



# Internet Access Policy

## Statement of Purpose

The Perth East Public Library regards the Internet in the same way as its other information resources in accordance with its mission of serving Perth East's needs for information, lifelong learning, and leisure pursuits. Perth East Public Library supports the Canadian Library Association's Position Statement on Internet Access.

## Access

The Library provides members of the public with free Internet access through the Library's networked desktop computers and iPads, as well as through the Library's wireless network, which can be used with personal mobile devices. Users should be aware that online information may not be accurate, complete, age-appropriate, or current. The Internet is an unregulated resource that contains material, which may be illegal, offensive, or controversial.

To ensure equitable access to the public network and efficient use of resources, the Library reserves the right to set time limits for use of public computers.

The Library's wireless network is not secure; the Library cannot guarantee the safety of traffic across its wireless network.

Internet workstations are situated in public areas, and content being viewed by users may be seen by other people. Users are expected to use the Internet in accordance with this environment.

## Responsibility

This policy constitutes an agreement between Perth East Public Library and individuals using the Library's digital resources. Violation of these terms may result in the suspension of the individual's library privileges and/or legal actions.

Library users:

- Are required to be respectful of others when accessing any public or personal resources within the Library including appropriate volume content of material and appropriate viewing and listening behaviour;
- Are responsible for any content they access online and for safeguarding their privacy when using digital resources;
- Assume full responsibility of their online activities and use of digital resources, including damages that may directly or indirectly result from this use. Users are advised to use caution in sharing personal information online;

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- Are responsible for the children in their care and their use of resource, including damage, loss and access to materials and technology. Parents or guardians are responsible for guiding their child's use of a library computer and/or the Internet.

Library users are not permitted to:

- Participate in any illegal activity by accessing, transmitting or creating content that violates Canadian laws;
- Display, record or print obscene, pornographic, or similar materials;
- Send, record or print harassing, hateful or obscene messages or activities;
- Violate another person's privacy;
- Introduce computer viruses, malware or any similar software through the Library's technology;
- Use offensive, discriminatory or derogatory language or images when communicating with the Library. Perth East Public Library reserves the right to report or remove language or images from its website and social media sites it deems offensive or in contradiction to its policies.

Perth East Public Library:

- Provides equitable access to digital resources to promote digital literacy. Free internet access is available on the premises;
- Reserves the right to limit computer and Internet use in terms of the amount of time used and terminate an internet session at any time.

Failure to comply with Perth East Public Library's Internet Access Policy and the prohibited activities listed above will result in loss of computer and Internet access and possible banning from the Library. Unlawful activities may result in prosecution.

## Related Documents

- Public Libraries Act, RSO 1990
- Perth East Public Library Policy, *OP-11 Code of Conduct*
- Perth East Public Library Policy, *OP-01 Privacy and Access to Information*
- Perth East Public Library Policy, *OP-06 Unattended Children*
- [Canadian Library Association's Position Statement on Public Access to the Internet](#)

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