

Co-op helps fund Camosun learning lab

Teachers and students at Camosun College's Lansdowne campus will have a brand new computer and teaching area as part of a refurbished library, thanks in large part to Peninsula Co-op.

The project is part of a larger program to revitalize the libraries at both Camosun campuses.

At the Lansdowne campus, the original library was built at a time when libraries were quiet spaces, "and it hasn't really changed with the times," explained Susan Haddon, Executive Director, College Relations and the Camosun College Foundation.

The new library will reflect today's students and modern ways of learning,

and is possible thanks to the federal-provincial Knowledge Infrastructure Program and the Camosun Foundation's Love Your Learning Library campaign, which Peninsula Co-op opened with its donation.

Conceived by Camosun's chief librarian, Sybil Harrison, the library will be an energetic, dynamic space, with a bright, inviting atmosphere, interactive opportunities and state-of-the-art technology. "She really had that vision," Haddon notes.

Within the library will be a glassed-in Peninsula Co-op Learning Lab, made possible thanks to the company's \$120,000 donation to build and equip the space. In addition to the 32 computer stations, the lab will feature

an audio-visual area and a teaching/learning centre for faculty, students and librarians.

By showing their support for the project early, Peninsula Co-op also helped lend weight to the campaign, helping attract even more community support, Haddon notes.

How significant was their contribution? "Huge," she says. "It helps other people believe in the idea. It's an endorsement that's really key to getting others involved."

And ultimately it will be the students who benefit from the generous gift from the Co-op and its members.

"I think that's visionary and I think it comes from the heart. They sincerely want to invest in the community in which they operate and we feel very fortunate to be their beneficiary."



“ Peninsula Co-op’s investment in the community is visionary, says Susan Haddon, Executive Director, College Relations and the Camosun College Foundation. ”

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