

#### 14. OPAWA/ST MARTINS PLUNKET TOY LIBRARY

<b>Officer responsible</b> Community Advocate	<b>Author</b> Anne Cosson, DDI 941-5111
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The purpose of this report is to provide further information to the Community Board concerning the proposed relocation of the Opawa/St Martins Plunket Toy Library.

#### BECKENHAM VOLUNTARY LIBRARY SITE, SANDWICH ROAD, BECKENHAM

It has been suggested by the members of the Beckenham Voluntary Library that once the new library on the old Beckenham Service Centre site opens, the Voluntary Library will close (envisaged to be in April 2003). At this time the Property Unit will advertise the building within the Council for suggested usages.

At present the rent for the Library building is \$16,000 per year.

At present the Toy Library pays \$130 per month, which totals \$1,560 per year.

The Toy Library believes that they could afford \$210 per month, which would total \$2,520 per year. They would generate extra rental funds by increasing their yearly membership to \$30, an increase of \$5.

The shortfall in rent could be picked up by the Community Relations Unit through an application by the Community Advocate to the Community Relations Unit annual budget round for 2003/04. A small shortfall of rent may occur between financial years, which the Community Board may need to support from their Discretionary Fund.

Any refitting of the old library building would be the responsibility of the Opawa/St Martins Plunket Toy Library. To date the Toy Library has raised \$7,000 for refitting.

Photographs of the Library will be tabled at the meeting.

#### NATURAL + PEOPLE + ECONOMIC STEP ASSESSMENT

#	CONDITION:	Meets condition ✓✓0*	HOW IT HELPS MEET CONDITION:
<b>The Natural Step</b>			
N1	Reduce non-renewable resource use	✓✓0*	Re-using resources to fit out the building that are no longer required at the old Beckenham Service Centre
N2	Eliminate emission of harmful substances	✓✓0*	
N3	Protect and restore biodiversity and ecosystems	✓✓0*	
N4	People needs met fairly and efficiently	NA	NA - See People Step + Economic Step
<b>The People Step</b>			
P1	Basic needs met	✓✓0*	An increased service will be provided to the local community within a safe environment
P2	Full potential developed	✓✓0*	Helps children/adults to develop interpersonal and social skills in a relaxed environment as well as providing educational opportunities for the children in the toys they hire out
P3	Social capital enhanced	✓✓0*	Creating a place for people to come together informally outside of the home. Gives parents a support system of other parents. Allows children to have access to different developmental toys that their parents may not otherwise be able to afford.
P4	Culture and identity protected	✓✓0*	Brings together various cultural families.
P5	Governance and participatory democracy strengthened	✓✓0*	
<b>The Economic Step</b>			
E1	Effective and efficient use of all resources	✓✓0*	New use for a Council building.
E2	Job rich local economy	✓✓0*	
E3	Financial sustainability	✓✓0*	Increase hours for a paid Librarian. The Opawa/St Martins Toy Library has been running for nine years. It is almost self-funding.

**Staff****Recommendation:**

1. That the Board support an application from the Opawa/St Martins Plunket Toy Library to occupy the former Beckenham Library building when it becomes vacant.
2. That the Board request the Community Advocate to make an application to the 2003/04 Community Relations Unit budget to include rent of the new library building.

**Chairperson's****Recommendation:**

There seems to be good community support for a toy library to occupy the Beckenham Library when it becomes vacant. I support the staff recommendations, but subject to the addition of the words "in principle" to recommendation 1.