



# Port Nelson United Church

3132 South Drive, Burlington, Ontario L7N 1H7



## **Rekindle Renovation Project Progress Report May 1, 2016**

The Rekindle Renovation Project Team is pleased to provide an update on recent developments.

### **Participation**

In March there were 11 focus group meetings to discuss our needs in areas such as the kitchens, offices, multi-purpose rooms, fellowship hall and energy efficiency objectives. Together with the Renovation Project Team, there were over 50 people involved in making suggestions and asking questions to make sure we would get the facility we need to suit our objectives. The focus groups ranged in size from a few people to fifteen, and in duration from 15 minutes to several hours. Each group involved Glenn Reinders, the architect from Reinders and Rieder Ltd who brings a wealth of knowledge based on involvement in hundreds of church projects. Glenn has a great way of focusing discussion on what is most important to making the building suit the mission of the church. The Project Management Team took lots of notes which were fed into a “log”.

### **Managing the inputs**

In addition to the focus groups, some issues have been received directly from congregation members. At this time we have about 130 entries in the log. Some are expectations such as how the kitchen will be used. Some define specific requirements such as the linear feet of bookshelves needed in the library, offices, or filing cabinet space. Some are suggestions for how to optimize use of space such as the detailed proposals from the choir concerning gown storage, music storage, and the ability to move the piano into and out of the Music Director’s office.

The Project Management Team (PMT) has considered all inputs carefully. Those that have an influence over the floor plan have been addressed first since that is the first priority to allow us to apply to the city for a Site Permit. The PMT has given direction to the architect and there has been some back and forth to make sure we get things right. At this time about 100 of the issues have been fully addressed, accepted, and incorporated into the revised floor plans. The remaining issues will be addressed at the appropriate time. For example suggestions about room décor will be addressed during the detailed design. In fact we expect to hold some additional focus groups on specific design topics such as heating, ventilation and air conditioning.

## **The current design**

As a result of all the inputs we received, the floor plans have been adjusted in ways that we know the congregation will appreciate. A few examples:

- The nursery will now be in a multi-purpose room that is currently the choir room and the choir will use the multi-purpose Sweeny Room that is bigger than current accommodations and better suited to a growing choir. The nursery will have a dedicated internal washroom which is great for nursery staff and the security of the kids. There will also be a counter with a sink that will be useful for hygiene as well as supporting mid-week arts and crafts.
- The fellowship hall now has an alcove and power to accommodate an automated fold away stage that we expect will be a future investment. There will not be lines marked on the floor dedicated to sports purposes since that would limit some expected rental opportunities.
- Ever needed storage space has been enlarged on both the ground and lower levels.
- A coffee alcove has been built into the corridor just outside the Family Room and adjacent to the fellowship hall.
- The single pane windows with storm windows in the rooms under the sanctuary will be replaced with more energy efficient double pane windows.
- We decided to separate planned work on improving the Audio control console in the sanctuary from the Renovation Project so that the Property Management Ministry can get those changes started without having to wait for the main construction contract next year.

So, there has been wonderful input from a wide variety of people. It has been and is being carefully considered and incorporated into the designs at the appropriate times. The evolution of the floor plan has seen some significant improvements based upon all the suggestions and needs that were identified. The Rekindle Renovation Project Team is grateful for the support.

June Wright, Pat O'Neill, Stan Harvey  
*Your Project Management Team*