

Tuesday, October 27, 2020

Dear Mayor Lehman and Barrie City Council,

I am writing to show support for a Barrie Public Library location in the area of Holly. Residents in the southwest end of Barrie are in need of a conveniently located, accessible branch to provide more equitable access to library services. A library in our area will help to ensure the continued development of a strong neighbourhood in this area.

My family is fortunate enough to be able to visit either of the current branches of the Barrie Public Library as we have two vehicles at our disposal. We are able to place items on hold and pick them up at our convenience. My husband and I are both teachers who work in the area. We know that families with young children don't access the library programs regularly due to the distance of the current locations. Whether it be the travel time and related planning to get there, or access to either personal vehicles or public transit, the distance can be a deterrent. It would be my hope that not only would a new location in the southwest end of Barrie provide families with an opportunity to access materials, it would be important for the location to offer services such as computer and internet access as well as programming for members of the community of all ages.

Please support this project in 2021.

Sincerely,

Heather & Khai Ma



**Siège social** : 63, rue Main, C.P. 5099  
Penetanguishene (Ontario) L9M 2G3  
Téléphone : 705 549-3116 Télécopieur : 705 549-6463

**Bureau satellite** : 2, promenade Marsellus, bureau 5  
Barrie (Ontario) L4N 0Y4  
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[www.lacle.ca](http://www.lacle.ca)

[info@lacle.ca](mailto:info@lacle.ca)

Barrie, October 30, 2020

Dear Mayor and Council,

As a community organization in Barrie, we are contacting you to show support for a Barrie Public Library location in the growing Holly neighbourhood. The Holly area needs a conveniently located, accessible library to ensure equitable access to library services. A library in Holly will ensure the continued development of a strong neighbourhood in this area.

It is well known that public libraries:

- contribute to building strong early literacy skills that provide the foundation for school readiness and educational success
- provide an additional space for learning outside of school time
- offer welcoming spaces for learners of all levels and ages to collaborate, connect and study
- support skills development to help build a strong economic foundation
- provide leisure activities for residents, which is extremely important during this time of uncertainty
- provide welcoming spaces and equitable access for all members of the community without socio-economic barriers

A library in the Holly community would be walkable for many, provide more convenient library access and would reflect the needs of the neighbourhood.

We feel a Holly Community Library would benefit this community because it would offer an opportunity to expose young children literacy. As an EarlyON center operator, we know our families wish to visit libraries more often and proximity would help parents accessing the location with their children more easily. We would love to partner with the Barrie Public Library to organize events in our neighbourhood.

Please support this project in 2021.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Bernard  
Executive Director  
La Clé

Hello!

Thank you for your email asking for support for a library in Holly. My family moved here a few years ago and I've often said that Holly is the perfect neighbourhood...except we need a library branch nearer to us! Please find attached my family's letter of support for presentation to Barrie council. Let me know if you have any questions or concerns,

Thanks again for this opportunity and for providing a springboard to make it easy!  
Carmen Madill

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Dear Mayor and Council,

As a resident of Barrie, I am contacting you to show support for a Barrie Public Library location in the growing Holly neighbourhood. Residents in Holly need a conveniently located, accessible library to ensure they have equitable access to library services. A library in Holly will ensure the continued development of a strong neighbourhood in this area.

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A library in the Holly community would be closer to my home, more convenient and would reflect the needs of my neighbourhood.

Personally, my family and I would benefit from a Holly Community Library because we'd have the opportunity to do one of our favourite things – walk the shelves to look for books and video games. It's almost like a scavenger hunt, and it's something we can only do in person. The books that the librarians put out at the end of the aisles and in the lobbies are always worth a look, and often we'd never have checked them out otherwise. We also like to sit down and read in one of the cozy spaces to make sure that this particular book is that one that we want. Most importantly, now that the kids are old enough to be out and about on their own, it would be great to be able to send them to a safe space to do their own exploring and discovering, and be able to interact with the librarians when they have questions. Please support this project in 2021. Thank you!

