



Peterborough Town Library

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Press Release: Library Project Begins May 2020

Peterborough- The Town of Peterborough, the 1833 Society and the Library Trustees have announced the library will break ground in late May of 2020. The most recent effort to renovate and rebuild the Peterborough Town Library began in 2011 and is moving forward after nine years of careful planning and community input and support.

“The Peterborough Town Library holds an incredible amount of history and is an invaluable resource for the entire region. I have been completely blown away by the dedication of the 1833 Society, Leo Smith the town finance director, as well as the tireless efforts of Corinne and her staff. It's another fabulous example of how fortunate we all are to call Peterborough home. It's been my honor to play a small part in getting this project to the construction phase. This community effort to bring together a public-private endeavor of this magnitude is another important moment in the history of The Peterborough Town Library.” said Bill Taylor, Select Board member.

Harvey Construction, Bedford, will oversee the project along with Ann Beha Architects, Boston. Construction will take approximately 15 months.

To view a 3D walkthrough of the design, visit PeterboroughTownLibrary.org/LibraryProject. The historic 1892 portion of the library will be restored and the 1957 and 1978 wings will be demolished and replaced with a sustainable HVAC system, ADA compliant entrances, an elevator, and vastly improved spaces for the public.

“The heroes of this project are the residents, volunteers and generous donors,” said Library Director Corinne Chronopoulos. “The 1833 Society led the effort to raise more than \$5 million in private funds, more than \$830,000 of which was donated by the Library Trustees from their proprietary funds. The Friends of the Library played a vital role, donating \$75,000. In addition, the taxpayers of Peterborough contributed \$3 million as part of the warrant article passed in 2018



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with 80% approval. I'm so proud our town supports a public library that creates powerful literacy opportunities, offers access to information as a basic right to all residents, and contributes to the vitality of our community. This is a public building worth investing in for tomorrow.”

The library renovation will be completed parallel to work on the Main Street bridge. Both projects will be coordinated and completed within the next two years.

The library is currently closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and will reopen at a temporary location to be announced soon.

Plans for a virtual goodbye walkthrough are underway. The library pivoted to a virtual platform in March and continues to offer a full slate of online programming, a robust eLibrary collection, and employment and career coaching services. Please visit the library website for full updates on library services.

To learn more about the library project, please visit PeterboroughTownLibrary.org/LibraryProject, or call 924-8045.
