



# Little Claybelt Homesteaders Museum

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<http://claybeltmuseum.ca>

December 10, 2019

Mayor & Council  
City of Temiskaming Shores  
325 Farr Drive, Box 2050  
Haileybury Ontario  
P0J 1K0

## **OPEN LETTER TO MAYOR AND COUNCIL City of Temiskaming Shores**

At the Little Claybelt Homesteaders Museum meeting of December 9, 2019, a discussion took place regarding the current renovations taking place at the former Medical Centre in New Liskeard in preparation for its conversion into the new library for the City of Temiskaming Shores.

While the decision to move the library is not our concern, the fate of the former New Liskeard Library building is. As an organization dedicated to preserving the history of our area, the future of this building is of great concern for not only those living in this area but many who have resided here in the past and know this building as the centerpiece of the town.

The New Liskeard Library was built in 1911 and with the assistance of a grant from Andrew Carnegie became one of only 125 Carnegie Libraries in Canada. It is one of three in Northeastern Ontario, North Bay and Sault Ste. Marie being the others.

It has been suggested that Council may in fact sell the building when the new library is ready and the fate of the current building would lay in the hands of the purchaser who may in fact have the option of just tearing the building down. We strongly believe that a decision such as this would not be in the best interest of the current residents nor those who have roots in this area.

We ask that Council not make any decision on this building without the assistance of public forum meetings in order to make a final decision based on the desires of the community.

Thank you for your time and cooperation.

*Margaret Villneff*

Margaret Villneff  
President