

Six Nations Public Library

**MAJOR  
CAPITAL  
CAMPAIGN**

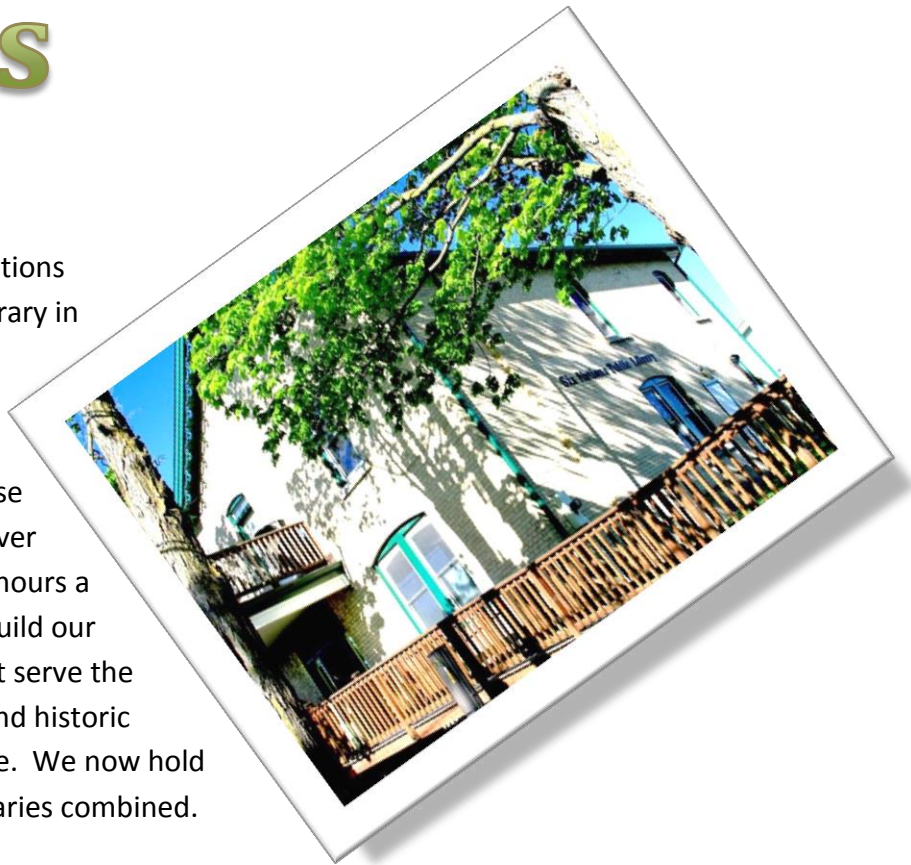


*Keep Us Growing!*

# About Us

## Largest First Nations Library in Ontario

Six Nations Public Library is the largest First Nations library in Ontario and the only First Nations library in Canada to achieve the rigorous standards of Accreditation. With the largest collection, largest patronship, and largest circulation, SNPL continues to look for new ways to increase services and enhance our ability to meet the ever increasing needs of our community. Open 55 hours a week, our staff are motivated to continue to build our Library services and collections in order to best serve the public. In 2010 we began collecting our rare and historic materials and in 2012 began our Digital Archive. We now hold more materials than all First Nation public libraries combined.



