

John M. Harper Branch Library



A SPECIAL EDITION OF *OFF THE SHELF*

WPL – a place to grow since 1866

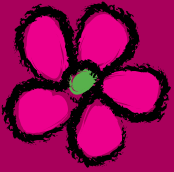
Great things come in 3s



1. MAIN LIBRARY,
35 ALBERT STREET
(THE MAIN OPENED ITS ALBERT
STREET BUILDING IN 1966...
45 YEARS AGO!)



2. MCCORMICK BRANCH,
500 PARKSIDE DRIVE
(SINCE 1973)
3. JOHN M. HARPER BRANCH,
500 FISCHER-HALLMAN ROAD



FAST FACTS ON THE HARPER BRANCH

- The Harper Branch is 17,843 square feet (about 1/2 the size of the Main)
- Teeple Architects Inc. and Garwood-Jones & Hanham Architects designed the branch
- There will be approximately 100,000 items in the Harper Branch's collection
- Free wireless will be available throughout the library space
- Customers will be able to enjoy a landscaped outdoor courtyard
- There will be plenty of programs for kids and adults

Contact Us

John M. Harper Branch Library
500 Fischer-Hallman Road
Waterloo, ON N2L 0B1

Phone: 519-886-1310 ext. 310
TelRenew: 519-886-5480
TTY: 1-866-786-3941

Hours

Monday to Thursday
10:00am to 9:00pm

Friday - Closed

Saturday
10:00am to 5:30pm

Sunday - Closed



Origami goose under construction

Honk!

Artist/architect Jyhling Lee was awarded the public art commission for the John M. Harper Branch Library. As a student at U of W, Lee spent several years in Waterloo. She explored the campus and nearby Waterloo Park, where she became familiar with the local wildlife. There, she found the Canada Goose to be a distinctive image. Her golden sculpture, Origami Goose, will "...complement the architectural language of the folded planes and angled geometry of the new building."



(left to right) Rebecca Dechert Sage and Gloria Van Eek-Meijers



MEET SOME OF YOUR HARPER BRANCH STAFF

Gloria Van Eek-Meijers –
Manager, Community Services

Rebecca Dechert Sage –
Manager, Branch Programming
& Services

Sharon Whittle –
Branch Supervisor
(pictured here)

A Message from the WPL Board Chair



I'm so thrilled to be part of the Waterloo Public Library Board as we open the John M. Harper Branch Library this year.

As a 12-year resident of the west side, I know how important this facility will be to the residents of this part of our city.

When my family moved here in 1999, the west side was still very much "under construction." Over the years, I watched as the area grew to include well over 5,000 homes. We've welcomed so many new residents to the area.

Those residents have strengthened our community. Whether they're young families, students, retirees, or recent immigrants, they are all part of our neighbourhood. That is why the John M. Harper Branch Library is so important, and we're thrilled it will be able to provide top-notch facilities and programs for all our users.

Our tech-savvy residents will enjoy the children's programming area, complete with smart board technology. They'll also be able to stop in and set up their laptops on the counter that overlooks Laurel Creek Conservation Area. Students will be able to book study rooms to work on group projects, and community groups will have access to a meeting space and its adjacent courtyard. It's just the kind of facility that so many community-minded citizens imagined years ago.

Of course, a project of this magnitude doesn't happen overnight. We've been fortunate to partner with the YMCA, the City, and the University of Waterloo to turn this facility from dream into reality.

We have also been incredibly fortunate in our fundraising campaign so far. With a requirement to raise \$530,000 towards the library's construction, we have been able to raise just over 90% through donations from generous individuals, community groups like the Hallman Foundation and the Laurelwood Neighbourhood Association, and as the chosen charity at last year's Westmount Golf Club tournament.

We still have a way to go to reach our goal. That's where we know we can count on our committed library supporters to close the gap. We invite you to consider making a tax-deductible contribution to the John M. Harper Branch Fundraising campaign. It doesn't have to be a large amount – if every library user gave just a few dollars, we'd easily meet our goal.

For more information on how you, your workplace or community group can help us reach our target, visit www.wpl.ca or contact our CEO, Laurie Clarke, at lclarke@wpl.ca

And be sure to drop by the Harper Branch when it opens this fall – we know you'll feel at home.

Helen Kaluzny
Chair, Waterloo Public Library





Who is John “Jack” M. Harper?

John (Jack) M. Harper was born in Toronto and moved to Waterloo with his family at an early age. He attended local public and secondary schools, graduated from the University of Western Ontario in 1939, and studied law at York University. He was called to the bar in 1948 and appointed to the Queen’s Counsel in 1958.

Mr. Harper joined the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders of Canada in 1940. He served first as a Private, then as a Lieutenant and Captain, and was promoted to Major and Company Commander in 1944. During and after the war, Mr. Harper’s military service was recognized with many awards and decorations.

In 1948, after completing his military service, Mr. Harper began practicing law in the Kitchener-Waterloo area, with an emphasis on corporate, commercial, tax and municipal law.

Mr. Harper was always extremely active in the community. His efforts as a busy volunteer were publicly acknowledged when he was named Kitchener-Waterloo “Citizen of the Year” in 1975, and when he received a Paul Harris Fellowship from the Rotary International Foundation in 1993.

