



Media Release

Kingston Frontenac Public Library
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Temporary relocation planned for KFPL's Isabel Turner Branch during facility updates

Kingston Frontenac Public Library's (KFPL) Isabel Turner Branch will undergo updates beginning in the fall of 2024 to enhance sustainability and accessibility, improve functionality and upgrade the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system. Due to the scope of the work, the Isabel Turner Branch is expected to close in fall 2024 and temporarily relocate to the Cataraqui Centre to ensure continuous library services for the community.

The proposed improvements will make the branch more energy-efficient and welcoming to all patrons.

Constructed in 1997, the Isabel Turner Branch is the busiest branch within the KFPL system by circulation and visitation and the second-largest branch by square footage. Over its 25 years in service, library services, technology, community needs, and accessibility standards have significantly evolved.

"The enhancements at the Isabel Turner Branch are designed to benefit our community. By improving accessibility, functionality and comfort, we want to make it easier for everyone to access resources and participate in programs and community activities," said Laura Carter, Chief Librarian/Chief Executive Officer. "We're excited to design an environment that caters to various learning needs, sparks creativity and cultivates connections among library visitors. While we complete renovations, we look forward to serving the community from our temporary location at the Cataraqui Centre."

In June 2023, the City of Kingston issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the project, engaging +VG Architects – The Ventin Group Ltd., a firm with expertise in designing and renovating library and community spaces. The design phase included close collaboration with staff to deliver the best results for the community.

The construction budget is approximately \$4.9 million, with \$300,000 allocated for temporary space, leasehold improvements and relocation costs. Funding for furniture, shelving, and equipment will be part of the Library's 2025 City of Kingston budget request.

For more information and updates on the project, please visit the [Engage KFPL website](#).