Sincerely,  
Carmen, Jim, Connor, Ryan and Natalie Madill

Councillor Thomson,

I am writing to you to ask that you support a library branch in Holly. I have a young daughter who loves the library, but we don't want to go to the downtown branch as it is not convenient for us because of parking, location and timing. A neighbourhood branch would be ideal for us to visit while we're out running errands, such as visiting the Holly rec centre for swimming or dance or grabbing groceries. We need a library where we don't have to pay to park and that is easily accessible. We often just pop in to stock up on books between visits. We have used the "little library" at the park but the books there are very limited and programs are not available.

Thanks for your consideration.  
Robert

Dear Mayor and Council,

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A library in the Holly community would be closer to my home, more convenient and would reflect the needs of my neighbourhood.

Personally, my family and I would benefit from a Holly Community Library because my wife and I currently have to drive 20 minutes to downtown or 25 minutes to the Painswick location. Since we both already drive so much for work, we would prefer to be able to ride our bikes to a closer location. We also greatly appreciate the community-building effects of local library branches.

Please support this project in 2021.

Sincerely,

Adam C. Cole

Dear Mayor and Council,

As a resident of Barrie, I am contacting you to show support for a Barrie Public Library location in the growing Holly neighbourhood. Residents in Holly need a conveniently located, accessible library to ensure they have equitable access to library services. A library in Holly will ensure the continued development of a strong neighbourhood in this area.

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Personally, my family and I would benefit from a Holly Community Library because

I have lived in Barrie, Holly, for 26 years. I have had to drive downtown with my kids to the library and then to Painswick now with my grandkids. As it is too far, we barely go once a year now to Painswick only in the summer, I never go downtown Barrie anymore.

Yes, I support a library in Holly.

Please support this project in 2021.

Sincerely,

Judy Hawkins

Dear Mayor and Council,

As a resident of Barrie, I am contacting you to show support for a Barrie Public Library location in the growing Holly neighbourhood. Residents in Holly need a conveniently located, accessible library to ensure they have equitable access to library services. A library in Holly will ensure the continued development of a strong neighbourhood in this area.

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A library in the Holly community would be closer to my home, more convenient and would reflect the needs of my neighbourhood.

Personally, my family and I would benefit from a Holly Community Library because we go often and would prefer to have a location closer to us that we could walk to.

Please support this project in 2021.

Sincerely,

Kelly Faught

Dear Mayor and Council,

As a resident of Barrie, I am contacting you to show support for a Barrie Public Library location in the growing Holly neighbourhood. Residents in Holly need a conveniently located, accessible library to ensure they have equitable access to library services. A library in Holly will ensure the continued development of a strong neighbourhood in this area.

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A library in the Holly community would be closer to my home, more convenient and would reflect the needs of my neighbourhood.

Personally, my family and I would benefit from a Holly Community Library because our kids use the library all the time. Our daughter has piles of books all over her room. Having a library closer to home would make it a lot easier to exchange them, rather than having to drive to one of the other corners of Barrie.

Please support this project in 2021.

Sincerely,

Matt Rayner and family



I live in the Holly area. I am in full support and will email my councillor with my thoughts

Darlene McMahon

I want to express my support for the planned Holly Community Library. I have loved the Barrie Public Library since I was a child, happy at story time with Children's Librarian Molly Brown in the lower level of the old Carnegie library. In high school, I loved being a page, reshelving books under the direction of Librarian Connie Hardy and clerical worker Pearl Sheppard. As a university student, I was grateful for excellent resource help by library staff and, as a Mom and Grandma, I have loved taking my grandchildren to borrow books and videos, and to enjoy all the wonderful programs. Living in the large new residential development at \_\_\_\_\_, I am discovering wonderful multicultural diversity. I would love to introduce many neighbours, especially those who are new Canadians, to our Barrie Public Library. Thank you, Luana Wood (My computer did not allow me to access the letter form that was provided by email so I am using this format to submit my letter).

Luana Wood

Good morning:

I am sending this letter in support of opening a Holly branch of the library.

