

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 27, 2014

Aquicon Construction Selected to Build Vaughan Public Libraries' New Resource Library at the Civic Centre Campus

A groundbreaking ceremony held to celebrate the beginning of the construction phase

VAUGHAN, ON – Vaughan Public Libraries (VPL) announced yesterday that Aquicon Construction Co. Ltd. has been selected to build the third resource library in the City of Vaughan, which will be located at <u>2191 Major Mackenzie Drive</u>. The Vaughan Public Library Board, Mayor and Members of Council attended a groundbreaking ceremony for the new library to celebrate the start of the construction phase of the building project. The library, designed by ZAS Architects is anticipated to open in 2015.

"This is another great moment for the Civic Centre Resource Library building project. We are very pleased to have Aquicon Construction on board to help us make the new resource library a reality." said Michael McKenzie, Chair of Vaughan Public Library Board. "This new library is both a significant and valuable addition to both Vaughan Public Libraries and the City of Vaughan. Like all of VPL's branches, it will provide a welcoming destination that educates, excites and empowers our community," added McKenzie.

"Designing the new library is an exciting yet difficult task. To ensure the library meets the needs of our community, we adopted a collaborative design approach by incorporating suggestions from members of the community gathered from surveys, focus groups and community meetings conducted over the past few years." said Margie Singleton, CEO, Vaughan Public Libraries. "I am delighted to say that the new library will indeed meet the many needs of our diverse community".

The exterior of the library building is spectacular yet uniquely designed. It features a transparent look created by:

- The use of a collection of concave semi-mirrored surface
- A library façade that reflects its surroundings and patrons while suggesting a layered set of interior spaces
- Peaked roofline extending above the perimeter of "heritage landscape"
- Scalloped façades that address the scale of both driver and pedestrian with a gradient of transparent to reflective glass and metal panels

The interior of the library is futuristic yet welcoming and features the following:

- Ample natural lighting and high ceilings
- Good acoustic design
- Flexible, adaptable and easily convertible spaces
- Specific areas for teens, children, quite reading, serious studying and an collaboration
- Exciting marketplace full of inspiring and enticing library materials
- A Digital Media Lab

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An internal courtyard that is open to the elements

In addition, the library is designed to be a green building which complies with the City of Vaughan's Green Building Policy. It will also be an accessible facility that offers accessible shelving and technologies to accommodate individuals with special needs.

For more information on the project, please visit VPL's Building Projects blog online at http://www.vaughanpl.info/building. The blog provides updates on the progress of new libraries being built in the City of Vaughan and renovations being done to existing branches of VPL.



(From left to right): VPL Board Trustees Steve Kerwin, Isabella Ferrara, Grace Locilento, Suri Rosen, Regional Councillor and VPL Board Trustee Michael Di Biase, Deputy Mayor, Regional Councillor and VPL Board Trustee Gino Rosati, President of Aquicon Construction Co. Ltd Daniel Aquino, Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua, VPL Board Chair Michael McKenzie, VPL CEO Margie Singleton, Ward 1 Councillor and VPL Board Trustee Marilyn Iafrate, Regional Councillor Deb Schulte, Ward 4 Councillor Sandra Yeung Racco, Ward 3 Councillor and VPL Board Trustee Rosanna DeFrancesca, Architect of ZAS Architect Inc. Dieter Janssen and VPL Board Trustee Lorraine de Boer attending the Civic Centre Resource Library groundbreaking ceremony on June 26.

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VAUGHAN PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Vaughan Public Libraries offers welcoming destinations that educate, excite and empower the community. Annually, VPL welcomes over two million visitors making it one of the top leisure and information destinations within the City of Vaughan. VPL is more than just a place to borrow books. Each year we offer hundreds of programs for people of all ages, you can enjoy our incredible array of content everywhere – in the library, at home or on your handheld device. For more information on VPL's programs and services visit www.vaughanpl.info and subscribe to our eNewsletter.

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