## TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY SCARBOROUGH CIVIC CENTRE BRANCH

TORONTO, ONTARIO



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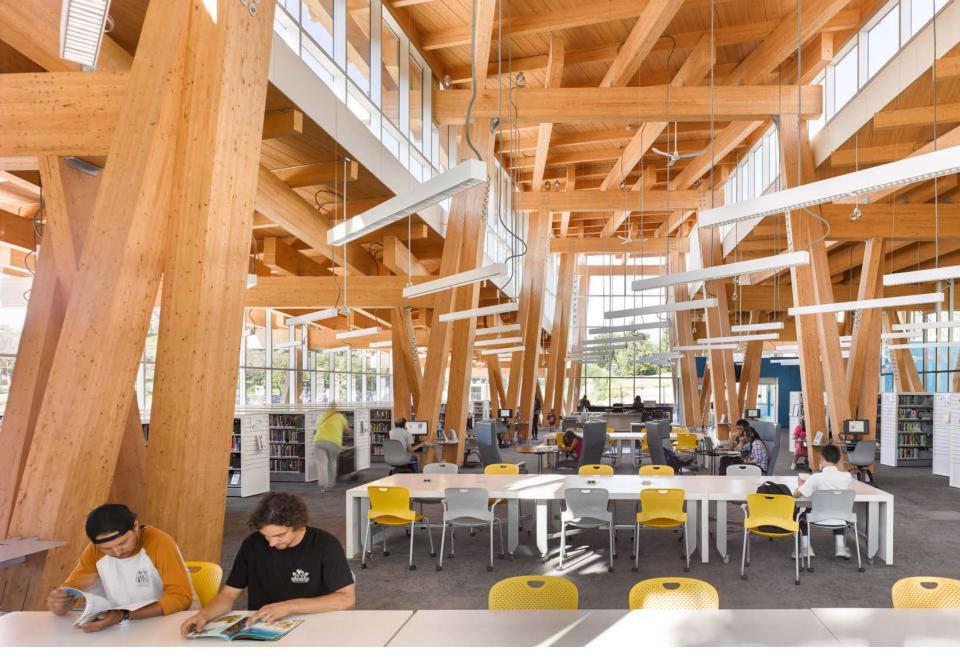
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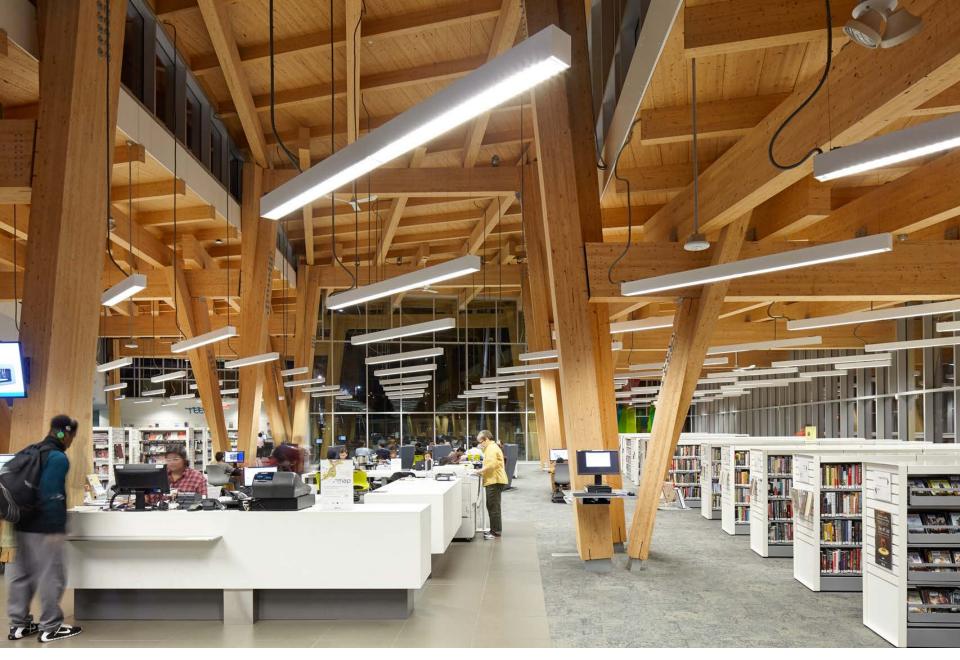


