

Central library just needs update

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Although for education and employment reasons I left Regina circa. 1983, having lived there from three to 24 years of age, RPL'S central branch remains the library by which I measure and gauge all public libraries. It's the silver-grey standard!

You might assume that this was due to its having been the first library in my young life, but you would be wrong. It's because it is beautiful, subtle, elegant and classy.

It incorporated a reputable art gallery right inside the entryway. It offered films for rent from the upper concourse. Films by Bergman, Carné, Godard and Kurosawa educated Reginans about world cinema. A promenade on the upper floor offered an interesting perspective on space and human interactions.

I was proud of it. My librarian career was inspired by Central. The space, the scale, the engagement.

The stonework nameplate that proclaims Regina Public Library in a slightly antiquated serif font, rescued from the Carnegie Library; the honeycomb steel latticework; the cool grey marble and granite-hued columns; even the brushed-aluminum rail that surrounds the front of the building ... it all forms an organic whole of perfectly integrated textures.

The style has not aged a bit. Central branch must be retained and a solution found by a creative architect to add floors or other treatments to expand the beloved space.

Murray Munn, Whitehorse, Yukon