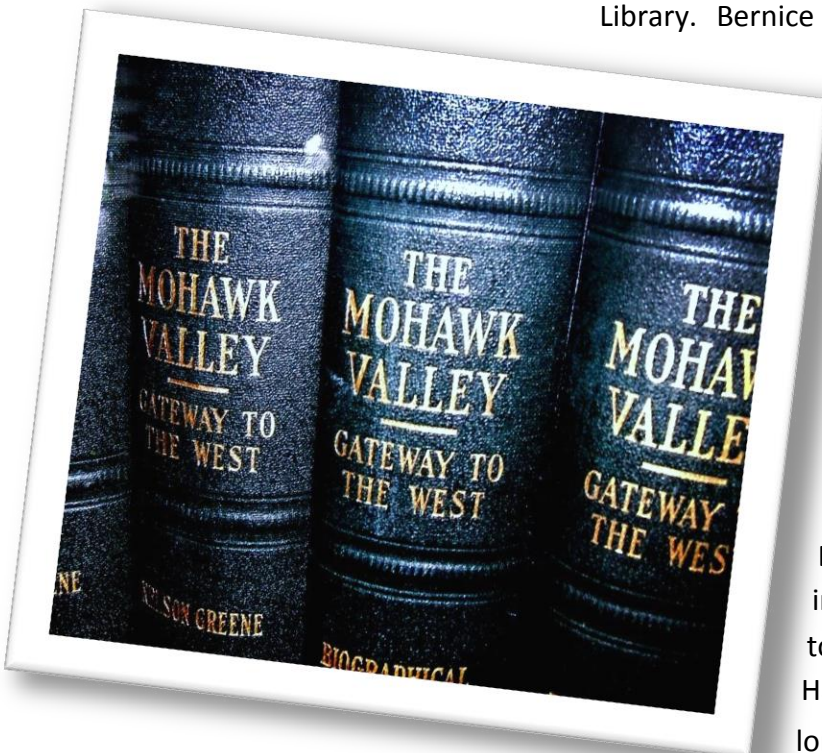
## Our History

In 1966 a group of Six Nations community members came together to campaign for a community library. Six Nations Council established the inaugural Library Board on March 3, 1966. Soon thereafter, the Ohsweken Women's Institute became involved and began fundraising for the proposed Pauline Johnson Memorial Library. Bernice Loft Winslow offered a donation of \$500 and is

recognized as the SNPL's first benefactor.

The Founding Board laboured throughout the year of 1967 and into early 1968 to organize a library which would take available space within the former Doctor's residence.

In 1973 SNPL moved to the old Council House and then returned to the Residence in 1997, where we remain today. In the 47 years history of the Library, the SNPL Board has seen many faces including a number who have served over two decades each. The 2013 SNPL Board would like to thank those who saw the importance of public access to information and to recreation within the Six Nations community. Having never closed our doors, SNPL is the longest running First Nations Library in Ontario.





## Community Demographics

Six Nations of the Grand River is located in Southern Ontario along the Grand River. Six Nations, the largest First Nation in Canada, has 23,087 members with 11,596 living on-reserve. Although 50.11% of residents live on-reserve, a significant number of off-reserve members live within the surrounding townships and also utilize SNPL. A projected membership breakdown by age has 9,235 members under 20; 12,929 members age 20-64; and a senior population of 65 and above at 923. This number continues to grow with 30,000 on-reserve residents expected in 2025.



Literacy among Aboriginal people is historically lower than non-Aboriginal peoples. Those who utilize libraries and engage in regular extra-curricular reading at a young age are known to be better able to self-direct, problem solve and complete tasks more readily than those without literacy skills. One of the most basic missions of the public library system is to enhance community literacy of youth and adults alike, thus yielding stronger communities. Literacy, educational attainment/training, and healthy usage for youth's free time are vital to Aboriginal people being active and engaged members of the Canadian economy.

## Patron Usage

Six Nations Public Library is currently the most utilized First Nations public library in Ontario, and is clear in our



desire to expand the literacy and attainment of our community. However, we have reached the maximum capacity of our historic 1885 building, and realize that we must now move forward with a new facility in order to meet the growing needs of the Six Nations and surrounding community. SNPL is in operation six days a week for a total of 55 hours per week. During this time we serve an average of 87 patrons per day or 27,144 patrons per year. An additional 30 patrons per day (9,360 people annually) are turned away due to unavailability of computers, lack of seating space or

because we cannot house the materials they are requesting. Most concerning of those turned away are members of our community who have accessibility needs and cannot access a significant portion of our collections and services which are located on the second floor. This figure is estimated at over 1/3 of the total community population. The circulation of our 24,000+ holdings is 13,177 per year, which is more than 1/2 of the collection. This is a disproportionate circulation rate for a library of any size, and according to library formulas is a valid argument of the need to increase materials and selection. In 2012-13, more than 6,000 participants attended over 300, workshops and events. Each was held in the inaccessible second floor or off-hours in order to maximize access to the very small facility. More importantly to SNPL, the quantity of outsourcing of resources and passing on of patrons to better stocked off-reserve libraries would decrease if we were able to have space to house an adequate collection and offer year round programming.