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Interior views of Children's Zone





Interior view of computer station (left) and Living Room (right)



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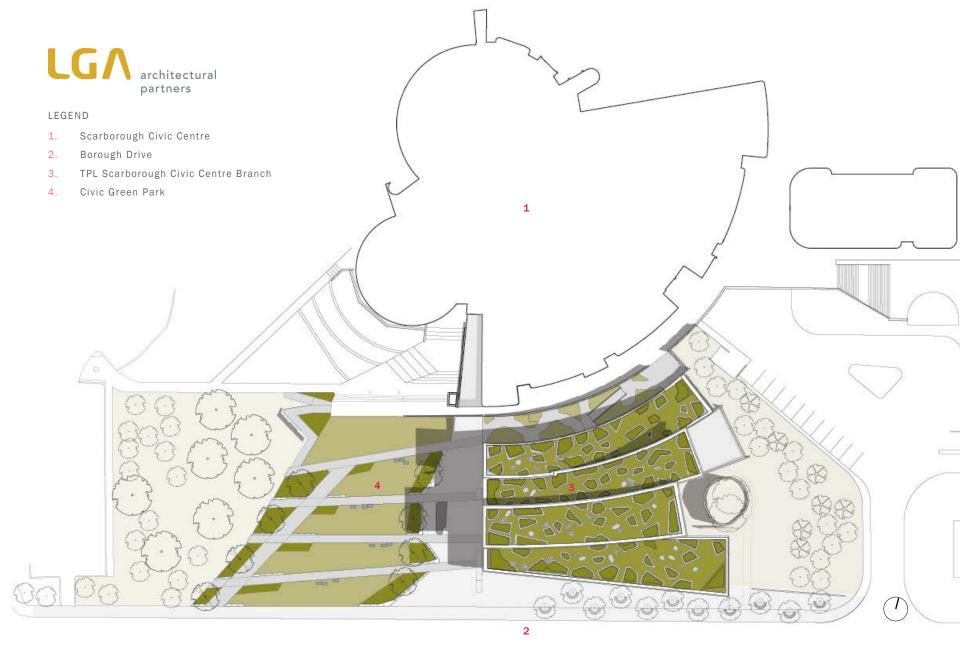
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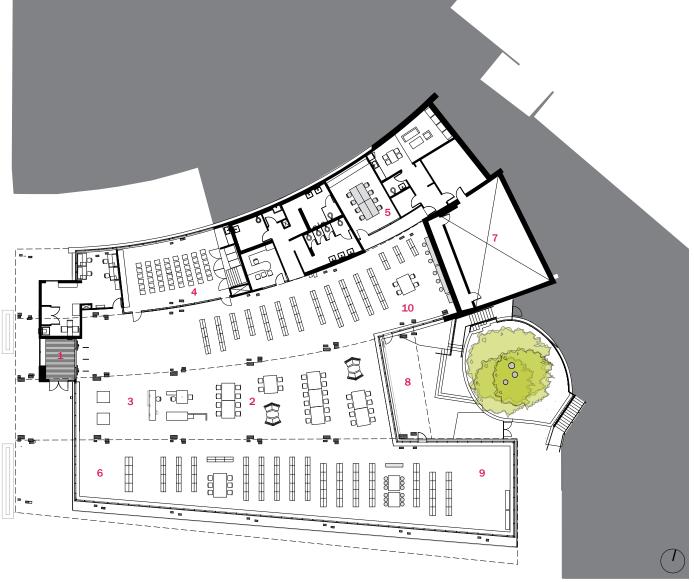


#### LEGEND

- Entry
- 2. Library Commons
- 3. Circulation Desk
- 4. Community Program Room
- Media Lab
- 6. Living Room
- Mechanical
- 8. Story Courtyard
- 9. Children's Zone
- 10. Teen Zone

# ACCOMMODATION FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE TECHNOLOGY

TPL's goal was to increase use, serve the needs of a growing neighbourhood and evolve with changing technology. A raised panel floor is used for optimal adaptability in upgrading services as required. The library's open and flexible floor space is coupled with non-fixed data / electrical connections, furniture and stacks on wheels which can be easily rearranged. A multi-purpose room and media hub were included as flexible spaces to accommodate the community's needs.





