



## POLICY PURPOSE

Internet access is provided at the North Perth Public Library (NPPL) in keeping with the Library's mission to Connecting Community ... The Library provides free access to public internet computers as well as a wireless internet connection as an extension of information services.

This policy outlines the expectation of behaviour and use of the public internet by patrons and community members.

## KEY POINTS SUMMARY

- When using computers or accessing Library internet, OP-05 Code of Conduct is applicable.
- No illegal activity or behaviour will be tolerated in the library spaces.
- Library staff reserve the right to correct online behaviour, withdraw, or refuse services if a user is not in compliance.
- The Library does not guarantee security over the public internet provided; all risks are the user's

## POLICY DETAILS

### Access

- Access to the Internet is offered in accordance with the North Perth Public Library Board's policy FN-03 Intellectual Freedom.
- The Library does not restrict access to information on any public computer with the use of filtering software.
- The Library reserves the right to set time limits for use of public computers or adjust computer scheduling as necessary.
- The Library's wireless internet is not guaranteed secure.
- The Library will not be responsible for any expenses incurred by, or the potential repercussions of a third party using, personal/banking/credit card information that has been entered via the public internet.

### Reliability and Appropriateness of Information on the Internet

- The Library does not monitor, and has no control over, the information accessed through the internet and cannot be held responsible for its content.
- It is the user's responsibility to question the validity, legality, and security of any sites they access.

### Privacy and Security

- Content being viewed by users on Library computers, or personal devices may be seen by other people. Users are expected to use the Internet in accordance with this environment.
- Use of the Library's computers is incorporated in OP-04 Confidentiality and the Protection of Privacy.
- The Library does not assume any responsibility for security of personal devices while accessing the Library's public internet.
- Library computers are equipped with anti-virus software. Users are responsible for protecting their personal devices from viruses, spyware and spam.

### OP-06 Acceptable Internet Use

## Use by Children

- As per OP-07 Unattended Children, children 10 years of age and younger must be accompanied by an adult while in the Library.
- The Board accepts no responsibility for enforcing restrictions which a caregiver places on a child's use of the Internet.
- Caregivers will assume responsibility for deciding which resources and type of internet access are appropriate for their children.
- The Board will ensure that children and youth have access to the Internet in keeping with FN-03 Intellectual Freedom and the Ontario Library Association's Position on Children's Rights in the Library.

## Acceptable Use

- To ensure equitable access to the internet and efficient use of resources, the Board sets rules for public internet access and reserves the right to modify these whenever appropriate.
- Users who deliberately violate the rules may have their library privileges suspended, as per OP-05 Code of Conduct.
- Users must respect the laws of Canada when using the public internet
- Use of the internet for illegal, actionable or criminal purposes or to seek access to unauthorized areas is prohibited.
  - Examples of such illegal activities include, but are not limited to, harassment or stalking, libel, illegal commerce or solicitation, hacking or tampering with other computer systems, viewing child pornography or explicit content, sedition, and the incitement of hate.
- Illegal use will be reported to the police. Data relevant to suspected unauthorized or illegal use will be retained and acted upon as per "MFIPPA" s. 32 (g).
- Users of the public internet may not violate or circumvent copyright and other intellectual property rights.

## Mobile WiFi Hotspots

Mobile WiFi Hotspots are intended to benefit the whole North Perth community. These devices are meant for light internet usage and cellular data may be shut off

## OP-06 Acceptable Internet Use

at staff's discretion. Mobile WiFi Hotspot Terms and Conditions must be followed when using these devices.

### Compliance

- Accepting the User Agreement on a Library computer signifies an understanding of, and willingness to comply with, this policy.
- Library staff are entrusted with the obligation to ensure that this policy is followed.
- Staff will advise users of appropriate conduct as required.
- Should violation of this policy occur, staff has the authority to block access to Internet and/or Library services as per OP-05 Code of Conduct.

### Library Responsibilities

Library staff will:

- Develop, maintain and post Internet Access Guidelines.
- Proactively help and promote public access to quality information for all users. Library staff can assist with:
  - finding and evaluating the quality of an Internet site
  - accessing the public workstations and personal devices
  - accessing the library's subscription e-resources and e-books
- Respect the right of users to privacy and confidentiality with regards to information sought or received and resources consulted, acquired, or transmitted.

### RELATED DOCUMENTS

- [Ontario Library Association Position on Children's Rights in the Library](#)
- NPPL FN-03 Intellectual Freedom
- NPPL OP-04 Confidentiality and the Protection of Privacy
- NPPL OP-05 Code of Conduct
- NPPL OP-07 Unattended Children
- Mobile WiFi Hotspots Terms & Conditions

OP-06 Acceptable Internet Use

## SCOPE

This policy applies and affects the NPPL Board, staff, third parties, patrons and volunteers.

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