

# Media Advisory

---

For immediate release

## Clarington Public Library, Courtice Branch Grand Re-Opening

October 14, 2015—Clarington Public Library is celebrating the Grand Re-Opening of its Courtice Branch on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>.

After months of extensive renovations, Clarington Public Library re-opened its doors at a soft launch on August 19<sup>th</sup>. Excited members were lined up in the Courtice Community Complex lobby for the main gate to open into the Courtice Library's new space. Since then, the news has spread – the Courtice Branch is a destination place. Upon entering the 12,000 square foot space, visitors are immediately awed by the vibrant colours, modern furnishings, and sunlight streaming through the massive skylight. Today, new visitors are easily identified as they slowly walk into the space taking everything in, while regular members quickly walk past with a smile to rediscover their favourite spot.

“Creating such a well-loved space could not have been done without public consultation,” states Library Director, Linda Kent. “With every decision, the community’s needs were put first.” Starting in June 2014, the Library solicited public feedback through online surveys, brainstorming sessions, interviews, and focus groups.

“We took the feedback we received very seriously,” says Marketing Manager, Sarah Vaisler. “Our surveys told us that quiet study space was a top priority, so we integrated study rooms into the new space. Another common theme in our interviews was the need for a computer training lab, which is now one of the highlights of the branch. Even decisions about software purchases were influenced by high school students’ feedback in focus groups”.

Clarington Public Library is inviting the community to celebrate the Courtice Branch Grand Re-Opening on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>. “It’s an exciting time,” exclaims Board Chair, Gail Rickard. “The Library Board is very proud to be serving the community’s needs by expanding the branch and providing new opportunities within it. We hope to celebrate with our regular members and welcome new faces on October 24<sup>th</sup>”.

The Grand Re-opening also marks the completion of Ontario Public Library Week, October 18<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>. “We wanted to hold the Grand Re-Opening in October to help celebrate Ontario Public Library Week,” explains Ms. Rickard. Ontario Public Library Week recognizes public libraries across the province for the key roles they play in their communities. “Inviting our community to celebrate their wonderful new branch during this special week was a perfect fit.”

The celebrations are scheduled from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on October 24<sup>th</sup>, with formal presentations from Municipality of Clarington Mayor Adrian Foster and MPP Granville Anderson. Celebrations include family entertainment with Erick Traplin, face painting, Library tours, green screen photography, #shelfie photos, and refreshments.

For more information about the new Courtice Branch and the **Grand Re-Opening on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**, at 2950 Courtice Rd., visit the Library's website at [www.clarington-library.on.ca](http://www.clarington-library.on.ca).

-END-

Contact:  
Sarah Vaisler  
Marketing Manager  
905-623-7322 ext. 2705  
[svaisler@clarington-library.on.ca](mailto:svaisler@clarington-library.on.ca)