

## **Springfield News and Views**

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### **SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC REGIONAL LIBRARY AND ARCHIVE**

Plans are under way to establish a new public regional library in Springfield. Council and administration have talked with provincial officials to discuss the action required to proceed. We have learned that our municipality is entitled to a matching grant of \$8.50 per resident or an \$110,000.00 matching grant per year for the operation, staffing, purchasing books and materials in a regional library. Other smaller 100% grants are available for one time book purchases. Part of process would see the province providing a substantial grant for the capital costs towards the renovations of an existing building. Presently we spend about \$60,000.00 per year to operate our tiny stand alone library and rebate escalating outside library memberships. The residents would have access to the main facilities collection and all the other books and publications from the other 60 public regional libraries around the province. Collaborations can be made with the local schools during the book ordering process. This would ensure we are not purchasing duplicate materials. The operating budget of \$220,000.00 per annum would create one of the most educational and attractive regional libraries in the province. A council who moves forward on providing the amenities which enhance the family values of our residents will see their communities grow and prosper.

The collection of records and documents from the past the 134 years of Springfield's history would be included in the plan. The new municipal archive would include the 400 linear feet of heritage files, ledgers, papers, letters, books, statements, records, and other municipal artifacts. These items would be made into an exhibit, put on display and made accessible to the public.