# Six Nations Public Library Capital Campaign

The total building project for the Library and Archive Facility has Class A Estimates of \$16,131,363 including land, new road, interiors and architectural services. The remaining fees of \$15.5 million construction and interiors, includes \$5.5 million for the Library portions. Six Nations Public Library and the Friends of the Six Nations Public Library Foundation are leading the Major Capital Campaign for both the new Library and the larger project.

## Project Abstract

The project of construction of a new Six Nations Public Library within the village core of Ohsweken includes a 17,000+ square foot library containing the main collection plus space for research, programming, storage and archival usage. Additionally, the Archive services of Records Management Systems, Lands and Resources, and Lands and Membership, as well as the comprehensive community archive will encompass additional space within the multi-use building. It is imperative to expand the operations of our small community library in order to meet the needs of the Six Nations community.

*There is a double standard for the performance of First Nations organizations & agencies, characterized by lowered expectations. We reject the double standard which suggests that our community is less worthy of a modern library; instead we strive to exceed basic standards and expectations which is exemplified by our 2011 Accreditation as an Ontario library of excellence.*

## Outcomes and Benefits for Our Community

We are so excited to finally be able to offer these expanded services in the new Library building:

- An after school program for grade 2-8 students including social, academic, and edutainment.
- A comprehensive genealogical program for new and veteran researchers.
- A social hour for Seniors.
- A history group for community members wishing to share and preserve local history.
- A designated and permanent community place where language acquisition and sharing can occur.
- A safe and secure place for the records and heritage of Six Nations to be preserved for the future.
- A dedicated research space for post-secondary students of Six Nations.
- An alternative location for the community to receive their secondary school credits for graduation.
- A location for students to meet with their GELA teachers as they re-enter high school.
- A fully equipped computer lab for dedicated IT workshops and seminars.
- Telecom space for community members and organizations.
- Community meeting and programming space for NPO groups.
- The ability to offer presentations to rural & northern communities via a telecom equipped theatre.
- A fully AODA compliant facility.
- An increase of 2 FTE staff to conduct programming at SNPL over service hours.

# Project Phases & Class A Estimates

## Phase I: Pre-Planning & Research [\$120,000]

### Key Components of this Phase:

- 2009 SNPL Needs Assessment
- 2010 Library Archives Feasibility Study
- Land Acquisition

## Phase II: Planning and Design [\$483,713]

### Key Components of this Phase:

- Geotechnical Engineering Survey
- Architectural schematics
- MOU's between Building Stakeholders
- Call for Tenders for construction

## Phase III: Road & Site Preparation [\$2,572,650]

### Key Components of this Phase:

- road constructed in right of way for 3 lanes of traffic
- Accessible sidewalk extended from Fourth Line to site
- Utilities, water, sewer brought on site
- Fiber-optic line brought on site for connectivity

