

Internet Use

The Internet has become an integral source of information for many. The Library Board provides access to this resource in support of users' pursuit of personal and intellectual enrichment. The Library Board does not control the information on the Internet and only takes responsibility for the content on its own Web pages. With varying content at varying levels of authority, accuracy, and content the Internet needs be accessed in a discerning manner.

The Library's Internet users are subject to federal, provincial, and municipal legislation related to Internet use, including the provisions of the Criminal Code regarding obscenity, child pornography, sedition, and incitement of hatred. The use of the Library's Internet services for illegal purposes is strictly prohibited and may result in prosecution.

The Library cannot monitor, control, or protect users from material that is inaccurate, incomplete, misleading, not age appropriate, controversial, or offensive to them. The use of the Internet service is at his or her risk. As a good information consumer he or she must question the accuracy, authority, validity, and currency of any information found.

The Library makes no warranties with respect to Internet service or information found using the Internet and, specifically, it assumes no responsibility for:

- The content of any advice or information received by the user from any source located via the Internet.
- Any costs, liability, or damages caused by the way an individual chooses to use his or her Internet access.
- Any consequences of service interruptions.
- Any consequences of giving out personal information over the Internet, e.g. telephone numbers, credit card information, etc.

Parents and guardians are wholly responsible for the use their children make of the Internet in the Library. For unaccompanied children it is assumed that parents are aware of their children's whereabouts and that they are aware that open Internet access is available to all.

The Library Board prohibits use of its workstations (and wireless network) for illegal purposes including, but not limited to:

- Harassment, libeling or slandering of others
- Fraud or invasion of privacy
- Gambling
- Display or dissemination of hate literature, child pornography, literature for illicit drug use, or obscene material
- Display or dissemination of any material tending to deprive any person of his or her rights, to expose any person to hatred, or to affront human dignity
- Infringement of copyright.

The Library Board also prohibits:

- Viewing of pages which display pornography
- Brutal, graphic, and/or sexual violence
- Creating or distributing spam mail messages

- Damaging or modifying the Library's computer equipment, software, or network

Failure to observe and comply may result in the loss of Internet privileges, the loss of library privileges, or in some instances, criminal prosecution. Library staff reserve the right to access the history on any terminal to determine if any contraventions of the policy have occurred.

This policy also applies to users of the Library's wireless network. Wireless access is not filtered and cannot be guaranteed secure. It is the user's responsibility to ensure that the appropriate precautions are undertaken to ensure security of any/all confidential information.

The following shall also apply:

- Access will be made on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Computers may be used for one hour time periods only if others are waiting to use the service.
- Patrons are responsible for any commercial transactions made while using the library's Internet connection.
- Patrons who damage library computer equipment or software or attempt to subvert any security device that the Library has installed on its workstations will have their library privileges revoked and may be reported to local authorities. Patrons are responsible for costs resulting from any damage they cause to computer equipment. Parents are responsible for costs resulting from any damage to computer equipment caused by their children.
- No software shall be downloaded nor installed on Library computers.
- All patrons who use the Internet are expected to respect the privacy of others using public workstations.
- A fee shall be charged for printing, determined by the Board. This fee shall be regularly reviewed.
- Time and staffing levels provided, staff are available to assist and provide basic direction and instruction on the use of the Internet.

Internet and wireless access shall be free to any/all walk-in users of the Library. A Library borrower's card is not required.