

Media Release

epIGO branch on university campus to close Satellite library space to be reestablished in higher priority service areas of Edmonton

For immediate release:

EDMONTON, AB, October 17, 2014 – The Edmonton Public Library (EPL) and the University of Alberta (U of A) have mutually agreed to close epIGO, an EPL satellite branch housed in the university’s science and technology library. The storefront model will instead be reestablished in areas of Edmonton without easy access to public library service.

Maintaining epIGO, located in the Cameron Library, is no longer a funding priority for the U of A. Usage of the branch, which opened in 2009, has also declined. It closes effective December 19, 2014.

“Both parties regret having to close this branch, as it is a unique example of the partnership between EPL and the U of A in providing library services in an academic setting,” said Linda Cook, CEO of EPL. “While this will affect our on-campus customers, 66 per cent of epIGO users have indicated they visit and use other EPL locations.”

The epIGO model features a sampling of EPL’s core services designed to quickly serve growing communities that do not have easy access to a library branch. It is a priority for EPL to reestablish these spaces in underserved neighbourhoods.

The U of A campus is within the Strathcona branch catchment area and students will still be able to use their ONEcard as an EPL library card through the L-Pass program. They are also granted free LRT access with their ONEcard and can easily visit the nearby Stanley A. Milner Library in downtown Edmonton.

Areas of the city without such proximity to EPL branches being looked at for epIGO locations include Pilot Sound/McConachie, Lewis Estates and Rutherford/Allard.

“There are several areas in Edmonton without easy access to a library branch,” said Cook. “As our city continues its incredible growth, we want to focus on providing what is needed in these higher priority areas until further capital funding can be secured for full-service libraries.”



About the Edmonton Public Library

The Edmonton Public Library (EPL) is proud to be [2014 Library of the Year!](#) From March 2013 to March 2014, EPL celebrated 100 years of service to our great city. We've come a long way since 1913 when books were all you could find on our shelves... and we're just getting started! Today, EPL carries everything you care about. We are Edmonton's largest lender of all manner of information and entertainment. Our professionally trained staff take you beyond Google with the knowledge, discernment and desire to help you navigate a universe of information. The second most visited place in Edmonton, every year we host over 14 million in-branch and online visits across our 17 branches and website. We deliver our incredible content to you everywhere – in the library, at home or on your handheld device. Unmatched access and unrivalled value – that is today's EPL. EPL is a registered charity and relies on donations to enhance services. Spread the words. www.epl.ca/donate.

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