## Phase IV: Construction of the Library & Archive Building [\$12,330,000]

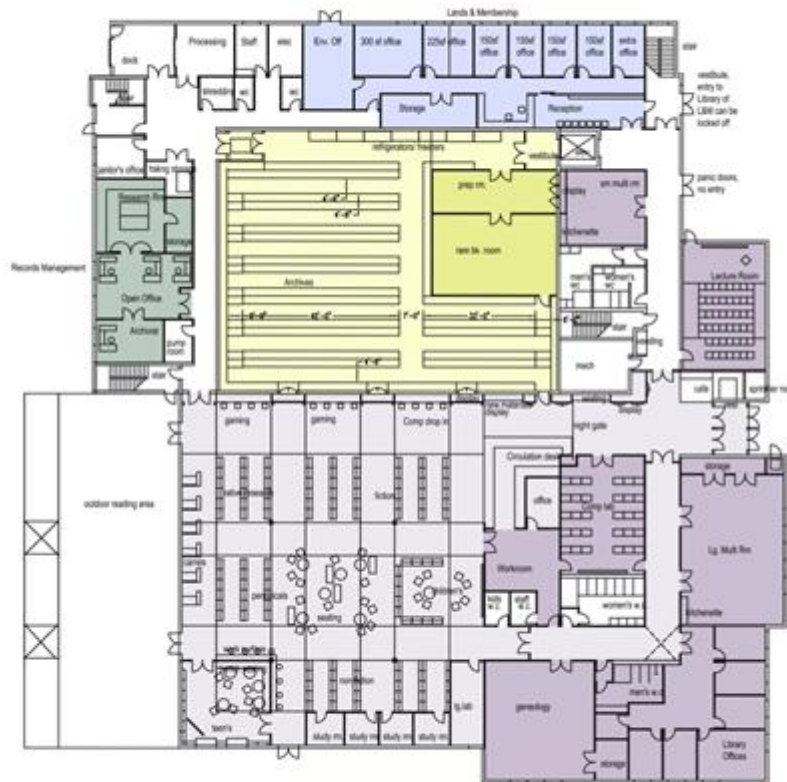
### Key Components of this Phase:

- Foundation excavation and pour
- Two floor (51,000+ sq.ft.) commercial construction shell
- Includes 17,000 sq. ft. library
- Includes 200,000+ cu.ft. archive
- Utilities, water, sewer brought on site
- Fully Accessible structure with elevators
- Installation of security systems
- Pave parking lots and install exterior lighting

## Phase V—Completion of Library Interior [\$625,000]

### Key Components of this Phase:

- Installation of electronic book security system
- Purchase of new shelves, space-saving book storage, study carrels, furniture & office equipment
- Purchase of computer lab & related network/printing technology
- Installation of telecommunication centre and hubs throughout Library
- Purchase of 5,000 new books and resources for immediate expansion of popular materials
- Purchase/installation of hermetically sealed archival storage room & equipment
- Purchase/installation of media/seminar room & Smart room equipment
- Purchase/installation of display/museum space, equipment & materials
- Purchase of meeting rooms & programming space furniture



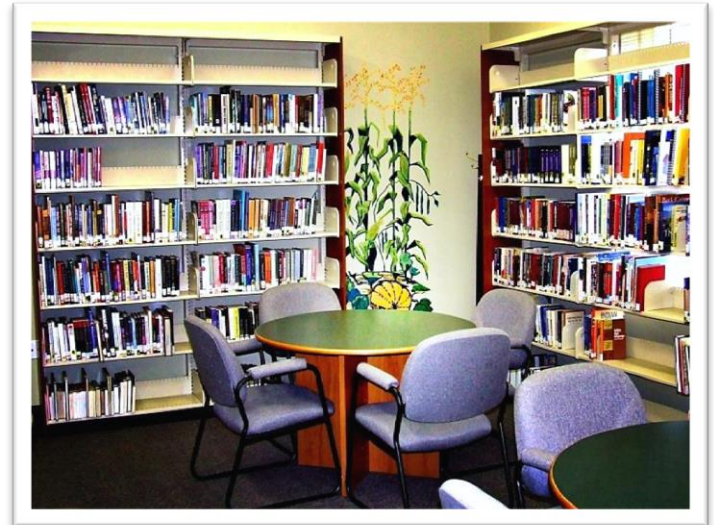


## Needs Assessment

Community Surveys completed in 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2011 demonstrated community support for a new library and archive. Specifically, community and patrons expressed a need for community programming space, accessible collections, increased size and versatility of collections and leisure space including study and reading areas as conditions which were amiss from the current library. Additionally, patrons expressed a need to have significantly more computer space including formal technology centre where computer workshops and training could occur, as well as telecommunication meetings.

