



# PRESS RELEASE

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## STRATFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY GARDEN RENEWAL COMPLETION

Stratford and District Horticultural Society (Garden Stratford) and the Stratford Public Library are pleased to announce the completion of the Library Garden Renewal project. A celebration of this project will be held on Monday, May 29 at 6pm in the library garden.

The Library Garden Renewal Project, which started in 2021 and was completed in late 2022 includes a redesign, replant, and refresh of Stratford Public Library's main garden. The new garden creates an inviting, interactive space for library activities and a place for all Stratford residents and visitors to enjoy.

"This renewal of the Library Garden exemplifies the 57-year partnership between the Stratford Public Library and Garden Stratford, creating a beautiful and welcoming space at the Library. Our volunteers take great pride in caring for the garden, and supporting Garden Stratford's mission of beautifying public spaces." says Mike Matthews, President, SDHS.

The space will be used as a demonstration and teaching garden, a venue for library activities, and a garden space for the use and enjoyment of all Stratford residents and visitors. The renewed garden incorporates heritage features, including the plaque commemorating Central School and heritage plants including 1812 roses, "Believe in Tomorrow" irises, and "City of Stratford" irises.

Funding and support of the project is a collaboration between Stratford and District Horticultural Society, the Stratford Public Library, Stratford Perth Community Foundation, Ontario Horticultural Association, and the City of Stratford.

"The Library is thrilled with the outcome of the project. It has been exciting to see the plants popping up this spring. Green spaces are so vital to a strong and healthy community. We would like to thank all our partners for their initiative, vision, and support in developing enhanced service and spaces at the Library in such a beautiful way." says Krista Robinson, CEO of Stratford Public Library.

A celebration of the library garden renewal will be held on Monday, May 29 at 6pm. After a short ceremony, there will be an opportunity to tour the garden with Horticultural Society volunteers. At 6:30pm, the library's Whale of a Tale story time program will be held in the garden. Rain location will be the Library Auditorium.

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If you would like more information about this topic, please contact:

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