

Milton Centre for the Arts

Home of the Milton Main Library



Frequently Asked Questions - Issue #1 (August 17, 2010)

What is the Milton Centre for the Arts?

The Milton Centre for the Arts will be a valuable community resource which has been designed to provide opportunities to link members and patrons of the visual, literary, media and performing arts. It will be a venue for a wide variety of programming which supports and enhances culture, skill development and lifelong learning in Milton. This facility will create synergies and improve the quality of life in the Milton community.

The Town of Milton recognized the importance of a first class arts and entertainment centre in strengthening the community and supporting the municipal goal of a diverse and sustainable Milton. The relocation and further development of the Main Library in conjunction with this facility is consistent with the Milton Public Library Board's vision for their service delivery model.

When will construction be completed?

The Centre is expected to be complete in the spring of 2011.

Where is the location?

The facility is situated on a highly prominent site in Milton, at the southeast corner of Main Street and Thompson Road, which was the former location of Milton Hydro.

What are some of the features?

- **500-seat theatre (958 m²):** Staging for live performance events, film screenings, festivals, cultural/ fundraising events, seminars and lectures
- **Grand hall (331 m²):** Suitable for exhibitions, performing arts events, visual art exhibits, banquets/receptions, meetings/workshops, drop-in programs, corporate events, recreation and education activities
- **Two art studios (185 m² each):** Each studio will accommodate 38 adult/child artists and an instructor. Initially, the space will support classes in drawing, painting and mixed media with future provisions for printmaking.
- **Art gallery (110 m²):** A community gallery with flexible hanging systems and moveable walls to accommodate individual and group visual arts exhibitions
- **Board room (74 m²):** Will function as a meeting room for corporate events or volunteer activities with enough flexibility to support a variety of small functions
- **Main Library (2,787 m²):** Space for extensive collections as well as resources, programs, seating (including silent study and group study space), workstations, self check-out machines and an automated return slot.

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Frequently Asked Questions (continued)

Will the facility be fully accessible?

The Centre will be fully accessible in keeping with the Town of Milton's commitment to creating and maintaining a fully accessible and inclusive public facility. The facility is located on a Milton Transit route; all buses in the fleet are fully accessible.

When will the facility be open?

The facility is scheduled to be open and operational in the middle of 2011.

Will food and beverage service be available in the facility?

Concession service will be available during theatre and grand hall events. The grand hall includes warming kitchen facilities. A café dedicated to food and beverage service would be considered as part of future plans for the facility, based on customer demand.

Why are there no windows on the side of the building that faces Thompson Road?

The wall facing Thompson Road is part of the grand hall, which will be used as a performance space with controlled lighting. Consultation with user groups indicated a preference for no windows in this hall.

Will there be parking on site?

Yes, there will be parking on site. Upon completion of a new internal road network, linking the new site to properties owned by the Town of Milton and adjacent to the site, a further review of connectivity, parking and pedestrian access will be reviewed. The Centre will be well positioned with links to Milton Transit and GO Transit. There are also existing pedestrian linkages to the new site along with proposed new ones, which will encourage people to walk, cycle, push strollers and take the bus to the Milton Centre for the Arts rather than driving.

How can I find out about fundraising/donations for the facility?

Find out more about the Investment in the Arts campaign by visiting InvestintheArts.ca (to be operational in the fall) or by calling Marg Fraser, Campaign Development Officer, 905-878-7252, ext. 2787.

When the new Main Library opens at the Milton Centre for the Arts, what will happen to the existing library on Bruce Street?

A feasibility study is currently underway to help determine the future of the Bruce Street facility, giving consideration to a number of future potential uses. Public consultation related to this process will be undertaken in the Fall 2010. The focus of the study will be on current and expected service levels to meet community need.

Will more information be available in the future about the Milton Centre for the Arts?

Watch for answers to these questions in the near future:

- When will people be able to purchase tickets?
- When will people be able to book facility space and what will the rental rates be?
- Who will be able to display their works in the gallery?
- What job opportunities will be available?
- What volunteer opportunities will be available?

How can I obtain more information?

More details on the Milton Centre for the Arts are available as follows:

Investment in the Arts Campaign:

- www.investinthearts.ca
(This website will be operational in the fall.)
- Marg Fraser, Campaign Development Officer, 905-878-7252, ext. 2787

General project/facility information:

- Town website at www.milton.ca
(www.milton.ca/residents/facilities/arts.htm)
- Main Matters E-newsletter
(Sign up at: www.milton.ca/townhall/media/townpublications.htm)
- Phone: 905-878-7252, ext. 2580
- E-mail: arts@milton.ca

