
MEDIA ADVISORY/ PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 14, 2019

**Celebrate Bathurst Clark Resource Library's 25th Anniversary
and the Opening of the NEW Children's Area and Learn It! Lab
on Sunday, January 20**

WHAT: Vaughan Public Libraries (VPL) will celebrate the 25th anniversary year and the opening of the new Children's Area and Learn It! Lab at Bathurst Clark Resource Library, 900 Clark Avenue West in Thornhill, on Sunday, January 20. The official welcome begins at 10:30 a.m.

Family entertainment from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. includes a storytime with Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua, a puppet show by Applefun Puppetry, free refreshments, a variety of STEAM activities and book arts stations.

WHEN: Sunday, January 20 at 9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

9:30 a.m. Magic by X.Ray

10:30 a.m. Official Welcome followed by the Opening of the New Children's Area and Learn It! Lab

Remarks - M.C. Margie Singleton, CEO, Vaughan Public Libraries;
Honourable Maurizio Bevilacqua P.C., Mayor of the City of Vaughan;
Ward 5 Councillor Alan Shefman of the City of Vaughan;
Honourable Michael A. Tibollo, Vaughan – Woodbridge MPP and Minister
of Tourism, Culture and Sport;
Dr. Devender Sandhu, Chair, Vaughan Public Library Board

Official Photos to follow Welcome Ceremony

11 a.m. Family Storytime with Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua

2 p.m. Puppet Show by Applefun Puppetry

WHERE: Bathurst Clark Resource Library, 900 Clark Avenue West, Thornhill

ATTACHMENTS: Bathurst Clark Resource Library and Recent Renovations / LEARN IT! Lab / VPL Building Blog / ward99 architects / Massive Devcon Corporation

BATHURST CLARK RESOURCE LIBRARY AND RECENT RENOVATIONS:

Bathurst Clark Resource Library, with 36,500 square feet on one floor, was designed by Montgomery & Sisam Architects and built by Jasper Construction Ltd. with the official opening held on June 12, 1994. For 25 years, Bathurst Clark Resource Library has provided excellent library resources and services to enrich, inspire, and transform the citizens of Vaughan. Today, the library continues to offer a welcoming destination to the community and serve the diverse needs of Vaughan citizens.

The Library began renovations last summer, completing Phase One which included the painting and replacing all of the carpet in the main public library space; additional comfy new chairs and study tables enlarging study space and increasing seating; the renovation of the main washrooms; the creation of a program/meeting room; and two exterior book return slots in front of the library.

Phase Two included the new Children's Area, a space created specifically for children and their families where they will be able to enjoy hands-on literacy-rich experiences. The area also includes the *LEARN IT!* Lab, VPL's digital creation and digital literacy space for kids. The project overall has increased space for public use by 3,000 square feet.

Design features of Phase Two:

- Programs and materials for children, including storytimes, book clubs and technology training
 - Family reading area
 - An abundance of technology including iPads on two technology bars, Early Literacy computers, Chromebooks, 3D printer, Cricut® (smart-tech cutting machine), and more
 - Powered, circular children's homework tables
 - Comfortable, moveable seating and vibrant colours throughout this flexible usage of space
 - New, large windows providing an abundance of natural light
 - Decorative, Varia Ecoresin panels and a circular, Corian chrome-coloured pass-through add to the playful and welcoming atmosphere
 - Children's height self-checkout station
 - Artistic, modern-style lighting
 - Plenty of connectivity for charging devices
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Phase Two also included the addition of a laptop kiosk and a universal washroom in the main library that provides a barrier-free toilet and sink, a change table as well as turning space to accommodate a wheeled mobility device.

Bathurst Clark Resource Library offers free Wi-Fi throughout the library and is a fully-accessible (AODA) facility.

Architect & Contractor

- ward99 architects
- Massive Devcon Corporation

LEARN IT! LAB

LEARN IT! provides an age-appropriate, self-exploration digital literacy learning environment for children 3-12 years with child-friendly STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) components. This colourful space includes a variety of devices and platforms that will be incorporated into creative programming and learning experiences to expose children to different aspects and uses of digital technology. Kids will be able to create movies, discover a world of virtual and augmented reality, build computers or code all types of robots. The popular STEAM Club for kids is held here weekly.

VPL has heartily embraced the “*Maker* movement” and has branded areas, *MAKE IT! LEARN IT!, CREATE IT!*, at the three Resource Libraries. *MAKE IT!* at Pierre Berton Resource Library offers equipment and workshops for hobbyists and professionals of all ages wanting to learn new technologies and hack the most recent tech tools including 3D printers, Carvey® machine, vinyl cutting machine, green screen kit, and Dash and Dot robotics. Civic Centre Resource Library’s *CREATE IT!* has three different creation areas: a design space including two 3D printers; a green room with photography and videography equipment; and a music studio/control room containing musical instruments, music production and DJ equipment.

Although the bulk of this *Maker* programming is being done at VPL’s Resource Libraries, the community branches are offering it too, such as Dufferin Clark, Vellore Village and Maple Libraries which offer a STEAM Club for ages seven and up, exploring the world of science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics.

VAUGHAN PUBLIC LIBRARIES’ BUILDING BLOG

VPL offers a building projects blog accessible online at www.vaughanpl.info to provide updates on the progress of new libraries being built in the City of Vaughan and renovations being done to existing VPL branches.

WARD99 ARCHITECTS

Over the last 15 years, founding Principals of ward99 architects, Tina Ranierie-D'Ovidio and Hagit Waisman, have provided complete project management services for interior renovation projects, building additions, new building projects and numerous feasibility studies involving existing building assessments and new building projects. The firm's recent works include notable and award-winning schools and libraries including Dufferin/St. Clair Library (Toronto), Cedarbrae Library (Scarborough), David Bouchard Public School (Oshawa) and Mount Pleasant Village Public School, Library and Community Centre (Brampton).

MASSIVE DEVCON CORPORATION

Massive Devcon Corporation is a general contractor and construction management company providing services across the Greater Toronto Area. Interior renovation and construction clients include Sport Chek, CIBC, Direct Energy, Rocky Mountain Chocolate and Algoma District School Board.

VAUGHAN PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Home to one of the 15 coolest libraries in Canada according to Chatelaine magazine, [Vaughan Public Libraries \(VPL\)](#) offers ten welcoming locations that educate, excite and empower the community. With over 2.5 million visitors annually, VPL is one of the City of Vaughan's top leisure and information destinations with a collection of over 500,000 resources, an assortment of technology and thousands of programs and events. You can enjoy our incredible array of content everywhere – in the library, at home and on a variety of devices. Visit www.vaughanpl.info for more information and to subscribe to our [eNewsletter](#).

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