

Collection and Weeding Policy

Intellectual Freedom

Library material is selected by qualified staff in accordance with the principles put forth in the *Canadian Federation of Library Associations' Statement on Intellectual Freedom and Libraries*. The library collection, as a whole, is designed to meet the recreation and information needs of the entire community and represents various beliefs and points of view and has materials available for all ages.

As a result:

- Materials will not be suppressed or removed because they may be deemed offensive by some.
- Materials will not be marked or identified to show approval or disapproval of contents.
- Responsibility for a child's selection and use of library resources rest with parents or legal guardians. The library's selection of materials will not be inhibited by the possibility that they may come into the possession or view of children.

Some materials selected for the library may be controversial and may offend some patrons. The right to reject library material for personal use is recognized but does not accord any individual or group the right to restrict library materials from others. Library patrons who object to materials must complete a "Request for Reconsideration of Materials" form and submit it to the Chief Librarian.

Criteria

Library materials will be available in a variety of formats including print materials, audiobooks, electronic formats and video formats. Library materials shall be selected for purchase using some or all of the following criteria:

- augment existing collection
- replace outdated information
- popularity, public demand and current best sellers
- reviews
- patron requests
- Canadian, Nova Scotian or local content
- materials that represent a wide range of views
- availability of funds and space
- competency and reputation of the author and/or publisher
- support for library programs

The annual goal is to spend a minimum of 10% of the library's total operating budget on library materials.

Weeding of Materials

The library collection will be weeded on an ongoing basis for damaged, worn, outdated and/or materials which no longer circulate to make room for new acquisitions.

Weeded materials will be placed in used book sales as a fundraiser for the library. Items that do not sell at book sales will be discarded or, whenever possible, donated to other non-profit groups.

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