

Purpose

The Board has a fundamental responsibility for upholding the principles of, as well as advocating for, intellectual freedom. This policy ensures the rights of individuals to access information.

Responsibility

West Perth Public Library Board adopts the Canadian Library Association's *Position Statement on Intellectual Freedom*, approved by the CLA Executive Council on June 27, 1974; amended November 17, 1983, November 18, 1985, November 17, 2015.

1. It is the responsibility of the West Perth Public Library Board and those who work in the Library to:
 - a. ensure that all Library users have the fundamental right to access to all expressions of knowledge, creativity and intellectual activity, and to express their thoughts publicly;
 - b. guarantee and facilitate access to all expressions of knowledge and intellectual activity, including those which some elements of society may consider to be unconventional, unpopular or unacceptable;
 - c. make available all of the Library's public facilities and service to all individuals and groups who need them;
 - d. resist all efforts to limit the exercise of these responsibilities, while recognizing the right of criticism by individuals and groups.

2. The Board directs the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to ensure that the principles of intellectual freedom are integrated into all organizational policies, procedures and practices.

Related Documents:

West Perth Public Library Policy. *Borrowing Library Materials*.
West Perth Public Library Policy. *Children and the Library*.
West Perth Public Library Policy. *Collections*.
West Perth Public Library Policy. *Diversity and Inclusion*.
West Perth Public Library Policy. *Meeting Space Rentals*.
West Perth Public Library Policy. *Programming and Community Partnerships*.
West Perth Public Library Policy. *Teens and the Library*.
West Perth Public Library Policy. *Use of Technology*.

Canadian Federation of Library Association. [Statement on Intellectual Freedom and Libraries](#). September 27, 2015.

Government of Ontario. *Ontario Human Rights Code*.

Government of Canada. *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

United Nations. *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*.

Issued: March 2010

Revised: January 2025