



## CAPE BRETON REGIONAL LIBRARY BOARD

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### SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

**Court House Tour**

**January 23, 2023**

**Members Present:** Coun. Eldon MacDonald, Coun. Steve Gillespie, Douglas MacLennan, Murdoch Moore, and Coun. Glenn Paruch

Following the tour of the former Sydney Courthouse on Crescent Street, the Board held a special meeting to discuss the building as a potential location for a new Central Library. Board members acknowledged the proximity to Wentworth Park provides green space and opportunities to expand recreation and outdoor programming.

While the tour provided a visual of the space as it currently exists with many small office spaces, the Board acknowledged that the current building size would require an expansion to allow for accessibility and the much-needed additional space. The Board expressed the need for more information in the following areas:

- Structural Building Assessment, including options for expansion
- Environmental Consultation
- Implications of Federal Heritage Status
- The overall project budget
- Cost analysis of building a new library rather than renovating an older building

Through discussion, the Board acknowledged the need for an open layout with adequate sightlines, a loading dock and garage for deliveries, and an accessible design with an elevator in the core of the building.

Regional Librarian, Lisa Mulak, informed the Board that she would meet with the library staff that toured the building to obtain their feedback on the space.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted.

Lisa Mulak, Secretary  
Cape Breton Regional Library Board.