



NEWS RELEASE

January 27, 2015
For immediate release

TOWNSHIP AND CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD LOOK TO ESTABLISH SHARED-USE PROJECT IN BRESLAU

Woolwich and WCDSB Consider Partnership to Create School, Public Library & Community Recreation Complex

Waterloo Region, ON – The **Township of Woolwich** and **Waterloo Catholic District School Board** announced plans to explore a shared use project in Breslau that would see the construction of a new Catholic elementary school and public library in the existing **Breslau Memorial Park**. The plan will include significant enhancements to the existing community centre outdoor recreational facilities. The project is subject to the final approval of the Township of Woolwich Council, the Waterloo Catholic District School Board, and the **Region of Waterloo Library**. Library facilities in the Townships are the responsibility of the Township, while their operations are undertaken by the Regional Library. The Township of Woolwich and the Waterloo Catholic District School Board will continue to consult with the Regional Library Committee and staff on the library component of this project.

The Township of Woolwich entered into discussions on the potential joint venture recognizing a unique opportunity to establish a partnership that will enhance and improve public amenities for the residents of Breslau. This potential partnership would allow the Township to provide a high quality public library space and to re-develop Breslau Memorial Park in a manner that would not otherwise be possible through the Township's operating or capital budgets. The local community and the school will benefit from sharing the use of the library, gymnasium, community centre and playing fields.

A public consultation and information night is scheduled for 7pm. Thursday, February 26, 2015 in the Breslau Community Centre Empire Room, 100 Andover Drive, Breslau.

QuickFacts

- ✓ The Waterloo Catholic District School Board voted on May 27, 2013 to secure a school site in Breslau and proceed with the construction of a new 250 pupil place elementary school. The new school will replace the existing **St. Boniface CES** in Maryhill.
- ✓ The extensive growth that has occurred in Breslau over the past decade, in addition to creating the need for a new Catholic school, has also established a need in Woolwich Township for an increase in public services and public facilities for the settlement.
- ✓ Pending final approvals, the new school will be attached to the existing Breslau Community Centre and will include a 5,000 sq. ft. shared use public library.
- ✓ An agreement between the Township of Woolwich and the WCDSB will permit shared use of the existing gymnasium and sports fields, and the new public library.

- ✓ Any funding gained by Woolwich Township through the disbursement of surplus park land will be reinvested back into the revitalization of Breslau Memorial Park.
- ✓ The shared use public library will enable a large and accessible space within the growing community of Breslau, which will result in an increased collection size, new library programs for children, teens and adults and improved computer access.

Quotes

“New partnerships will provide important savings for both municipal and educational governments while improving public infrastructure, services and amenities for our residents. We are thrilled with the opportunity to partner with the Waterloo Catholic District School Board, and work with the Region of Waterloo Library, to further enhance the living experience of Breslau residents”.

~~ Sandy Shantz, Mayor, Township of Woolwich

“The Waterloo Catholic District School Board is a recognized provincial leader when it comes to partnering with local municipalities to enhance public services. The public libraries at St. Benedict CSS and St. Mary’s High School along with the community centres attached to St. Daniel CES and the Waterloo Region Catholic Education Centre in Downtown Kitchener are just a few examples. Our new school in Breslau will not only provide additional community space in Breslau it will provide a new community library and will yield notable enhancements to existing outdoor recreational facilities. This is an example of what we mean when we describe Waterloo Region’s Catholic Schools as ‘*THE* place to be”.

~~ Manuel da Silva, Chair of the Board, WCDSB

Related Links

[St. Boniface CES Accommodation Review -- 2013](#)

[Township of Woolwich Website](#)

- 30 -

For more information, please contact:

Devin Petteplace -- Communications Coordinator
Township of Woolwich
519-669-6021 | dpetteplace@woolwich.ca

John Shewchuk – Chief Managing Officer
Waterloo Catholic District School Board
(519) 578-3660 | john.shewchuk@wcdsb.ca