

CANADIAN FEDERATION OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS

Libraries have a basic responsibility for the development and maintenance of 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 development of Canadian society.

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 foster free expression through safe and welcoming space, 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 the principles of intellectual freedom.

www.cfla-fcab.ca/en/home-page/



Something for Everyone

Our role in advocating
for intellectual freedom



WE PROVIDE OPTIONS

Our community is made up of people with varied needs and interests. Strathcona County Library strives to serve all county residents.

Therefore, we offer material representing diverse views and expressions, some of which may be controversial.

Your Library provides access to wide-ranging expressions of knowledge, creativity and intellectual activity in a variety of print, audio, visual and electronic formats for your consideration. Inclusion of ideas in library collections does not necessarily indicate endorsement of those ideas by the library.

Library staff members follow written criteria when selecting materials in order to provide a broad range of choices.

The children's and teen collections serve infants through teens, and the broad range of ages, interests, and maturity levels represented requires a wide variety of materials. Books suitable for one child or teen may not be suitable for another.

YOU MAKE THE CHOICES

Strathcona County Library endorses the Canadian Federation of Library Association's Statement on Intellectual Freedom.

We support and protect the rights of individuals to select or reject for themselves, any material in our collection.

Your library offers opportunities for educational, entertaining and thought-provoking experiences and allows you to make your own decisions in the selection of materials for your own use.

Library staff members respect that parents guide their own children's access to, and choices of materials. We encourage you to play an active role in your children's library use until you feel your children are ready to select on their own.

Library staff members are pleased to provide suggestions and help locate materials, but we do not interfere with individual or family choices, nor do we act in the place of the parent.

