

Media Release

For Immediate Release:

EPL asks: What will you make?

New EPL Makerspace provides access to the latest technology and equipment

EDMONTON, AB, Feb. 12, 2014 – The Edmonton Public Library is now home to one of the first and largest library makerspaces in the country.

Mayor Don Iveson and other special guests were on hand Wednesday, February 12 at the Stanley A. Milner Library to help celebrate the Grand Opening of the EPL Makerspace, an open, flexible area that provides the public a diverse range of opportunities to learn, create, collaborate and discover with free access to the latest technology and equipment.

“We’re very pleased and proud to open the EPL Makerspace, which we created as a space for Edmontonians to collaborate on projects, try out the latest technologies and learn new skills,” said Linda Cook, CEO of the Edmonton Public Library. “Bringing this ultimate digital public space to life was a natural step for EPL, as we continue to break down barriers and create innovative ways to share our many resources and services.”

The space features a large green screen, 3D printers, high-performance computers and design software, robotics kits, a dedicated video gaming area, as well as opportunities to self-publish on an Espresso Book Machine and convert older media to modern formats via a digital conversion station.

“Everyone is welcome at the EPL Makerspace,” said Peter Schoenberg, EPL Manager of Digital Literacy Initiatives and Web Services. “In the short time the space has been open, we have witnessed children’s books being printed, films being recorded, and everything from chess sets to a tiny replica of Doctor Who’s Tardis coming off the 3D printers.

“It is truly a place to make and create.”

The EPL Makerspace is open during regular branch hours and Makerspace Assistants are always on hand.

For more information, visit epl.ca/makerspace.



About the Edmonton Public Library

From March 2013 to March 2014, the Edmonton Public Library (EPL) is celebrating 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.

For more information, contact

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Spread the words.