

VANCOUVER LITERARY ARTS CENTRE



VISION

The Vancouver Literary Arts Centre will be a dynamic home for the city's vibrant publishing and writing communities, and a lively public venue for author readings, book and magazine launches, and other literary-related activities. The Centre aims to be a diverse literary hub that will raise the profile of the city's publishing and writing communities and encourage the importance of literacy and storytelling among young people.



CONCEPT

The concept at the present time proposes to create a warm, welcoming, and inspirational environment. It will comprise meeting rooms and offices for book publishers, authors, and other possible partners. Complementing this will be a book launch, book reading, educational space with a book display and adjacent small reading area, and a kitchen to support events. The Centre will also include warehousing space for book publishers, either integrated with the building, or in close proximity. A destination for all ages, the Centre will work closely with public libraries and existing writing and literary organizations throughout the Lower Mainland. The Centre will also welcome usage by visitors outside of Vancouver.



SPONSOR

The sponsor of this project, the Association of Book Publishers of BC (ABPBC) is a provincial association of BC-owned and controlled book publishing companies. The ABPBC works to support the long-term health and success of its membership through cultural, economic, and political initiatives, and engages book-related communities in British Columbia, Canada, and beyond.



OTHER CENTRES

Though the Centre is unique in Canada, many precedents exist for literary arts centres in world-class cities across North America and Europe, including:

- OPEN BOOK: A HOME FOR LITERARY & BOOK ARTS (Minneapolis)
- THE HOUSE OF LITERATURE/LITTERATURHUSET (Oslo)
- LITERARY ARTS (Portland)
- FREE WORD CENTRE (London)
- WHEELER CENTRE FOR BOOKS, WRITING & IDEAS (Melbourne)



FACILITIES

The initial proposed area for this concept assumes a phased approach starting with space in the range of 10,740 sq.ft., which includes a margin of space of approximately 2,000 sq.ft. for those who were not able to respond to the initial survey.

SPACE TYPE	PROPOSED AREA (SQ.FT.)
Reception	100
Office/Workstations	6,500
Boardroom	200
Meeting Room	150
Reading/Book Launch Area	1,000
Kitchen	200
Washrooms	200
Storage	250
Quiet Reading Space	100
Gross-Up	1,790
Contingency	250
TOTAL	10,740
Warehouse Space	4,800



COSTS & FUNDRAISING

The Centre will provide affordable space for all users within a viable capital plan and with sustainable operating costs. To attain these objectives the concept plan assumes no capital debt and that capital costs will be fundraised. Fundraising for the project is targeted at \$2.75 million. This figures includes \$1 million for physical improvements to the leased space, and \$1.75 million to cover any shortfalls during the first five years of operations.



JOIN US!

With broad-based support and interest to date, the ABPBC is confident that the goal of creating the Vancouver Literary Arts Centre can be achieved, but we need your help! If you are interested in joining the Centre, making a donation, or volunteering your time to this exciting project, please contact the Association of Book Publishers of BC via email at admin@books.bc.ca or by phone at **604-684-0228**.