

[Online Program](#)

Convenor: Penny Chu

3 PM - BREAKOUT SESSION (45 minutes) - The Atrium: 9-212

4D Unconference Session - Redesigning Library Space

Designing a functional library space

- Consultation and frequent communication with contractor/designer is necessary to ensure a well-designed space.
- Safety and accessibility are significant factors in designing library spaces and furnishings.
 - The Edmonton Public Library has floating information desks with exits on either side to ensure staff have safe ease of exit.
- Security gate debate – are they necessary?
 - One participant mentioned there was little to no impact on their inventory when their gates were removed.
 - Remove the negative stigma that patrons are likely to steal.
 - The beeping gates make patrons feel like a criminal in front of the whole library.
 - Most agreed false alarms occur more frequently than patrons forgetting to check out a book.
 - Books are relatively inexpensive to replace in comparison to the cost of maintaining a gate system.
 - Safeguard valuable collections in reserves or behind the desk.