
CHURCH OF ASBESTOS



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Location: Asbestos Library

PROMOTERS

Louise Coulombe, former mayor of Asbestos | E-mail: loulou.moisan@gmail.com

Presentation of the issue:

The church of Asbestos opened in 1965. In 1999, the municipality bought the church from the Archdiocese for \$1, to compensate for the lack of funds and keep this important building in good condition. The Department of Cultural Affairs, which was involved in the project, later declared a moratorium on subsidies for libraries.

Project description:

Transform the church into a library while retaining as much as possible of its religious architecture and making it accessible by all, thus justifying the construction of a man-lift. A \$10 bench sale was organized; some were given to another church.

Many activities are held: shows, concerts, choirs, theater, exhibitions, etc. Space is also allocated for the mineralogical museum.

The religious symbols (Stations of the Cross, apostle sculptures, etc.) remained, as they are a symbol of belonging and an essential element for the citizens' committee. The organ was also preserved.

The conversion process into a library allowed the citizens to take ownership of the place. In addition, the presbytery is now the town hall, which allowed the municipality to get closer to the population.

The key elements to remember according to the promoters:

- communicate regularly with the Department;
- closely monitor the costs;
- citizen ownership process, keep them well-informed.

RESEARCHER

The summary of the presentation by Luc Noppen, UQAM, is presented in a separate document. [Click here to view.](#)