

NOTL Public Library
Policy Type: Foundation

Policy Title: Intellectual Freedom

Policy Number: FN - 05

Policy Approval Date: May 25, 2011

Policy Review Date: May 25, 2014

Recognizing that 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.

- The 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 and that of the Ontario Library Association approved by the OLA, in convention on November 7, 1998.
- It is the responsibility of the board, and those who work in the library, to:
 - 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
 - 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
 - make available all of the library's public facilities and services to all individuals and groups who need them
 - resist all efforts to limit the exercise of these responsibility, while recognizing the right of criticism by individuals and groups
- The board directs the Chief Executive Officer to ensure that the principles of intellectual freedom are integrated into all organizational policies, procedures and practices.

Related Documents:

NOTL Public Library. FN 03 - Values Statement
CLA Executive Council. Position Statement on Intellectual Freedom, approved - June 27, 1974; Amended November 17, 1983; and November 18, 1985 (Appendix A)