, Missouri	2003	Bob Holloway (local artist)	Stand alone	Retrofit	N/A	N/A	459K
Nashville, Tennessee	2001	Robert A.M. Stern	Stand alone	Retrofit	300,000	\$51M US	635K
Phoenix, Arizona	1995	bruderDWL Planners	Stand alone	New	280,000	\$28M US	1.44M
Salt Lake City, Utah	2003	Moshe Safdie	Stand alone	New	240,000	\$84M US	186K
Seattle, Washington	2004	Rem Koolhaas & Joshua Prince-Ramus	Stand alone	New	363,000	\$165M US	608K
European/International Sites							
Amsterdam, Netherlands	2007	Jo Coenen	Shared	New	307,000	80M Euro	780K
Biblioteca Sandro Penna, Italy	2004	Studio Italo Rota	Stand alone	New	N/A	N/A	168K

Brisbane, Australia	2008	Denton Corker Marshall	Shared	New	N/A	N/A	2.04M
Helsinki, Finland	2017	Undetermined	Shared	New	270,000	70M Euro	588K
Jose Vasconcelos, Mexico	2006	Alberto Kalach	Stand alone	New	409,000	\$98M US	8.85M
Malmö, Sweden	2001	Henning Larsen Tegnetsue	Stand alone	Addition	165,000	22M Euro	300K
Royal Danish Library, Denmark	1999	Schmidt Hammer Lassen	Shared	Addition	223,000	62M Euro	541K
State Library of Queensland, Australia	2006	Donovan Hill & Peddle Thorp	Stand alone	Addition	302,000	N/A	2.04M

Additional Canadian sites with new central libraries: Hamilton, Ontario (retrofit of existing); Kitchener, Ontario (add on to existing building); Oakville, Ontario; Regina, Saskatchewan (planned); Surrey, BC; Windsor, Ontario (planned).

American sites with new central libraries: Akron, Ohio; Aurora, Illinois; Austin, Texas (planned); Atlanta, Georgia; Berkeley, California; Burbank, California; Clearwater, Florida; Cleveland, Ohio; Costa Mesa, California; Des Moines, Iowa; Fort Vancouver, Washington; Lakeview County, Oregon; Madison, Wisconsin; Minneapolis, Minnesota; Norfolk, Virginia; Orange County, North Carolina; San Antonio, Texas; San Diego, California (under construction); San Francisco, California; San Jose, California; Santa Monica, California; St. Louis, Missouri; Wichita, Kansas.

European sites with new central libraries: Almere, Netherlands; Minsk, Belarus; Birmingham, UK (under construction); Cardiff, Wales; Helsinki, Finland (planned); Hjoerning, Denmark; Liverpool, UK; Santo Domingo/Medellin, Columbia; Oslo, Norway; Prague, Czech Republic; Stuttgart, Germany; Swansea, UK; Swindon, UK; Wakefield-Yorkshire, UK.

International sites with new central libraries: Bankstown, Australia; Cape Town, South Africa; Dubai, UAE; Macau, China; Manakau, New Zealand; Palto-Panaji, Goa, India.

Central Library Gallery (see Key Features below):

Figure 1: Seattle (2004), Rem Koolhaas & Joshua Prince-Ramus



Figure 3: Sandro Penna, Italy (2004), Studio Italo Rota



Figure 2: Cambridge, Massachusetts (2009), William Rawn



Figure 4: Phoenix, Arizona (1995), bruderDWL Planners



Figure 9: Salt Lake City, Utah (2003), Moshe Safdie



Figure 10: Jose Vasconcelos, Mexico (2008), Eric Owen Moss



Figure 11: Halifax (2013), Fauler, Bauld & Mitchell



Key Features:

Figure 1: Seattle's central library boasts not only a unique geometric design, but incorporates features which increase the functionality of the space. The "Book Spiral" is a four storey high continuous shelf, allowing customers to peruse the entire non-fiction collection without using stairs. *The New Yorker* famously declared the building to be "the most important new library to be built in a generation".

Figure 2: This library in **Cambridge, Massachusetts** combines the rich heritage of the original library (1888) with the functionality of a modern addition (2009). The entire first floor of the addition is perfectly aligned to the plane of the ground, eliminating accessibility issues and allowing the exterior park to extend seamlessly indoors.

Figure 3: The **Biblioteca Sandro Penna in Perugia, Italy** features an exterior skin of pink-hued glass. The flying saucer shape allows for maximum daylight exposure. After dusk, the exterior glass walls emit a warm glow and give the entire building the appearance of floating in mid-air.

Figure 4: The residents of **Phoenix, Arizona** are proud of their canyon shaped central library. The southern face of the building is aligned with the movements of the sun, allowing for maximum exposure to sunlight on equinox days. Computer controlled louvers redirect natural light by tracking the sun's movement throughout the year.

Figures 5 & 7: The central library in **Kansas City, Missouri** features perhaps the most unique library parking lot in the world. The façade appears as a giant bookshelf featuring 22 classic titles. The "books" are each 25 feet tall by 9 feet wide and are made out of weather resistant mylar springboard.

Figure 6: Vancouver's central library resembles the Roman Coliseum and features a huge rooftop garden. A glass façade surrounds an enclosed streetscape and walking mall. The mall connects the library to retail shops, restaurants and a host of municipal and federal government service points.

Figure 8: The **Grande Bibliotheque de Quebec** is connected to Montreal's La Ville Souterraine (the underground city). By tapping into the underground concourse, library customers can access transit (La Metro), shopping, universities, museums, and restaurants without ever setting foot outside.

Figure 9: The sunny atrium of the **Salt Lake City** central library is a focal point of the facility's greening measures. It provides natural light in such abundance that no electrical lighting is needed. It also features a 60 foot high, 220 foot long glass "lens" on the southern facing which amplifies sunlight in order to heat the building.

Figure 10: Incorporating massive pieces of visual art is a common trend in contemporary library construction. The **Jose Vasconcelos Library in Mexico City** features Gabriel Orozco's *Ballena* (Whale), a full-sized whale skeleton. Every inch of bone is covered in hand-drawn geometric designs.

Figure 11: Not only is **Halifax** targeting LEED Silver for their planned central library, they've added some unique architectural tricks. The building is designed as an open-concept area, but sound dampening acoustics will allow customers to speak freely without disturbing other visitors. An interior amphitheatre will feature seating that will fold flat into the floor and the walls will be configurable to accommodate groups of different sizes.