## Rationale of Need


- SNPL is currently located in the village core in an 1885 Band owned two-floor building. Since 1997 SNPL has invested in the infrastructure and renovation of the site. However, the size and floor plan no longer suits the current and future needs of community patrons.
- Our collection of 27,000+ books and resources are limited by the current buildings space allowance. Public libraries serving a population the size of Six Nations have collections nearly twice the capacity, housing over 40,000 titles.
- SNPL has increased the quantity and type of programming offered to serve our community. This includes video showings, children's reading programs, homework drop-ins, computer workshops and youth programming. Due to limited space, we have had to limit our enrolment and attendance in all programs. We are unable to offer similar programs to people with physical disabilities and the elderly as second floor is only accessible by a steep staircase. Due to either limited or inappropriate space, there are a number of initiatives which we and the community would like to institute such as genealogic workshops and family game nights, but cannot.
- There is a growing community need for free high speed internet access. SNPL has attempted to compensate for this growing need by implementing longer hours of operation and expanding the computer stations and in-house wireless network. Despite these measures, on any given day a prolonged wait for computer access for both research and pleasure is common. SNPL needs to nearly triple the number of systems available to the public to accommodate the current demand. In conjunction with the Ontario Library Association and the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, connectivity in communities is supported financially for libraries. We must only provide the space and systems, and they will support the cost of networking and connection. SNPL has reached the maximum number of systems we can house within our current space, yet demand continues to grow.
- A library archive able to fulfill the public needs of our community was identified to include not only the physical space to hold such documents, but the means and conditions to store, digitize and repair archival materials. This is an important aspect of a new library design as we expand our local history collection to include rare and obscure documents and materials about the peoples of Six Nations of the Grand River.



## 2011 Feasibility Study

Six Nations Council supported a Feasibility Study of the Library and Archives which they accepted as information in March 2011. This study was completed by MMMC Inc. and identified the primary users of the facility, as well as the facility needs for use as projected through 2035. This study was used to create the Library Building Program and to inform the tender for Architectural Services in 2012.

# How you can help...



Building benefactors for the Library is a daunting task. Six Nations is a small community with few businesses or a wealthy resident base and every dollar will count in our campaign for a new facility.

Limited funds have been identified for this project from federal, provincial, and local Governments, which means we must rely on corporate donors and fundraising efforts to raise the at least 1/3 of the total project. In order for this project to succeed, private and corporate donors are essential to the realization of this campaign. Six Nations Council and Government Ontario have been very supportive of SNPL; however, their funding alone will not see our goals to fruition. It is for this reason that ***we need you.***

In March 2011 the **Friends of the Six Nations Public Library Foundation** was established. The Foundation has a core goal to support and enhance the Six Nations Public Library mission to enrich lives and build community while ensuring multi-format access to resources for life-long learning, research, culture and historical archives. The Library and Foundation Boards are both working closely to raise funds for a new facility. As a Non-Profit Organization and Registered Charity (No. 81720 1007 RR0001) we are qualified to issue Official Tax Receipts for donation.



## Major Contributions:

If each household in our community were to give a gift of \$100 annually, it would take us nearly 100 years to raise the funds for a new building. Every person has the ability to be a supporter of the Library and small donations make a significant difference for collections and programming, but it will take major donations from people such as you to move our community Library into a new facility. Major donations can be made in person by cash (less than \$10,000) or cheque, by phone or online by credit card, or at Ohsweken BMO. Large donations can be made by appointment with the Library CEO. Grants and gifts can also be arranged for direct billing.

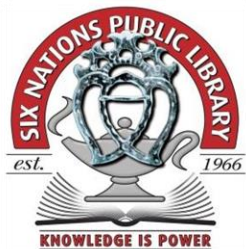
## As a Donor You have the right to:

- Know how your donation is being used and spent as designated
- Receive public thanks for your donation or make an anonymous donation
- Receive a receipt of donation or request an Official Tax Receipt
- Request and view official minutes, records and audits prior to or post donation

## Thanks for Your Support

We are confident that after considering the importance of the SNPL initiatives, you will chose to donate to our campaign. We thank you in advance for your gift to our community. Together we can grow a stronger Six Nations Public Library and community of Six Nations of the Grand River.

*Supporting the Library Campaign is supporting our belief that **Knowledge is Power!***



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