My son and I reside on \_\_\_\_\_ Bear Creek Secondary School. The downtown branch is 12 km from our home and the Painswick branch is 9.3 km.

We are both avid readers and we have borrowed books and movies on many occasions. The distance however has become an issue as I no longer drive. My son commutes out of town for his work and he is gone for 14 hours per day. The bus ride to either location takes approximately 1 hour each way with my walk times to my bus stop included. This is especially hazardous in winter as I am a senior. So I end up just not going. I am sure many other residents of this area feel the same way.

If we had a branch in our Holly community, it would be a great resource especially for all the young families in this area. There are many wonderful programs offered so it would be great if the residents of this area can access them more readily and easily.

Thank you.

Cheryl Pritchard

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

Dear Councillor Harvey,

As a resident of Barrie, I am contacting you to show support for a Barrie Public Library location in the growing Holly neighbourhood. Residents in Holly need a conveniently located, accessible library to ensure they have equitable access to library services. A library in Holly will ensure the continued development of a strong neighbourhood in this area.

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A library in the Holly community would be closer to my home, more convenient and would reflect the needs of my neighbourhood.

Personally, my family and I would benefit from a Holly Community Library because we have two young children who love to read, and we want to foster a love of reading for both of them. Additionally, my older son has attended programs at the Downtown and Painswick libraries and enjoys them thoroughly; it would be wonderful to be able to participate in these community-minded and educational events in our very own neighbourhood.

Please support this project in 2021.

Sincerely,

Joshua and Kalina Cook

Hello;

My name is Julia Patterson Hogg. I read at least a book a week from Barrie Libraries and my children make use of the books and dvd's there too.

To have another branch closer to home would be wonderful and a great asset to our community.

I look forward to hearing that it has been approved soon!

Regards;

Julia Patterson Hogg

Sent from my iPhone

I would love to have a library close or walking distance between Joa high school and St.Nicholas school  
my boys attending currently, we live at

Delieta Daniel

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A library in the Holly community would be closer to my home, more convenient and would reflect the needs of my neighbourhood.

Personally, my family and I would benefit from a Holly Community Library because.....ever since my children were little, I have always taken them to the library they enjoy all the activities and it something we do as a family. It is so nice to have my children interested in something they doesn't involve a screen.....they do love the computers as well but it's just the experience and culture of a library that really encourages learning and they don't even realize it's happening

Please support this project in 2021.

Sincerely,

Jenn Thivierge

-----Original Message-----

From: Nicole Heaton

Sent: Monday, November 02, 2020 7:38 PM

To: Ask Us <[AskUs@barriellibrary.ca](mailto:AskUs@barriellibrary.ca)>

Subject: Holly Library input

I live in the holly community and there are lots of kids that would love to be able to walk to the library here. I personally have three readers and because of distance, timing and other factors it is difficult to get to the other library never mind the downtown one so I would love a library in this community if it is being considered.

Thank you,  
Nicole



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A library in the Holly community would be closer to my home, more convenient and would reflect the needs of my neighbourhood.

Personally, my family and I would benefit from a Holly Community Library because there is an increasing amount of traffic slowing our travel to the two available libraries in Barrie. The closer libraries are, the more likely families are to benefit from their services. Since moving to Holly, our visits to Barrie Public Libraries have certainly decreased. Libraries centre communities.

Please support this project in 2021.

Sincerely,

Joy Wilson

Dear Mayor and Council,

As a resident of Barrie, I am contacting you to show support for a Barrie Public Library location in the growing Holly neighbourhood. Residents in Holly need a conveniently located, accessible library to ensure they have equitable access to library services. A library in Holly will ensure the continued development of a strong neighbourhood in this area.

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A library in the Holly community would be closer to my home, more convenient and would reflect the needs of my neighbourhood.

Personally, my family and I would benefit from a Holly Community Library because I believe a library is so important to the development of a child and a sense of community. I refuse to go downtown anymore to the library because of how unsafe I feel with my children and its extremely hard to get across Mapleview to go just for a book and some family quiet time. We have waited so long for something in this end and we are growing enough that it is finally time.

