



REPORT TO THE LIBRARY BOARD

MEETING DATE: DECEMBER 17, 2009

Session:	Public Session
Subject:	Glanworth Branch Accessibility: Business Impact Statement
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Purpose of Report:	For Receipt and Information Only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Recommendation

It is recommended that this report be received.

Issue / Opportunity

The Glanworth Library was built in 1923 and became part of the Middlesex County Library system in 1963, before becoming part of the London Public Library on January 1, 1993. The age of the building presents challenges in terms of current and proposed accessibility requirements, such as the presence of entrance stairs, lack of ramp, narrow door widths and restricted interior layout of services. The branch currently has no water or sewer connections and no washroom. The branch is approximately 320 sq. ft. which could not accommodate an interior accessible washroom.

The London Public Library is aware that its facilities will need to be in compliance with the **Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act** (2005) proposed **Built Environment Standards**, which are currently under Committee review. While all other locations have achieved a high level of accessibility through the facilities renovations in the system (2002-2010), the Glanworth Branch Library presents challenges in accessibility due to its age and location. The purpose of this report is to outline the potential financial implications of meeting those challenges if required.

Background & Review

London Public Library is committed to providing quality library services that are accessible to all persons who wish to obtain and use library services. On November 21, 2007, the

Library Board approved the ***Accessibility for Library Users with Disabilities Policy*** developed in response to legislative requirements of the ***AODA***, and the ***LPL Vision, Mission, Value Promise*** and ***Service Excellence Model***.

The ***AODA*** is a provincial act with the purpose of developing, implementing and enforcing accessibility standards in order to achieve accessibility for persons with disabilities with respect to goods, services, facilities, accommodation, employment, buildings, structures and premises.

The ***AODA*** is comprised of five “Standards Areas”:

- Customer Service,
- Information and Communications,
- Employment,
- Built Environment, and
- Transportation.

Provincial committees have been working on developing specific standards in all areas within a sequential completion and implementation schedule. The full Act is expected to be implemented by 2025.

Customer Service Standards under the Act were adopted by the Library Board in January 2009.

Potential Financial Impact

In 2006 an assessment of the Glanworth Branch was undertaken by LPL and the City of London with regards to maintenance of the existing structure. In 2009, a review was done to determine potential costs related to accessibility, water and sewage hook ups and washroom construction. The estimated total capital cost to complete all the above work is \$125,000 in 2009 dollars. Additional operating costs would be incurred with these improvements, such as cleaning, heating, back-flow prevention, etc.