

# PROGRAMMING & COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

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## **PURPOSE**

West Perth Public Library offers programs on the Library premises or elsewhere in the community to provide information, invite public discussion, encourage creativity, and promote literacy and reading. Programs expand the Library's visibility in the community and offer staff opportunities to engage community members. The Library provides programs that support its mission, vision, values and strategic priorities. Library programs are designed to:

- Promote the use of library services and collections;
- Nurture community cohesion and reduce social isolation by bringing members of the community together;
- Celebrate our history, heritage and promote cultural awareness;
- Strengthen partnerships with a wide variety of organizations;
- Attract new and unique audiences to the Library.

## **RESPONSIBILITY**

### Program Development

- Programs are developed in accordance with West Perth Public Library's current *Programming Plan* and framework;
- The Library may set age limits or other guidelines for participation in a program, such as a children's program, when the program is designed and best suited for a particular audience;
- Programs reflect community needs and interests.

## Program Delivery

Programs will be offered by employees with program-related expertise or topic-specific training, or by invited speakers and experts from the community including:

- Authors and Illustrators;
- Performers;
- Staff or members of community partner agencies;
- Volunteer presenters with recognized program-related credentials.

The Library reserves the right to cancel programs as deemed necessary and will make every effort to notify the public in advance.

## **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

A Community Partnership is defined as a collaboration between the Library and an external organization. Partner contributions provide support for and/or promote activities, services, resources and programs to the public in ways that are mutually beneficial.

In addition to staff-led programs, West Perth Public Library engages in community partnerships to:

- Extend and enhance library services, programs and resources in a sustainable way;
- Increase awareness of library resources;
- Support the Municipality of West Perth and community initiatives that advance West Perth's economic, social and cultural richness.

Priority will be given to organizations and initiatives that:

- Align with the Library's core mission and vision, organizational values and strategic priorities;
- Share common goals or objectives with the Library.

The Library may decline participation in programs, activities or events that:

- Endorse information or actions that contravene federal, provincial, or municipal laws and regulations;

- Proselytize faith-based topics whose primary purpose is the promotion of faith;
- Pledge contributions or fundraise for external parties;
- Exclude public members for private or closed functions;
- Host political campaigning, with the exception of meetings and forums open to all candidates for discussion of community issues, in accordance with the Library's *Advocacy and Political Engagement* policy.

## **SUGGESTIONS FOR PROGRAMS**

Library patrons are encouraged to suggest topics for future programs. These suggestions will be considered in light of the program criteria, strategic priorities and library resources.

## **RELATED DOCUMENTS:**

West Perth Public Library. *Strategic Plan 2023-2027*.

West Perth Public Library. *WPPL Programming Plan*.

West Perth Public Library. *Advocacy and Political Engagement*.

West Perth Public Library Policy. *Collections*.

West Perth Public Library Policy. *Community Information and Displays*.

West Perth Public Library Policy. *Intellectual Freedom*.

West Perth Public Library Policy. *Meeting Space Rentals*.

West Perth Public Library Policy. *Online Communications*.

Municipality of West Perth. *Recreation and Leisure Master Plan*.

Municipality of West Perth. *Strategic Plan*.

**POLICY TYPE:** Operational

**POLICY NUMBER:** OP-18

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