

Pembroke Public Library



Policy Type:	Foundation	Policy Number:	FN-04
Policy Title:	Intellectual Freedom	Initial Policy Approval Date:	April 21, 2017
Motion #	22:52	Last Review/Revision Date:	June 16, 2022
		Year Of Next Review:	2027

Recognizing that the Pembroke Public Library 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.

1. The Pembroke Public Library Board adopts the *Canadian Library Association's Position Statement on Intellectual Freedom*, approved by the CLA Executive Council ~ June 27, 1974; Amended November 17, 1983; and November 18, 1985.
2. It is the responsibility of the Pembroke Public Library Board, and those who work in the Library, to:
 - a. ensure that all Library users have the fundamental right to have 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 services to all individuals and groups who need them and
 - d. resist all efforts to limit the exercise of these responsibilities, while recognizing the right of criticism by individuals and groups
3. The Pembroke Public Library Board directs the Chief Executive Officer to ensure that the principles of intellectual freedom are integrated into all organizational policies, procedures and practices.

Intellectual Freedom (Continued)

Related Documents:

1. *Pembroke Public Library, FN-03 - Statement of Values*
2. *CLA Executive Council. Position Statement on Intellectual Freedom*, approved ~ June 27, 1974; Amended November 17, 1983; and November 18, 1985

Intellectual Freedom (Continued)

Appendix A:
Intellectual Freedom



Canadian Library Association
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Position Statement on Intellectual Freedom

All persons in Canada have the fundamental right, as embodied in the nation's *Bill of Rights* and the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, to have access to all expressions of knowledge, creativity, and intellectual activity, and to express their thoughts publicly. This right to intellectual freedom, under the law, is essential to the health and development of Canadian society.

Libraries have a basic responsibility for the development and maintenance of intellectual freedom.

It is the responsibility of libraries to 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. To this end, libraries shall acquire and make available the widest variety of materials.

It is the responsibility of libraries to guarantee the right of free expression by making available all the Library's public facilities and services to all individuals and groups who need them.

Libraries should resist all efforts to limit the exercise of these responsibilities while recognizing the right of criticism by individuals and groups.

Both employees and employers in libraries have a duty, in addition to their institutional responsibilities, to uphold these principles.

*Adopted and approved by CLA Executive Council June 27, 1974;
Amended November 17, 1983 and November 18, 1985.*