## LIBRARY STATEMENT

The Toronto Public Library's long awaited 100th branch, Scarborough Civic Centre, opened May 2015 to much acclaim. Designed to animate the south side of the civic precinct and the streetscape, this remarkable building creates new, accessible community space. The branch provides responsive 21st century library service, flexible design to support collaboration and innovation, and extends the living, working and social space of the rapidly growing community.

Located next to the iconic Civic Centre, customers are greeted by a spectacular soaring ceiling in the central great hall of this open, single storey branch. The massive wooden support structures create a truly inspiring, yet warm and welcoming space.

A digital innovation hub offers access to current and new digital media technologies for library users of all ages to experiment, innovate, create, play and learn. While it provides access to technologies like 3D printers and Raspberry Pi computers, the hub is also a collaborative space where people can connect and learn together.

An environment themed early literacy centre is located within the children's area. The three colourful cast resin towers provide interactive pre-literacy activities that encourage children to see the world from a bug's point of view, spin stories, learn the alphabet, count shapes, match items from nature and explore the world around them. The glass façade links the wooded area just across the street, bringing the great outdoors into the interactive area.

A wonderful green roof covering 60% of the building features vegetation native to Ontario. This innovative garden's borderless mounds and multiple soil depths encourage bio-diversity and expansion. A shaded reading garden, daylight harvesting,

building automation system to monitor and control the building's environment, bird fritting to help birds identify the building as a solid object, and exterior lighting on photocells and timers round out the building's environmentally friendly design.

All shelving, study tables and seating are mobile proving maximum flexibility in the space. Raised access flooring will facilitate change for future services.



### ARCHITECT DESIGN STATEMENT

The Toronto Public Library's new, 14,500 square-foot branch in the Scarborough Civic Centre Precinct reorganizes and reorients outmoded site plan relationships by creating a vital point of community engagement. It creates a landscape-building relationship that re-imagines the library as a porous, garden foreground to Raymond Moriyama's landmark Civic Centre, which was built in 1973 as an "object in the landscape." To establish clear pedestrian connections, the library functions as the new public face to the Precinct's southern entry point, interfacing with a number of new connections that are instrumental in reorganizing the entire site, including a new Civic park, and a tree-lined boulevard.

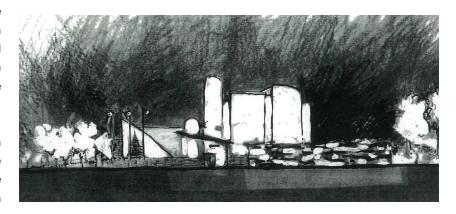
As a gesture of openness, glass replaces traditionally solid boundary walls, and instead, a series of four gently sloping roof planes form an elevated garden landscape resting on a series of crossing column clusters. The roof incorporates notable sustainable features. The overhangs reduce solar heat loads in the summer, and the clerestories allow for year-round, energy-saving daylighting. The four roof planes, with their various slopes and levels, create a space with ever-changing natural light and views. From within the library the layered filigree of wood post and beam construction is at once warm and enclosing but also open and connected to the influence of the varied characteristics of the site.

All on one floor, the branch creates a street- and community-oriented library with everyone under one roof. Based on a theme of connection the design supports the library's commitment to community space that is collaborative, welcoming, accessible and inclusive. To allow for the ever-changing collaborative use of technology in

the many varied spaces, the raised floor of the library's main space creates an accessible "crawlspace" that hides many of the building services but also allows the space above to change as the needs of the community and library evolve.

Epro des

Brock James
BES, BArch, OAA, MRAIC, LEED AP





### **COST DATA**

Standalone project with a total budget was \$10.276 million.

\$6.160 million or 60% from development charges and \$659K from the City Land Acquisition Reserve Fund and \$3.457 million of 33.4% from City debt funding. The Toronto Public Library Foundation also made a contribution toward the KidsStop early literacy centre.

Represents approximately 4% of the 2015 – 2024 10 year capital budget for Toronto Public Library - \$267.626 million. This budget includes technology asset management, as well as virtual branch services in addition to building projects.

## PARTNERSHIP AND ITS IMPACT

The Scarborough Civic Centre Project was a partnership between the Library, the City of Toronto and the Toronto District School Board. Many years of negotiation secured the site of the library building within the Scarborough Centre civic precinct.

The library project resulted in additional funding being leveraged into streetscape improvements and a new Civic Green to the immediate west of the library on Toronto District School Board property. The library facilitated the design and construction of this project which will become a lively and engaging public green space when the park opens in 2016.