The Waterloo Public Library is extremely pleased to recognize the numerous and diverse achievements that John (Jack) M. Harper has made to the community by naming the new west side branch library in his honour.

Our Neighbours

The John M. Harper Branch & Stork Family YMCA is located in the west end of Waterloo, at the intersection of Fischer-Hallman and Laurelwood Drive. Some of our closest neighbourhoods include Laurelwood, Beechwood West and University.

How can we describe our neighbourhood? Fast growing, family oriented, prosperous, diverse, beautiful and vibrant!

The following links will help you get to know the Harper Branch community better:

The YMCA of Kitchener-Waterloo: our partner in this exciting project! www.storkfamilyy.ca

Laurelwood Neighbourhood Association: www.laurelwood.ca

Laurel Creek Conservation Area: www.grandriver.ca

The John M. Harper Branch Library goes Green... LEED™ Silver Green



Green Roof patches contain 11 different varieties of sedum and are designed to echo the contours and wildflower meadows of the raw land.

The John M. Harper Branch Library and Stork Family YMCA is the City of Waterloo's second LEED™ (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) project. The building incorporates energy efficient elements in its design, construction and ongoing maintenance. By using less energy, LEED-certified buildings save money for families, businesses and taxpayers, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and contribute to a healthier environment for the community. The John M. Harper Branch Library is striving to achieve LEED silver level.

Green features at the Harper Branch include:

- Conveniently placed bicycle racks to encourage bicycle use and discourage car use
- Preferred parking spaces for carpool or car share programs
- 14,640 m² of open space on the site to reduce development footprint
- A green vegetative roof and high solar reflectance white roofing material
- Zinc cladding on the building exterior to increase building durability and decrease the need for maintenance
- Outdoor lighting designed for safety and comfort only, minimizing light pollution

- Indoor water use reduction through implementation of low flow plumbing fixtures and automatic controls on faucets
 - Landscape design with drought resistant plants
 - Use of locally manufactured and extracted materials, recycled content materials, FSC™ certified wood
 - Low mercury lighting, low-emitting carpets and paints and GREENGUARD™ furniture
 - Natural lighting throughout the building to reduce electrical cost and create an open and pleasant environment for everyone
 - Recycling program
- ...and more!

To help you learn more about these and other Green features, we will have a green building education program that includes a web-based information site, brochures and staff-led LEED™ tours. Check out the Harper blog at www.harperbranch.wordpress.com for more information.

The Harper Branch...



1. November 2009



2. January 2010



5. September 2010



6. January 2011



9. May 2011



10. June 2011

Start to *(Almost)* Finish



3. May 2010



4. September 2010



7. March 2011



8. May 2011



11. July 2011



12. July 2011

Programs

The Harper staff is busy preparing an exciting roster of programming for customers of all ages. We've included a sampling below, but stay tuned for more in the weeks to come! This is your library and we are committed to offering programs that reflect your interests and needs. Feel free to contact us at rdechertsage@wpl.ca with your suggestions!

Little Counters:

Discover how songs, games, and stories can help your baby learn about numbers and counting! A drop-in program developed by WLU professors for children aged 12 to 28 months and their caregivers. Date and time to be announced.

NFB Screenings:

Enjoy a free screening of selected National Film Board new releases in our state-of-the-art meeting space! The following screenings are for adults, but watch for future offerings targeted at a younger audience. Dates and times to be announced.

The Lumberfros – Documentary

In Abitibi, hundreds of kilometres from the city, thousands of workers head up north to clear brush. Filmmaker Stephanie Lanthier invites us to spend an entire season inside a northern micro-society that mirrors a new Quebec: French-Canadian Quebecers and Neo-Quebecers from Africa, Eastern Europe and Asia, all working side by side.

Turning 32 – Documentary

What are the universal characteristics we humans share? Robbie Hart and Luc Cote explore this intriguing question as they meet again with five people they originally interviewed sixteen years ago. Now living in Jamaica, Brazil, Thailand, Niger and India, the five men and women recount the events that have marked their lives, revisit their past dreams and talk about their aspirations.

Adult Book Club:

Meets the last Monday of the month at 7:30pm. Check out the Harper Blog for title selections.

Conversation Circle for Adults and Seniors:

Drop in from 7:00pm to 8:00pm every Tuesday evening for some friendly and interactive English conversation practice.

Youth Advisory Group:

Help the Harper Branch develop into a place where YOU want to hang out! If you are a tween or teen who wants to shape the programs and services the library offers to you and your peers, join our Youth Advisory Group and have your say! Meetings are the first Monday of the month from 6:30pm to 7:30pm.

Block Party!

Legomaniacs unite for an evening of creativity and imagination. For kids aged 6 and up. Thursdays 6:30pm to 7:30pm.

Ready to let go of your Lego? Consider donating to this new and exciting program!

Monday Mayhem:

A lively storytime for babies, toddlers and preschoolers that encourages a love of the library and stories with books, songs and rhymes. Every Monday from 10:15am to 10:45am.

Family Storytime:

Join us in your jammies every Wednesday evening from 7:00pm to 7:30pm for some great stories before bed. Everyone welcome.

