Mini-Bookmobiles: Good Things Come in Small Packages

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Three Libraries, Three Stories

Adding flexibility to the fleet of larger bookmobiles

Transitioning to a smaller, more flexible, mobile service vehicle

Re-launching bookmobile services after 25 years
Three Libraries, Three Stories

Ottawa Public Library
Adding flexibility to the fleet
Three Libraries, Three Stories

• Guelph Public Library
  – Transitioning to a smaller, more flexible, mobile service vehicle
Three Libraries, Three Stories

- Calgary
  - Relaunching bookmobile service after 25 years
What’s your story?
Why Small is Good

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Procurement Process

2-6 months: Mercedes builds and ships Sprinter
6 months: Upfitting process
1 month: Compliance testing
1 month: Operational readiness

Concurrent projects:
Collection development, IT, partnership work
Vehicle Design Elements

Commonalities

Carts  Shelves  Steps

Doors  Insulation  Shorelines
Vehicle Design Elements

Removable Carts

Adjustable Shelves
Vehicle Design Elements

Retractable Step

Insulation
Vehicle Design Elements

- Sliding Door
- Shoreline
Vehicle Design Elements

Differences

- Lifts
- Wifi
- Awnings
- Cargo netting
- Desks
- Safety package
- Windows
- Solar panels
- Inverter / Batteries
- Generator
- Heating
- Cooling
Vehicle Design Elements

LIFTS

Calgary

Ottawa

Guelph
Vehicle Design Elements

Awning

Public Wi-Fi
Vehicle Design Elements

Cargo Netting & Desk - Ottawa
Vehicle Design Elements

Desk – Guelph

Desk - Calgary
Vehicle Design Elements

Safety Package

Windows

Blind Spot Assist activated
Vehicle Design Elements

Solar Panels

Inverter/Batteries

Generator
Vehicle Design Elements

A/C

Fans

Heating
Now taking questions...
Service Model Considerations

New vs. Existing

- Staffing
- Collection
- Technology
- Stop details
Service Model - Ottawa

1. Supplementary Vehicle
2. Outreach Vehicle
3. Bus Replacement
Service Model - Ottawa

Supplementary Vehicle – photos

Hertz Rental Van

Sprinter as Supplementary Vehicle
Service Model - Ottawa

Outreach Vehicle – photos

Outside

And inside!
Service Model - Guelph

- Regularly scheduled community stops
  - Apartment buildings/low-income housing
  - Day cares
  - Seniors residences
  - Long-term care facilities
- Multipurpose vehicle for on-board access or lobby stops
- Special events
- Techmobile: 3D Printer, Oculus Rift, public WiFi
- Flexible collection
Transitional challenges - Guelph

• The interim period of modified service using borrowed city van, inability to service stops that lack accessible lobby areas
• One year service disruption for some stops, loss of customer base
• Opportunity to expand service to underserved communities
Service Model – Calgary

- Staff
- Collection
- Regular Stops
Now taking questions...
Tips

Aesthetics  Partnerships  Weather

Technology  Parking  Timing

Ergonomics  Consultation
Sign up for Bookmobile Listserv

• Drop off your biz card at the end of the session
Thank You