

## Final Phase of Alice Turner Branch Expansion

THE ALICE TURNER Branch expansion is in its final finishing stages! At the beginning of November, a brief closure was needed and reduced public access was in place for approximately one month to accommodate the final phase of construction. Along with the construction aspect of the expansion project, there is also a need to merge the existing Library space with the new additional space. This means staff will be busy not only reorganizing and shifting the existing collection, but also growing the collection to offer patrons access to an even wider array of useful and entertaining resources. With the completion of the expansion project, patrons will enjoy more public sitting space and a new meeting room. The service desk will also undergo a redesign that will include technological improvements; look for a new patron self-checkout area. Operations are expected to be back to normal with access to full services by year-end.

With any construction project, there is always an element of the unknown. Thank you to Library patrons and staff for your patience and understanding throughout the delays, temporary closures and limited services. This new expansion means Alice Turner Branch will be the largest suburban branch in Saskatoon, with features to serve a growing community.



Staff are busy reorganizing and adding to the many resources available at Alice Turner Branch

—SPL photo

Stay tuned to [saskatoonlibrary.ca](http://saskatoonlibrary.ca) for the latest news regarding this project and for details of an official Grand Opening to be announced in the first part of 2012.

## More Public Computers!

OUR PUBLIC COMPUTER access is an active and well-used service. In order to improve this service, eight new public computers will be added to Information Services at Frances Morrison Library in late November. For more information about public computer access, see page 30.

## Central Library Update

SASKATOON PUBLIC LIBRARY Board continues to work with City of Saskatoon to develop a new central library as part of the City Centre Plan. The Board is currently reviewing two downtown locations as possible sites. Within the City Centre Plan, Phase 2, Community Engagement, has been completed. Phase 3 involves the Civic Plaza area masterplan—the design of a spatial masterplan to create a unique place through integration of the civic buildings, public spaces and infrastructure in the downtown core (City Hall, Frances Morrison Library, 23rd Street Transit Mall, Sturdy Stone Centre and the existing Saskatoon Police Service building).



The first annual Word On The Street festival saw almost 3,000 people gather downtown to celebrate reading and writing!

The second annual The Word On The Street festival will be held in downtown Saskatoon on September 23, 2012. Make sure you mark your calendars for this national premier celebration of literacy and the literary arts. The festival includes author readings, exhibitors, entertainment and more.



Muriel Ong, grand prize winner of an eReader from the Saskatoon Public Library, Word On The Street exhibit

—SPL photos