Please support this project in 2021.

Sincerely,

Amy Hawkins

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Dear Mayor and Council,

As a resident of Barrie, I am contacting you to show support for a Barrie Public Library location in the growing Holly neighbourhood. Residents in Holly need a conveniently located, accessible library to ensure they have equitable access to library services. A library in Holly will ensure the continued development of a strong neighbourhood in this area.

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A library in the Holly community would be closer to my home, more convenient and would reflect the needs of my neighbourhood.

Personally, my family and I would benefit from a Holly Community Library because as seniors and grandparents, having the option of being close to the library would be the best healthy, safe choice for us throughout the coming years. The bus service at the door would help families in other areas of south east end Barrie to have convenient access. School-age children in the Holly neighbourhood would also be able to enjoy the literacy and creative up-to-date programming provided by the Barrie Library staff. Linking the talented staff of the library with that of the Holly Community Centre would be amazing!!

Please support this project in 2021.

Sincerely,

Family Brian and Rosemarie Moss

Dear Mayor and Council,

As a resident of Barrie, I am contacting you to show support for a Barrie Public Library location in the growing Holly neighbourhood. Residents in Holly need a conveniently located, accessible library to ensure they have equitable access to library services. A library in Holly will ensure the continued development of a strong neighbourhood in this area.

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I have such fond memories of my time spent at the public Library near my home when I was growing up. I would love for my two boys to be able to walk over to the library and dive into the amazing adventures inside. With covid preventing the schools from sending books home weekly to advance our children's reading skills, a library would be an excellent alternative for those that don't have access to digital sources or for those of us that just like to feel the pages between our fingers.

Please support this project in 2021.

Sincerely,

Taegan Downey

Dear Mayor and Council,

As a resident of Barrie, I am contacting you to show support for a Barrie Public Library location in the growing Holly neighbourhood. Residents in Holly need a conveniently located, accessible library to ensure they have equitable access to library services. A library in Holly will ensure the continued development of a strong neighbourhood in this area.

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A library in the Holly community would be closer to my home, more convenient and would reflect the needs of my neighbourhood.

Personally, my family and I would benefit from a Holly Community Library because as a homeschooling family living in the Holly area it would offer us such convenience. Library access has been an invaluable resource over the past 15 years. It has allowed me to stay within a budget by utilizing books that I would have otherwise have had to purchase. I have also been able to make wise decisions about adding to our home library by accessing the books in the library first. My children have enjoyed the many programs offered and its been wonderful to participate in areas that have captured their interest taught by a member of the community. We are committed to visiting the library on a regular basis and to have one located in our community would be amazing!

Please support this project in 2021.

Sincerely,

Valerie Smith

Dear Mayor and Council,

As a resident of Barrie, I am contacting you to show support for a Barrie Public Library location in the growing Holly neighbourhood. Residents in Holly need a conveniently located, accessible library to ensure they have equitable access to library services. A library in Holly will ensure the continued development of a strong neighbourhood in this area.

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A library in the Holly community would be closer to my home, more convenient and would reflect the needs of my neighbourhood.

Personally, I would benefit from a Holly Community Library because the branch that I frequent (Dean Ave) is a 9 km/15 minute drive from my house. I would use the Holly branch more frequently and would return the items more quickly rather than waiting to combine my Library trip with another errand in the Painswick area (which is infrequent). I use e-book services however I still prefer hard copy books so physical visits are necessary to pick up and return them.

Please support this project in 2021.

Sincerely,

Jane Corbeil, 20+ year Holly resident & Barrie Public Library member

Hi,

I just wanted to share my view point on how a library in the Holly area would be very beneficial to my family , friends and neighbors. We use the library quite frequently and having one closer to where we live would increase the amount we can use it . We would really like it because we only have one vehicle and it's not always convenient to drive and having a library within walking distance would be amazing. Thank you for your consideration.

Jessica and David Grant